

Town of Payson

Parks, Recreation and Tourism Commission

ACTION MINUTES FOR THE PUBLIC MEETING

Meeting Date and Time: Wednesday, November 6, 2019

Location: Town of Payson, Council Chambers
303 N. Beeline Highway, Payson, AZ

The Commission Reserves the right to consider any matter out of sequence.

A. CALLED TO ORDER by Rory Huff at 5:30pm

B. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

C. ROLL CALL:

Rory Huff, Chair
Charles Beier, Vice Chair
BJ Bollier
Lori Thompson
Benjamin McDowell
Dave Golembewski

OTHERS PRESENT: Courtney Spawn, Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Director; Nelson Beck, Parks Operations Manager, Savannah Oldeschulte, Graphic Design; Caryn Sinagra, Customer Service/Administration

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES from August 7, 2019

Motion made by BJ Bollier to approve minutes, Seconded by Charles Beier, passed with all YES votes

E. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- a. Joshua Lyon, Payson, AZ: Would like to increase the adult sports and activities in Payson. He is a physician's assistant and conveyed to the committee that if both parents are involved in sports then kids are also more likely to be involved.

Joshua started hosting tournaments here that led to having a non-profit called Homeruns for Vets. He stated that he had put together seven softball tournaments in the last three years and raised over \$7,000 for veterans in the community. In addition to fundraising, he emphasized that the tournaments raise revenue for the Town. Courtney responded to his question regarding likely figures per tournament stating in Phoenix they estimate up to \$275 per person but for Payson, on average, around \$50 to \$100 per participant for a two day tournament.

Joshua also listed improvements and maintenance items needed for Rumsey Park and volunteered his group to assist. He concluded by stating they feel like giving to the Town is giving back to the community and more adult sports increases kids participation.

Those wishing to address the Parks Commission during this time need not request permission in advance. No discussion regarding Public Comments is permitted. Members of the Commission may not discuss items that are not specifically identified on the agenda. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.01 (G), action taken as a result of the Public Comment is limited to (1) asking staff to study the matter, (2) responding to individual criticism, or (3) asking that the matter be placed on a future agenda.

F. PUBLIC HEARINGS

None

G. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ POSSIBLE ACTION

- a. Update on pickle ball courts/conversion of some of the tennis courts – requested by Ben McDowell*

Courtney reported that the department received funding three years ago to convert one of the tennis courts into pickle ball courts. The funds were put on hold due to the Rumsey Park master plan. The money is back into the budget for the 19/20 fiscal year so the goal is to convert court 1 into four pickle ball courts. Completion goal is early spring/May. This project also includes coating basketball and existing tennis courts at the same time as the pickle ball courts.

Nelson added that they will be pouring the slab the first part of March and will need 60 days of cure time. The time is based on getting a clear picture of drier weather and temperatures that aren't dropping below 40.

- b. Need for additional bleachers/seating at the south multipurpose field – requested by Ben McDowell.*

Ben opened by stating that the multipurpose fields host girls and boys soccer and everyone sits on every available seat on the bleachers leaving people standing. Asked

what would the process be to get more bleachers, and if that would be the school or the Town?

Courtney replied that our programs are using modified fields so they're sitting on the fields as they are converted to 2-3 fields. A lot of time there is a need for seating for the high school and middle school soccer teams. It was not in the budget for this fiscal year but is something we can definitely consider in the future.

Rory proposed the possibility of doing a co-op with the school, to share the expense. Ben said he would reach out to the PHS athletic director.

- c. *Update on status of concession stand/bathrooms/bleachers at the Kiwanis baseball fields (plan was presented approximately two years ago) – requested by Ben McDowell.*

Courtney reported that the mayor and council approved the donation funds from a community member, at the last council meeting. A budget of \$80,000, with matching community member donation, for the bathroom building, a second story level for storage and a crow's nest for that area.

Rory asked if we have the architect to start and Courtney responded that we've been in discussion with him. Ben inquired about the previous drawings the committee received. Courtney acknowledged the drawings and said the biggest holdup with that project was the time it would take to get the funding. It has taken five years to get the \$80,000 for the restroom building.

Courtney concluded by saying the fact that we are able to get the restroom buildings and the second story concession with private donor help is a great stride in that direction for that portion of the park. The money is budgeted in this fiscal year so the plan is to have it completed by June 30, 2020.

- d. *Review of all tournaments held using the Kiwanis fields and funding they brought to the town – requested by Ben McDowell.*

Courtney reported that the Town had six tournaments with a total of 89 teams this year. She discussed the different team models explaining how revenue and expenses were apportioned. Registration fees were a little over \$48,000 in revenue for the Town. Expenses were umpire fees, sanctioning fees, umpire and sanctioning official hotels, field supplies, staff, softballs, etc. Total expenses were approximately \$47,000.

Revenue for the Town was estimated on over 4,000 people in town for two-day tournaments. Courtney calculated that the tournament players and their guests spent approximately \$85,400 for food, gas and hotel rooms. The tax revenues at 2.88% of \$12,000 to \$24,000 went back to the Town. The registration and tax revenue total is about \$70,000 with expenses of \$40,000 nets the Town around \$26,000 for those six tournaments.

Courtney emphasized that the revenue generated goes into the general fund and is then allocated to all the Town departments, not just Parks & Rec.

Rory stated we need to remember that Parks & Rec are here to provide a service more than make money for the Town of Payson. Courtney replied that we never want to go into the negative with these tournaments.

Lori stated that these tournaments are valuable to the hotels and in some organizations that hotels will offer hotel nights to officials. Courtney answered that it is a large chunk of those expenses paying for their stay and that we are trying to work with the hotels in town.

Ben suggested that if we work with two or three of the hotel chains or groups and a tourism promoted them as preferred places to stay. Courtney reiterated that for the last five years we've been working on relationships with the hotels.

e. *Splash Pad presentation, discussion and direction, with splash pad citizen group.*

Courtney said the splash pad was funded through the 19/20 fiscal year budget and we were directed to complete the project with the input provided by the citizens group. Best location is Green Valley Park. The limitations noted were close irrigation and a large drainage that goes through the park in that area. Splash Pad to be operational by the spring or early summer of 2020. We are working with a national, cooperative purchasing organization that offers pre-solicited contracts nationwide called Vortex. Vortex provided the preliminary design handed out to the committee and citizens group for their input and to finalize equipment.

Vortex installers saw the site and will get us more information on the grades and slopes. Information was then given on the specs and the preliminary design reviewed in detail with the committee and public. Next steps: Vortex to follow-up with Park & Rec with more information on the grades and slopes: the pad will have to be on a zero percent grade. Final grade set with the engineers, get a good surface built so we can start the installation process with them finalizing the square footage, the shape and the features that will go on it during construction.

Courtney and Nelson answered questions from the committee;

1. Grass – Nelson stated the buffer around the splash pad would be much bigger than the five foot buffer shown in the preliminary design and we are bringing in experts to make sure that it can be done and operated efficiently.
2. Elk – Courtney cited the water features and the buffer area. Nelson stated elk may pass through and it will be part of the maintenance process.
3. Kids burning their feet or people falling – Nelson detailed the concrete used, moisture and evaporation created will cool the pad along with a suggestion of wearing water socks.
4. Using Artificial Grass – Nelson replied that it could be a possibility but it will probably be an alternative concrete (leading away from the pad).
5. Freshwater and re-circulating systems were discussed with Courtney stating that quality of the re-circulating system is at the highest standards.

6. Budget –Nelson relayed that there is a buffer for the different equipment and Courtney added that Vortex gives a pretty good outline of the percentage you want your pad to budget, what you want your pad and features to cost so you leave that extra percentage for the install and tanks.
7. Square Footage – Courtney stated we are trying to stay in line with the 2300 to 2500 square footage that had previously been discussed.

Rory invited the splash pad citizens group along with the other members of the public present to speak.

Jim Ferris, Payson, AZ encouraged Parks & Rec to stick to the timeline presented and added that he feels that the splash pad will also be good for tourism.

Committee questions continued after the public invitation:

1. How many months the pad would be useable – Courtney responded that the timeline was in the study of recommendations and it was around April to October.
2. Securing the equipment when not in use / Fencing – Courtney stated that there are options to create barriers or a type of fencing.
3. Heated / water temperature – Nelson said that there's no heater planned.
4. Timeline for input – Courtney specified that the features would have to be solidified after we receive the square footage.

Rory directed the committee and public to give input or direction directly to Courtney.

A member of the citizens group stood up (from chair) and said that Payson was not having a pool open this summer. Courtney affirmed that Taylor Pool was only closed for the off season.

f. 2020 Meeting Dates

Courtney asked the committee to confirm 2020 meeting dates as the first Wednesday of the month in February, May, August and November.

Motion made by BJ Bollier, seconded by Charles Brier to keep those days. Passed with all YES votes.

H. REQUESTS TO STAFF FOR THE PLACEMENT OF ITEMS ON A FUTURE AGENDA.

None

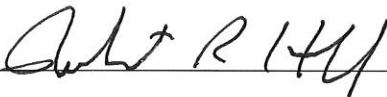
I. ADJOURNMENT

Rory Huff adjourned the meeting at 6:30 PM.

NOTE: THERE IS A POSSIBILITY THAT A QUORUM OF THE PAYSON COMMON COUNCIL WILL BE PRESENT DURING THIS MEETING. NO COUNCIL ACTION WILL BE TAKEN, NO COUNCIL DELIBERATIONS WILL BE HELD, AND NO COUNCIL BUSINESS WILL BE CONDUCTED.

The Town of Payson endeavors to make all Public Meetings accessible to persons with disabilities. With 48 hours advance notice, special assistance can also be provided for sign and/or hearing impaired persons at public meetings. Please call 474-5242 (voice) or 472-6449 (TDD) to request an accommodation to participation at this meeting.

Approved



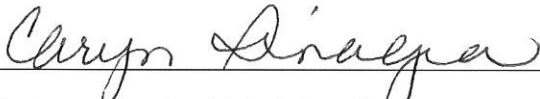
Rory Huff, Chair

2/12/2020

Date

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Parks and Recreation Commission of the Town of Payson held on the 6th day of November, 2019. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 12 day of February, 2020.



Caryn Sinagra, Customer Service / Administration