
Minutes Papago Park / Rio Salado Ad Hoc Committee February 12, 2009

Minutes of the Papago Park / Rio Salado Ad Hoc Committee meeting held on February 12, 2009, 4:00 p.m., Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:

Sharon Doyle, Chair
Stu Siefer
Bob Gasser
Lisa Roach
Ed Parker
Darlene Justus

Members Absent:

Mary Ann Miller

City Staff Present:

Hugh Hallman, Mayor – Mayor and Council
Mike Crusa, Mayor's Chief of Staff – Community Relations
Mark Richwine, Parks and Recreation Manager – Parks & Recreation
Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor – Parks & Recreation
Isabel Flores, Assistant Recreation Coordinator – Parks & Recreation

Guests Present:

Shane Anton – Cultural Preservation Program Supervisor – Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community

Meeting convened at 4:04 p.m.

Sharon Doyle called the meeting to order.

Mayor Hugh Hallman provided an overview of Papago Park including the following elements:

1. The historic significance of Papago Park to Tempe, Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community (SRP-MIC) and other valley cities such as Phoenix and Scottsdale
2. Cultural elements from recent history include the Eisendrath and Sandra Day O'Connor House. Sites such as Loma del Rio date back to pre historic times
3. Archeological artifacts have been discovered throughout the area which provide an insight into previous cultures
4. Recreation amenities and opportunities are available throughout the park such as trails for hiking and riding as well as an executive 18 hole golf course, Rolling Hills

5. The current Papago Park Master Plan project that is intended to enhance preserve and protect the natural, cultural, historic and archaeological resources within the park.
6. This committee was created to ensure the Tempe community is involved throughout the public involvement process
7. The Salt River Pima Maricopa Indian Community has provided a significant amount of the funding for this project through their gaming fund grants

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes: November 20, 2008

Committee members approved November 20, 2008 meeting minutes

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 3 – Papago Park Master Plan Update

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, provided an update on the status of the master plan

1. Currently the Olsson Associates team is collecting data from previous plans and studies that have been completed in the area.
2. Site visits are being scheduled and on site tours will be conducted

General discussion by the Committee:

1. Shane Anton expressed the SRP-MIC would like to preserve the historic and pre-historic artifacts of the area.
2. Bob Gasser expressed concern about public access in the park and protection of sacred grounds.
3. Shane Anton proposed that a cultural assessment be performed to protect various artifacts
4. Mike Crusa agreed that preservation is one of the goals of the master plan.
5. Darlene Justus would like parameters in place.
6. Lisa Roach informed members of TWHP, Teaching with Historic Properties. An effort to educate visitors.

Agenda Item 4 – Papago Park Master Plan Public Involvement

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, briefed members on the public outreach and involvement for the project

1. The Olsson Associates team has created a tentative schedule for the public workshops
 - a. Public workshop 1 – 4/29/09
 - b. Public workshop 2 – 6/15/09
 - c. Public workshop 3 – 8/20/09
2. An interactive project website is currently under construction and will be completed by 3/9/09, www.discoverpapagopark.com
3. Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, informed committee of the Design Principles Charette on Wednesday, February 18, 2008 at 3:30 pm at the Pueblo Grande Museum.
4. Members were encouraged to attend the design principles charette.
5. Sharon Doyle provided follow up information on the meeting with members from Scottsdale public outreach team.
 - a. Public workshops were held in 2 hour increments at various times throughout the day to encourage a variety of different individuals to participate.
 - b. In order to be prepared for the size of the group pre-registration was required

- c. A café model was used in some workshops
 - i. Different topics were discussed at each table in small groups
 - ii. There was a limited amount of time at each table
 - iii. When it was time to move to another table, participants would choose another table with a different topic not necessarily with the same group.
 - iv. Trained facilitators were used at each table
6. Stu Siefer also attended the meeting with Scottsdale and reiterated that technology will play an important role in gathering public information and stated that the information needs to be in a usable form.
7. Sharon Doyle encouraged committee members become trained as a facilitator if the opportunity presents itself.

General discussion by the committee

1. Darlene Justus provided suggestions for potential sites for Tempe public workshops, Arizona Historical Society Museum and the North Tempe Multigenerational Center
2. Lisa Roach suggested the Tempe Public Library
3. Committee members also agreed that public workshops should be held in SRP-MIC facilities
4. Committee members suggested that information about the project and workshops should be posted in various facilities in Tempe

Agenda Item 5 – Cultural Resources

Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, informed committee about the cultural inventory efforts of the Olsson Associates team

1. Eco Plan of the Olsson Associates team is currently obtaining right of way and facility contacts needed for the study.
2. Ariel photography and digital site information is being collected.

General discussion by the committee

1. Shane Anton provided the committee with some information on the cultural significance of the park to the SRP-MIC
2. Mike Crusa informed the committee that GIS information exists from a previous study in the area
3. Lisa Roach reiterated the importance of creating a balance between use of the park and preservation of various artifacts
4. Committee members agreed that the park should be protected and preserved for future generations

Agenda Item 6 – Meeting Schedule

Committee members discussed the next meeting date

1. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10 at 4 pm at the Tempe Public Library
2. There will be a park tour for interested committee members at 3 pm on Tuesday, March 10

Agenda Item 7 – Papago Park Site Visit

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 3:00 pm.

1. Committee will meet at the Tempe Library to visit Papago Park.

2. Shawn Wagner, Recreation Supervisor, will secure a 15 passenger van and send reminder memo. He will also bring a camera to take pictures.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

The committee suggested the following for future agenda items.

1. Continued updates on Papago Park Master Plan
2. Discussion of park tour

Agenda Item 9 – Chair/Board Member Comments

1. Sharon Doyle, Chair, asked committee to think of other venues to get the work out for support. Also showed newspaper clippings about glass on trails and the neglect of Papago Park
2. Darlene Justus informed committee that Papago Park along McDowell Road appears to be neglected because of the trash and debris along the road and in the edge of the park. This road handles a lot of traffic including trucks hauling debris that may fall off during transport
3. Bob Gasser expressed he would like that there should be openness and flexibility to opinions
4. Sharon Doyle, Chair, expressed this committee has a real opportunity to guide and give opinions that will be heard and considered

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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