



Minutes Parks, Recreation and Golf Advisory Board May 19, 2010

**Minutes of the Parks and Recreation Board meeting held on May 19, 2010 7:00 p.m.,
Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Rd.**

Members Present:

Scott Hamilton – Vice Chair
Chris Dahm
Ron Cosner
Robert Lofgren
Angela Thornton
Don Watkins

Members Absent:

Chuy Carreon - Chair (excused)
Frank Granillo (excused)
Ed Roberts (excused)
Clem Star
Alex Walsh

City Staff Present:

Travis Dray, Deputy Manager – Parks & Recreation Department
Jodie Garth, Asst. Recreation Coordinator – Parks & Recreation Department
Sam Thompson, Deputy Manager – Parks & Recreation Department
Adam Williams, Sr. Budget & Finance Analyst – Financial Services
Bob Pohlit, Capital Projects Coordinator – Parks & Recreation Department

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m.

Scott Hamilton called the meeting to order.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the April 21, 2010 Parks, Recreation & Golf Advisory Board meeting were accepted as written.

Agenda Item 2 – CIP Update

Adam Williams, Sr. Budget & Finance Analyst, spoke about the funding status of the Capital Improvement Program.

1. The CIP budget is used for acquisition, construction and financing for all city assets.

2. These assets include buildings, parks, facilities, streets, equipment etc.
3. General obligation bonds are issued to fund the CIP.
4. These bonds are paid the revenues received from property taxes.
5. The report from the Maricopa County Assessor's Office indicates a reduction in valuations of property in Tempe.
6. It is estimated that over the next three years, there will be a 35% decline in property values and, because of this; the City will not be able to issue new debt.
7. The City can only afford to pay existing debt.
8. The park renovation program, and other improvement programs, will be halted.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Budget staff base projections on information received from the County Assessor's office and other sources.
- There is about a 2-year lag between the property valuations are computed and when the City receives the revenue.
- The revenues are forecasted to increase in 2013-14.
- The debt service reserve funding is being used to pay the existing debt as the current revenues are not enough to cover the debt service.

Agenda Item 3 – CIP impacts to Park Renovation Program

Bob Pohlit, Capital Projects Coordinator, explain the impacts of the projected decrease in CIP funding.

1. The park renovation program will be put on hold for at least the next five years, based on projections made for the CIP budget.
2. Monies that were budgeted for park renovations are no longer available.
3. \$11 million will be removed from the park's budget.
4. Designs that are underway will be completed and presented to the board, but they will not be submitted for permitting.
5. The irrigation project at Kiwanis Park is nearing completion.
6. The KRC wave pool renovation is complete.
7. The KRC rehabilitation project will be completed by August.
8. Escalante Pool is close to completion and the pool should be open by Memorial Day weekend.
9. The replacement of the left center field light pole at Diablo Stadium is complete.
10. Engineers will inspect the remaining poles and make recommendations to ensure their safety.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- Parks that are under design include Hallman, Daley, Scudder and Goodwin.
- Several parks in Tempe are aged and have experienced equipment failure, such as electrical services.
- Because park renovations are not going forward, staff will have to identify items that need to be repaired now and determine what funding is available to make the repairs.
- Items that cannot be repaired may have to be removed.

Agenda Item 4 – Golf Update

Sam Thompson reviewed the status of the golf enterprise.

1. The golf courses are in good shape.

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2. Rounds and revenues are still down for both courses.
 3. The concessionaire continues to market the course through Golf Now.
 4. The AC units at the Rolling Hills restaurant need to be replaced.
 5. There will be a budget balancing meeting this Friday, from 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the council chambers, to discuss the various funds managed by the city.
 6. The recommendations for the golf enterprise fund will be presented at this meeting.
 7. Recommendations include staff reductions and an RFQ to potentially outsource the maintenance of Rolling Hills.
 8. Other considerations include outsourcing all of the golf operations or offering the use of the land to the zoo.
 9. The staff is continuing to look at ways to address the cost of water at Rolling Hills.

General Discussion by the Committee:

- E-mail blasts are sent out to those that have signed up through Golf Now.
- The Rolling Hills restaurant facility, including the air conditioning units, is the responsibility of the city.
- Because the land was issued to the city by the federal government, through a land patent, the land cannot be sold.

Agenda Item 5 – Budget Update

Travis Dray, Deputy Manager, provided a current budget update.

1. The sales tax increase was approved by the voters.
2. The increase will enable us to continue to provide many of our programs and services.

Agenda Item 6 – Chair/Board Comments

Travis Dray invited the board to attend the upcoming forum that will be held as a part of the selection process for the director of the Community Services Department.

The board was invited to attend the upcoming beautification awards.

The next meeting will be held on June 16.

Meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Prepared by: Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant, (480) 350-5240

Reviewed by: Travis Dray, Parks and Recreation Deputy Department Manager, (480) 350-5182