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## Minutes Rio Salado Advisory Commission August 25, 2009

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**Minutes of the Rio Salado Advisory Commission held on August 25, 7:00 PM at the Rio Salado Operations Center, 620 N. Mill Ave., Tempe, Arizona.**

**Members Present:**

Dana Burkhardt  
Alana Chavez  
Michael Curlee  
Sharon Doyle  
Mary Hannaman  
Sue Lofgren

**Members Absent:**

Christina Cenzano  
Eric Emmert  
Julie Ramsey  
Brett Siegal

**City Staff Present:**

Diane Johnson  
Nancy Ryan

**Alana Chavez called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.**

**Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes from April 28 & May 26, 2009**

**Alana** asked the commission members if there was a motion to approve the RSAC minutes from April 28, 2009.

**MOTION: Sharon Doyle moved to approve minutes**

**SECOND: Mary Hannaman**

**DECISION: Minutes were approved unanimously**

**Alana** asked the commission members if there was a motion to approve the RSAC minutes from May 26, 2009

**MOTION: Sue Lofgren moved to approve minutes**

**SECOND: Michael Curlee**

**DECISION: Minutes were approved unanimously**

**Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances**

There were no public appearances.

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### **Agenda Item 3 – Hayden Ferry Lakeside PAD**

**Nancy Ryan** reported SunCor has submitted an 8<sup>th</sup> amended PAD for Hayden Ferry Lakeside (HFL). The PAD has a site plan change from residential to commercial for the land east of Bridgeview. The mixed-use development will replace two condo towers with a 12-story office tower parallel to Rio Salado Parkway and a 3-story building in front parallel to the lake. The plan includes 900 underground and surface parking spaces.

**General discussion** regarding the **HFL PAD**, including:

- Alana would like the development to have an interactive use of space between the residential and commercial areas.
- Dana Burkhardt likes the parking improvements, commercial opportunities, and the increased lake access. He stated the existing condo towers will have better views with these changes.
- Nancy Ryan stated the changes will engage activity closer to the lake.

**Committee Consensus: The RSAC consensus is the HFL PAD is an appropriate use of land and is consistent with the goals of Rio Salado.**

### **Agenda Item 4 – Boating Concession Update**

Nancy reported the “unskilled” rental boat concessionaire contract with Rio Lago expires September 13, 2009. Unskilled boats include kayaks, peddle boats, and small electric boats. They have until October 14 to remove all of their equipment and facilities off the lake. The Rio Lago tour boat concession contract expires in two years and they will continue that operation.

Nancy said there are a few options to replacing rental boat activity on the lake. The Parks & Recreation Department is looking into renting their kayak fleet from the north side of the lake at the marina. She stated another option could be to go out for another RFP.

**General discussion** regarding the **Boating Concession Update**, including:

- Alana suggested having the ability to rent boats at different locations around the lake.

### **Agenda Item 5 – Veterans Memorial Update**

Nancy reported staff is going to Council in September to ask approval for a licensing agreement between the City, Veterans Memorial Foundation and Rio Salado Foundation operating as Veterans Memorial-Tempe LLC. The agreement will allow the foundations to raise money, design and build a Veterans Memorial in Tempe Beach Park. When the project is completed it will be given back to the City.

### **Agenda Item 6 – Boathouse Update**

This week staff met with RSP Architects to go over programming for the boathouse. RSP will be doing additional drawings for the project. Chanen Construction has been joined by Gay and Tim Wray and the Rio Salado Foundation to initiate the fundraising stage of the project.

### **Agenda Item 7 - Committee Updates**

- Friends of Rio Salado – No committee update.
- Ad Hoc Committee Tempe Papago Park Master Plan – Sharon Doyle reported the committee has completed the scheduled meetings in May, June, & July. They found the responses at Tempe meetings paralleled with the local regional meetings. The biggest

concern was conservation and preserving the area. The public also wants to keep and enhance the existing trails within the park. Sharon said they anticipate the Papago Park Regional Master Plan will be finalized by September 30, 2009.

### **Agenda Item 8 – Project Update**

- Construction has started on the Rio East Linear Park located on the south bank of the lake from Rural Road to the east dam. The development has been modified to \$1.5 M project with a multi-use path at the top of the levee, a decomposed granite path by the lake, and 1/3 of the area landscaped. The other 2/3 of the landscaping will be finished with soil and wildflowers.
- ADOT widening project of the 202 Freeway is pouring piers all along the Salt River. They have installed a coffer dam at Indian Bend Wash to dry up the lake in that area to build piers. There are also changes at the marina with an expanded underpass.
- The City received two Requests for Proposal for an Amateur Sports Facility located at Rio Salado Parkway west of Priest Drive. An economic analysis was prepared and staff will set up a time to interview each respondent.
- Tempe Transit Center has been selected as a finalist for a Valley Forward award.
- At a recent Code Sustainability Subcommittee Nancy discussed the regulations that currently limit swimming in Town Lake. The committee requested she look into the cost to create a swimming area at the lake.
- A solar light was installed by the rowing dock at the marina.
- Arizona Fall Frenzy is coming to Tempe Beach Park on September 18-20.

**General discussion** regarding the **Project Update**, including:

- Alana asked what was happening with the Elements project. Nancy reported the project is on hold due to funding.

The Committee's next meeting will be **September 22**.

**MOTION: Sharon Doyle moved to adjourned meeting**

**SECOND: Mary Hannaman**

**DECISION: Meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM**

Prepared by: Diane Johnson

Reviewed by: Nancy Ryan

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Nancy Ryan  
Rio Salado Manager