Tempe

Minutes
Parks and Recreation Board
September 19, 2007

Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on September 19, 2007 7:00 p.m., Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:
Frank Granillo, Chair
Angela Thornton, Vice-Chair
Buddy Davis
Ed Parker
Ed Roberts

Members Absent:
Andrea Esquer (excused)
Scott Hamilton (excused)

City Staff Present:
Travis Dray, Deputy Manager – Parks & Recreation
Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant – Parks & Recreation
Nancy Ryan, Rio Salado Manager
Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council

Meeting convened at 7:05 p.m.

Frank Granillo called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes;
The minutes of the June 20, 2007 meeting were accepted as written.

Agenda Item 2 – Team Tempe
Jayson Matthews, Tempe Community Council, invited the Board to participate in the upcoming P.F. Chang's Rock & Roll Marathon.

1. The Tempe Community Council is partnering with the Tempe YMCA, The Association for Supportive Child Care (ASCC) and The Center for Habilitation (TCH) to raise money by offering coaching and training for the marathon.
2. The fee is $300 which includes the entry fee and training.
3. Mayor Hallman will serve as the "unofficial captain" of Team Tempe.
4. Other council members are also lending their support.

Agenda Item 3 – Rio Salado Updates

Nancy Ryan, Rio Salado Manager, shared information on developments occurring within the Rio Salado area.

1. The City is in a 90-day agreement period with Chanen Development for the construction of the boathouse at the marina.
2. There may be plans to add a 4th floor to the original design.
3. The boathouse will include storage space, classrooms, training facilities and meeting spaces.
4. If the 4th floor is added, it may also include a restaurant.
5. The boathouse may be managed by a public/private partnership.
6. Construction could begin as early as April 2008 with completion in June 2009 per the RFP response.
7. The City is working on a development agreement with Avenue Communities for the plaza "between the bridges."
8. This 1.5 acre plaza will be located on the south side of the lake between Tempe Beach Park and Giuliano Park.
9. The ASU School of Architecture will present concept plans for the plaza.
10. One (1) response was received for the RFP that was issued for an amateur sports complex on the BLM property.
11. The bid will be released for the south bank linear park from the Tempe Center for the Arts to Priest.
12. The 2nd phase of the habitat restoration project has been completed.
13. The project has been selected as a finalist for the Valley Forward's environmental technologies award category.
14. A topographical map of the lake will be created.
15. This map will show erosion and deposition changes that change the depths and contours of the lake.
16. The public is invited to provide comments on the Project for Public Spaces' draft. Comments can be submitted at www.tempe.gov/comdev/urbanopenspace.htm.
17. The amphitheatre at Tempe Beach Park will be renamed for David L. Hanna.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- The boathouse is expected to generate enough revenue to support the operation and maintenance of the building.
- Depending on the final design, the boathouse could be anywhere between 35,000 and 45,000 square feet.
- The grand staircase is still part of the plan for the plaza "between the bridges."
- The plaza could be included the venue for large special events.

Agenda Item 4 – City Manager Forum

Travis Dray, Deputy Manager – Recreation Services, invited the Board to attend the forum for the City Manager position.

1. There are four (4) finalists for the position.
2. Two (2) of the candidates are internal: Ken Jones, Internal Audit Manager and Shelley Hearn, Community Relations Manager.

Agenda Item 5 – Insurance for Boating Events

Travis Dray, Deputy Manager – Recreation Services, Parks & Recreation, reviewed the request to lower insurance requirements for skilled boating events.

1. A request has been made to lower the insurance requirements for skilled boating events to $2 million, which is the industry standard.
2. This change will allow the City to host events without having to "buy up" to the $5 million that is currently required.
3. It will also allow the City to attract additional events that are comprised of juniors or college teams that are unable to meet the $5 million dollar requirement.
4. Risk Management and the Rio Salado Commission support this change.
5. Events will continue to be nationally sanctioned and insured.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- New lake user fees were approved by Council.
- The fees for residents and day use did not change.

Motion: Ed Parker made a motion to forward the request to change the insurance requirement to $2 million to the Council for their consideration.
Second: Ed Roberts.
Decision: Motion carried.

Agenda Item 6 – Board & Commission Guidebooks

The Board was presented with new guidebooks that have been compiled by the City Clerk's Office and TLC staff.

Agenda Item 7 – Chair/Board Member Comments

Angela Thornton invited the Board and audience to volunteer for the Tempe Sister Cities Way Out West Oktoberfest.

Buddy Davis pleased with the Esquer Park groundbreaking event and the Tempe Center for the Arts grand opening. He would like the City to look at developing additional playing fields.

Ed Parker was thrilled with the Tempe Center for the Arts.

Frank Granillo agreed that the Tempe Center for the Arts is a state-of-the-art facility.

Ed Roberts, Ed Parker and Frank Granillo all expressed the need for additional playing fields in Tempe.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

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