



**Minutes  
Parks, Recreation and Golf Advisory Board  
October 19, 2011**

**Minutes of the Parks, Recreation and Golf Advisory Board meeting held on  
October 19, 2011 6:00 p.m., Library Board Room, 3500 S. Rural Rd.**

**Members Present:**

Frank Granillo – Served as Chair  
Alex Arredondo  
Karen Barno  
Sharon Doyle  
Ron Cosner  
Robert Lofgren  
Don Watkins

**Members Absent:**

Chuy Carreon – Chair (excused)  
Scott Hamilton – Vice Chair (excused)  
Travis Campbell (excused)

**City Staff Present:**

Travis Dray, Community Service Deputy Director – Recreation  
Cynthia Yanez, Executive Assistant – Community Services  
Josh Bell, Sr. Recreation Coordinator – Recreation  
Linda Cano, Recreation Supervisor – Recreation  
Eric Iwersen, Sr. Transportation Planner – Community Development  
Nancy Ryan, Sr. Planner – Community Development  
Jerry Judkins, Sr. Recreation Coordinator - Public Works  
Oliver Ncube, Parks Manager, Public Works  
Tim Pfannenstein, Parks and Golf Course Supervisor, Public Works

Meeting convened at 6:05 p.m.

Frank Granillo called the meeting to order.

**1) Consideration of Meeting Minutes**

The amended minutes of September 21, 2011 were accepted.

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## 2) Updated Levitt/Beach Park Performance Pavilion

**Eric Iwersen, Sr. Transportation Planner and Mary Bessler, DTC presented a concept plan for a performance pavilion at Tempe Beach Park.**

- a) The non-profit Levitt Foundation would partner with the City to build a permanent performance area in Tempe Beach Park.
- b) The 3,000 square foot stage would be used to provide 50 free performances per year.
- c) Levitt would provide \$400,000 for development and up to \$750,000, spread out over a five-year period, to assist with operation and maintenance costs.
- d) The concept suggested that the stage could be built at the location that is currently being used for staging other community performances.
- e) The concept does not include any plans to change the sloped amphitheater in the park.
- f) The presentation will be made to various boards, council committees and public stakeholders.
- g) The council directed staff to determine if there is support to explore the possibility of creating the pavilion.
- h) If there is support to explore the concept, the next phase would include cost analysis, site plans and integration with current events.

### **Additional Discussion**

- The number of required free events may include current events for which the City does not charge an admission fee.
- Not all of the free events will be held at peak user times.
- There was concern about potential impacts to the attendance of performance at the TCA.
- A “friends” group would be established to raise additional O&M funds.
- Local residents may object to additional performances in the park.
- The pavilion would provide commercial and recreational opportunities.
- It was suggested that Papago Park might be considered.
- It was also suggested that staff consider a floating stage.

**MOTION:** Don Watkins made a motion to approve the concept, but without further information about cost and location, the board cannot do anything but approve the concept.

Additional discussion was held.

**SECOND:** Karen Barno

**MOTION:** Not carried.

**MOTION:** Don Watkins made a motion to approve the exploration of the concept of building a performance pavilion in Tempe.

**SECOND:** Karen Barno

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**MOTION:** Carried 5 – 2.

**3) Papago Park Trail Rides**

**Nancy Ryan, Sr. Planner, shared information about a potential trail ride concession in Papago Park.**

- a) An RFP was issued for a trail ride/horse stable concession.
- b) The concession would be located in the LoPiano habitat.
- c) The current horse stables near Town Lake are up for sale.
- d) The lease would be responsible for development and operations.
- e) There are 10.6 acres for lease.
- f) The area would include enough space for an office, parking spaces, horse stalls, an arena, 60 horses and space for tack and feed.
- g) Customers would park in the marina parking lot and use the existing underpass to access the site.
- h) The business could attract visitors to the area and potentially provide income for the city.

**4) Adapted Recreation**

**Josh Bell, Sr. Recreation Coordinator, gave a presentation about the City's Adapted Recreation.**

- a) The participants in the adapted recreation program are vibrant, active and involved.
- b) The programs are offered for youths and adults with developmental disabilities.
- c) Camp Challenge is a summer program for youths and adults, ages 5 – 22.
- d) The LEAP program is an afterschool program for high school students.
- e) The City has a Special Olympics delegation that currently has 275 participants.
- f) The City also has other programs and events such as Buddy Bowling, Yoga & Zumba classes, activity nights, themed dances, karaoke & game nights, bingo and movie nights.
- g) Most of the participants are Tempe residents, but the program is open to surrounding community members.

**Additional Discussion**

- There are fees for the programs and events.
- Donations are welcomed.
- Annual staffing and supply costs are between \$15,000-\$20,000 per year.
- The staff would like to expand the LEAP program to include middle school students.

**5) Maintenance Activities at the Golf Courses**

**Tim Pfannenstein, Parks & Golf Course Supervisor, discussed current course conditions.**

- a) The overseeding at both courses is complete.

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- b) Ken McDonald re-opened last Friday, Rolling Hills will be open tomorrow.

### **Additional Discussion**

- It was suggested that the peak rates not be implemented until the greens are “playable.”
- By keeping summer rates in effect after overseeding, it could make it too inviting for other players to come to the course which would hamper the growth of the winter grass.

### **6) Golf Pro Update**

**Jerry Judkins, Sr. Recreation Coordinator, gave a quick update as the golf concessionaire was unable to attend.**

- a) The red, white and blue flags have been installed at Ken McDonald.
- b) The new flags eliminate the need for pin placement cards.
- c) Renovations have been made to the restrooms, restaurant and bar.
- d) New air conditioning units have been installed.
- e) Concession staff continue to implement programs for new player development such as Junior Golf, PGA Get Ready, and Family Golf Sundays which includes group instruction and family-friendly tees.
- f) Both courses continue to provide players’ assistants to monitor play on the course.

### **7) September Rounds and Revenue at the Golf Courses**

**Jerry Judkins, Sr. Recreation Coordinator, provided rounds and revenue data for both courses.**

- a) The goal for September was an increase of 9.8%. The actual increase was 11.2%
- b) Overall, there was an increase in rounds, revenue, green fees, cart revenue and range revenue.

### **Additional Discussion**

- It was suggested that staff try to install trees near benches.
- The City offers a Living Tree Memorial Program at both courses that allows individuals or groups to purchase trees for the courses to recognize an individual, group, organization or a loved one. These trees can be installed near benches or other desirable locations to provide shade for the golfers.

### **8) Chair/Board Member Comments**

Alex Arredondo enjoyed the Adapted Recreation presentation. He also requested an update on our current facilities.

The board was reminded of the upcoming board and commission training that will be hosted by the Tempe Learning Center next Wednesday.

Sharon Doyle also enjoyed the presentation on the City's Adapted Recreation programs.

The next meeting will be held November 16, 2011, 6:00p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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

Reviewed by: Travis Dray, Community Services Deputy Director, 480-350-5182