

**City of Phoenix
Parks and Greenway Commission Meeting
Public Works Office
1000 S. 'B' Street
July 7, 2016
6:30pm**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 by David VandeVelde

Members Present: David VandeVelde, Laura Bella, Carolyn Bartell and Lyla Heigl.

Members Absent: Dempsey Haller (excused), Nancy Peterson (excused).

Visitors Present: Lori Jendre, Lyle Heigl and Sandy Wine

Staff Present: Theresa Syphers, Secretary

Citizen Comments

There were none.

Dave introduced Lori Jendre and Sandy Wine. The commissioners welcomed them to the meeting. There was discussion regarding joining the Parks Commission and how the Parks Commission functions.

There was discussion regarding whether Dempsey was still interested in being on the Parks Commission. Lyla said she would talk to him and report back at the next meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Laura made a motion to approve the April 14, 2016 minutes as presented and seconded by Lyla.. The motion passed.

Old Business

a) Bee City USA Update

Dave reported that he had attended the Bee City Pollinator Garden, stating that it was well attended. There was discussion. He also said he visited with Sharon Schmidt, Chair of the Bee City USA Phoenix sub-committee, and she showed him the bee hives she has on her property. There was discussion with Dave saying he learned a lot about bees and that Sharon was willing to meet with anyone to show off her bee hives and teach them more about the importance of bees.

Carolyn reported on the progress of the Bee City Charter. There was discussion with Carolyn saying she would send the finalized product to the commissioners, Theresa and the Bee City Committee for review before adopting.

The commissioners discussed bat houses and the idea of putting them throughout the city. Discussion continued with Dave and Laura saying they would look into bat houses and report back to the commissioners. Discussion continued.

b) Membership

Dave invited Lori and Sandy to look at the Parks Commission info on the website. There was discussion.

c) Budget

Carolyn reported that the Budget Committee had approved the Parks Commission request for \$3,500.00 for the 2016/17 fiscal year, with \$500.00 of that set aside for Bee City activities. The commissioners discussed upcoming events. Carolyn explained where the funds for the Parks Commission came from. Discussion continued. The commissioners discussed the possibility of having a Recreational Director position and programs that can be run out of the future Community Center. Discussion continued.

d) Parks Master Plan Update

Dave reported that there was a good turnout at the Parks Master Plan Open House on June 4th. Laura reported that Aniko, with U of O, would be at the Dog Days of Summer event to get more info from the public regarding what they would like to see in the parks in Phoenix. There was discussion.

e) Dog Days of Summer

Laura and Lyla updated the commissioners on the progress of the event. Laura passed out a schedule for the event. There was discussion. Laura discussed items that would need to be completed for the event. Theresa and Laura agreed to meet in the coming week to discuss items needed to be completed by city staff. Discussion continued. Carolyn asked about purchasing banners to be placed at the N and S islands. The committee agreed it was a good idea.

Laura made a motion to approve the funds be spent to purchase Dog Days banners to be placed at the islands. Dave seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Carolyn said she would purchase the banners and get them to Theresa so staff could put them up. Discussion continued. Laura said she would talk to the Mayor about putting out a press release about the event. Laura also said she had made a Face Book page.

New Business

Councilor Comments

Carolyn reported that she was talking with the Phoenix/Talent School district regarding using the High School for the Easter Egg hunt next year. There was discussion. Carolyn said she would report back to the commissioners when she had more to share.

Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting was scheduled for September 22, 2016.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm.