AGENDA ITEM 11

DATE 11-20-08

Tempe

Minutes
Rio Salado Advisory Commission
September 23, 2008

Minutes of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission held on September 23, 7:00 PM at the Tempe Public Library, Conference Room, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, Arizona.

Members Present:
Dana Burkhardt
Christina Cenzano
Alana Chavez
Michael Curlee
Maureen DeCindis
Sharon Doyle
Mary Hannaman
Julie Ramsey

Members Absent:
Sue Lofgren
Walter McCraney
Brett Siegal

City Staff Present:
Diane Johnson
Nancy Ryan

Guests Present:
Bob Nonnemaker
Sukanya Vijayakumar

Christina Cenzano called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes from August 26, 2008
Christina asked the commission members if there was a motion to approve the RSAC minutes from August 26, 2008.

MOTION: Alana Chavez moved to approve minutes
SECOND: Maureen DeCindis
DECISION: Minutes were approved unanimously

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances
There were no public appearances.

Agenda Item 3 – Stand Up Paddleboard Request
Nancy Ryan, Rio Salado Project Manager, introduced **Bob Nonnemaker** who brought forward the request to allow stand up paddleboards on Tempe Town Lake. Bob passed out a two page letter with a picture of a stand up paddleboard.

1) Bob stated a stand up paddleboard is used for both recreation and fitness purposes. He said the paddleboard would be similar to other watercrafts allowed on Town Lake such as sunfish sailboats, sit-on kayaks and two chamber inflatable kayaks.
2) Bob was told by staff that stand up paddleboards were not allowed on the lake due to the "full-body contact" in a no swim lake. The definition of "full-body contact" is where a human body comes into direct contact with the water to the point of complete submergence. Bob feels the paddleboard does not meet this criteria. He held up a picture showing someone standing on a board with no contact with water. He stated there is always an inherent risk for any watercraft to turn over in the water. Bob said he has used his stand up paddleboard at Canyon Lake, Saguaro Lake, and in the Pacific Ocean with no restrictions.
3) Nancy reported the City's Park Ordinances states paddleboards are prohibited on Town Lake. She stated in order to allow stand up paddleboards the park ordinance would have to be changed.
4) Maricopa County's health code states Town Lake is considered an "artificial bathing lake". Because of this the city would need to monitor the water more often, close lake when pH is high, and provide showers and restrooms. Staff is working internally with operations team to allow paddleboards on the lake.

General discussion regarding the Stand up Paddleboard, including:
- How do you learn to use a stand up paddleboard without falling off?
- How do we gage proficiency? Public safety is important.
- Good exposure and an added benefit to the environment on the lake.

Agenda Item 4 – Storm Damage

Nancy gave a brief summary of the storm damage around Town Lake. She reported the City of Tempe lost a total of 374 trees and 187 of them were around Town Lake. Staff is looking at opportunities for volunteers to help replant trees and asking for donations to help replace the trees. There was also boat damage at the marina boat storage facility.

Nancy told the commissioners about the *Leaves at the Lake* program that provides for the beautification of Town Lake with trees, landscaping and shade features. A donation to the fund will not only help provide a beautiful setting around the lake but also gives the opportunity to honor someone special by placing their name on one of the leaves of the "Trees of Life" art feature. You can go to www.tempe.gov/lake/art/leavesatthelake.htm for more information. Nancy announced the Parks and Recreation Department is putting together a volunteer event to replant the trees lost at Tempe Center for the Arts parking lot.

General discussion regarding the **storm damage**, including:
- Commissioners suggested contacting Tempe Leadership, neighborhood associations, and Tempe Garden Club to help with suggestions on how to help replace the trees.

Agenda Item 5 - Committee Updates

- Friends of Rio Salado – Julie Ramsey reported Friends is getting ready for their annual Halloween "Scary Boat" ride. A date and time has not been chosen yet. She also reported the Veteran's memorial has had a design change. The memorial committee is talking about moving the memorial up and away from the lake with a flame design. The memorial's new site will be a quiet and solitude place. Their next committee meeting will be on October 13, 7

am at Tempe Beach Park where the committee will walk the bridge abutment with a focus on restoring the abutment. Nancy announced the fundraising for the memorial will be run by a local developer.

- Ad Hoc Committee for Papago Park and Rio Salado – Sharon Doyle said there is nothing new to report. She stated in the memo from the City Clerk outlining Council Committees you will find the Ad Hoc Committee under the working committee section on the last page.
- Enhanced Services Commission – Nancy Ryan reported at the last ESC meeting they had a presentation on the TOD, an update on "Elements" project, and an update on ADOT widening of Loop 202 construction challenges for Rio Salado.

Agenda Item 6 – Project Updates

Nancy gave an update on projects in Rio Salado.

1) ADOT has requested the Rio Salado Operations Center trailer move by no later than May 2009. Staff is looking at relocation sites.
2) Tonight there is an Urban Forestry Management Plan public meeting at the library. The Parks and Recreation Department is bringing on a consultant to manage all the trees in the city as an urban forest.
3) The "Elements" project has gone through the development review process and will go to council on October 2 & 16.
4) SunCor has picked up a building permit for the 3rd office tower for Hayden Ferry Lakeside. Nancy stated they are also sponsoring a free fall music concert series called "Lakeside Live". The concerts will be on consecutive Friday evenings from October 24 through November 14 at 7 pm in front of Hayden Ferry Lakeside.
5) Nancy handed out a memo from the City Clerk on Council Committees. She discussed each committee in the memo.

RSAC's next meeting will be **October 28** at Tempe Public Library 2nd floor Conference Room.

Committee Consensus: The commission members decided to combine the November 25 and December 23 meetings into one meeting to be held on Tuesday, December 2, 2008 at 7 pm.

MOTION: Alana moved to adjourn the meeting
SECOND: Dana Burkhardt
DECISION: Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Prepared by: Diane Johnson

Reviewed by: Nancy Ryan

Nancy Ryan

Nancy Ryan
Rio Salado Manager