



Minutes Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board March 20, 2024

Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board meeting held on March 20, 2024, 6:00 p.m., Hybrid Meeting- Clark Park Community Center, 1730 S Roosevelt St, Tempe, AZ, and virtual through Microsoft Teams.

Members Present:

Elizabeth Hatch – Vice Chair
Sharon Doyle
Mary Farmer
Thomas Klabunde
Shereen Lerner
Gerardo Lopez
Lane Waddell
Lisa Zyriek

Members Absent:

Susan Carlson – Chair
Dawn Parker

City Staff Present:

Alex Jovanovic, Deputy Community Services Director – Parks (Staff Liaison)
Ambika Adhikari, Principal Planner
Joshua Bell, Management Assistant II – Recreation
Craig Hayton, Community Services Director
Julie Hietter, Community Services Administration Manager
Jacob Payne, Sr Planner
Rebecca Rothman, Community Services Manager – Public Art
Shawn Wagner, Deputy Community Services Director – Recreation

Other Guests Present:

Jennifer Song, TACC Commission Member

Upon the establishment of a quorum, meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by Elizabeth Hatch.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

February 21, 2024

Motion by Lisa Zyriek to approve the meeting minutes of February 21, 2024, seconded by Lane Waddell. Motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Ayes: Vice Chair Elizabeth Hatch, board members Mary Farmer, Thomas Klabunde, Shereen Lerner, Gerardo Lopez, and Lisa Zyriek.

Absent: Susan Carlson, Sharon Doyle and Dawn Parker. Sharon arrived after vote.

Agenda Item 3 – Golf

Alex Jovanovic informed the board they could move on to the next agenda item as there was no update to provide and that it will remain a standing agenda item for future meetings.

Agenda Item 4 – Arts & Culture Spotlight

Rebecca Rothman and Jennifer Song provided information about Arts & Culture Division.

- Different areas within Arts & Culture which can be confused with each another: Community Arts, History Museum, Public Art, Tempe Center for the Arts
- Can do research with curators at museum
- Public Art can be seen out in neighborhoods, makes accessible to all
- TCA hosts 48 Live, series of live performances with locally based artists; seats approx. 600 and 200 in theater and studio
- Neighborhood celebration on April 6, 9-11am
- Projects: Light Lane working with DTA, stationary bike sculptures will project artwork and music; Mill Avenue underpass; designs for play surfaces at Optimist, Campbell, Waggoner, Creamery parks; transit shelters, incorporating Indigenous designs; Clark Community Center
- Board members asked questions and made comments about:
 - What is 48 Live?
 - How many does TCA seat?
 - Neighborhood celebration is a lot of fun
 - Served as part of a panel, fun and inspiring to see artists who want to work with Tempe
 - Are you part of Tempe Blooms?
 - What other projects are you doing?

Agenda Item 5 – Character Area 6

Ambika Adhikari and Jacob Payne from Community Development discussed Character Area 6.

- Planning for Character Area 6 is underway, Area 2 scheduled for 2025; other areas completed
- Extensive public outreach process is done; approximately nine month process; once adopted plan is used as reference when projects are proposed in area; City will reference for infrastructure projects, General Plan
- Three small county islands; light industrial, residential, open space; combined 0.125 sq. miles
- Public feedback: first kick-off meeting held at Wood Elementary, followed by online survey; open ended feedback touched on sustainability, construction/design, infrastructure, enhancing mobility for bikes, pedestrians
- Heat mitigation includes shade in public areas, structural or landscape, buildings; outside/indoor applications, greenery, pavement, color

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- Survey respondents given allotment of points to assign; don't have stats of breakdown, but have received a lot of feedback from owners and want to reach out more to renters
 - Board members asked questions and made comments about:
 - Where are the county islands? Commercial or residential?
 - What is included in heat mitigation?
 - Did survey respondents have ability to select all that apply?
 - Do you have statistics of how many respondents are owners vs renters?

Agenda Item 6 – Recreation Update: Kiwanis & Aquatics

Evelyn McNeill presented and discussed Kiwanis Recreation Center, Aquatics, Kiwanis Tennis Center, Kiwanis Batting Range.

- Facility updates include gym divider, pool pumps, chlorinators; waterslide project is not complete, doing what they can to open; vendor and contractor issues, working with engineers
- Pool still operating, tile refresh, deck cleaned up; April Pools Day on April 6 starts pool season
- 21,000+ users of pool last year, 500 people use wave pool any given day during wave season; fitness center highest use in the morning and evening
- McClintock and Escalante Pools: 8,100 users of two pools during summer season last year
- Clark Pool will offer water fitness and other programs, activities; aquatics maintenance team relocated to Clark
- Tennis Coordinator interviews underway; tennis courts are heavily used in the morning, mid-day can be quiet, by 4:30pm busy again; partnering with contacts for use of courts; look to balance open use of courts with hosting tournaments
- Pickleball has been discussed at the park in general, as well as other potential locations in city; tennis center as location poses issues due USTA and ability to host tournaments, other compatibility issues; indoor pickleball is offered at KRC, information posted on website
- Board members asked questions and made comments about:
 - No date for opening slide?
 - Does pool operate year-round?
 - How many people use fitness center?
 - Will Clark pool operate year-round?
 - New awning at batting cage looks good
 - Some feel tennis courts are not being used as much as they should be used
 - Tennis center could consider discounted pricing for lower use time
 - Any thought to pickleball courts at tennis center or Kiwanis?
 - How is indoor pickleball advertised?
- Board members Sharon Doyle (7:04pm) and Gerardo Lopez (7:09pm) left.

Agenda Item 7 – Board Operational Updates

Alex Jovanovic discussed with the board previous, ongoing and parking lot goals.

- **Goals**
- **Next Steps**
- **Opportunities**

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- Future discussions about Parks and Recreation programming, Diablo Stadium and the surrounding area
 - “Rain to roots”
 - West Coast Arborists landscape trucks are parked on City property but it’s not part of the cemetery; not an official agreement but has been part of the negotiation with their contract with City; they are looking for other spaces to locate vehicles
 - Data and information being collected on memorial policy; current options include tree plants, leaf tree plaque outside Parks and Recreation admin office, smaller plaques at golf courses
 - Board members asked questions and made comments about:
 - Tempe Buttes land and sustainability, collecting water runoff
 - Thanks to Alex, Richard and team for Tempe Cares project
 - Is it part of the cemetery where landscape trucks are parked? Do they rent?
 - Have pickleball courts been considered at Kiwanis Park or tennis center? Converting a couple tennis courts had been considered at one time but didn’t happen
 - Future WIFA opportunities, sustainability in Parks
 - Memorial policy, awareness benches

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

None. Items discussed in Agenda Item 7.

Agenda Item 9 – Public Meeting Attendance, Notices & Announcements

Alex Jovanovic informed the Board that Park Ranger Lead Michael Clark lost his life in a non-work-related vehicle accident. Shawn Wagner noted the Clark Park Community Center and Pool grand opening is scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 10:30am-12:30pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Prepared by: Joshua Bell, Management Assistant II, (480) 350-8676

Reviewed by: Alex Jovanovic, Deputy Community Services Director- Parks, (480) 350-5811