

MINUTES  
REGULAR SESSION  
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION  
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
Tuesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009  
5:30 P.M.

Minutes are a summary of the actions taken. They are not verbatim.  
Public input is placed after Commission motions to facilitate future research.  
Public input, where appropriate, is heard prior to the motion.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Chairperson Whatley, Vice Chairperson Ellington, Commissioners Clawson, George, Parker, Goetting and Thomas were present.

**Also Present:** Parks & Recreation Director Lynda Moore, and Recording Secretary Margaret Harper

Chairperson Whatley welcomed Karen Thomas as the newest member of the Commission.

3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge was led by Parker.

4. **Consent Agenda** - All those items listed below may be enacted upon by one motion and approved as Consent Agenda Items. Any item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and considered as a separate item if a member of the Commission so requests.

a. **Approval of the Minutes:**

1.) March 3, 2009

b. **Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:**

1.) July 7, 2009

On a motion by Ellington, seconded by Goetting, the Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.

5. **Call to the Public for Items not on the Agenda**

There was no public input

6. **Presentation by Doug Ashley and representatives of the National Bicycle League (NBL) followed by possible discussion and recommendation to staff for possible future presentation to Council.**

On a motion by Goetting, seconded by Ellison, the Commission voted unanimously for staff to arrange a future presentation to Council by representatives of the National Bicycle League (NBL).

Parks & Recreation Director Moore explained that she had met with Doug Ashley recently regarding some exciting information about the possibility of a BMX Track, and introduced Mr. Ashley who led the presentation on the National Bicycle League (NBL).

Doug Ashley spoke on behalf of the NBL, a non-profit organization that would propose to construct and maintain a sanctioned Bicycle MotoCross Track at a designated area in Camp Verde, providing a safe, organized fun environment for all competitors and

spectators. Mr. Ashley, together with input from Justin Hill of the NBL, explained the benefits of BMX racing involving all ages and all family members, and that the facility would be operated solely by volunteers and NBL officials, at no cost to the Town; there is currently only one NBL BMX Track in Arizona, located in Goodyear. The property recently acquired for the new Community Park was discussed as the possible location for the proposed BMX Track, which could be run without the need for any water or other infrastructure facilities, with a temporary road constructed for access.

During the presentation and questions from the members for further clarification of operation of the Track, there was considerable discussion and comparison of the benefits available between the NBL and the ABA, with the representatives stressing that the ABA is in the sport to make a profit, in contrast to the NBL, a non-profit, family-oriented organization. It was suggested that further information on the ABA would be helpful in order to make an informed decision; Recreation Supervisor Joe Perez volunteered to follow up on obtaining such information.

### **PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individuals are summarized.)

**Michelle Worth** commented on the NBL operating for the benefit of families as opposed to the ABA that is in the sport as a business; the entire community will be involved to help construct the track; the children need a place to go for sport instead of drinking and partying.

**Joe Perez** spoke from the standpoint of staff, commending the representatives for coming up and giving their presentation, and volunteered to follow up to obtain further information for the Commission.

There was no further public input.

Director Moore said that she would plan to include a Power Point presentation for the NBL proposal to the Council when it has been scheduled.

7. **Report by Joe Perez, Recreation Supervisor on the Canoe Challenge, followed by possible discussion that may include but is not limited to problems with registration, partnership with NAU and SRP, and number of participants. (requested by Chairperson Whatley)**

Chairperson Whatley commented on the success of the well-run Canoe Challenge event, but expressed her concern about a problem that came up for some individuals regarding the registration process.

Perez explained that there may have been a breakdown between relaying registration information between Parks & Recreation and NAU; the plan for next year is to exclusively use the Active.com registration program which should avoid problems with making sure participants are in the right categories, times to show up, and having T-shirts available. Perez pointed out that Parks & Recreation serves only as liaison for the event that is co-partnered and primarily run by the Management Class at NAU.

There was no Commission discussion.

8. **Discussion relative to the Parks & Recreation Weight Room. Discussion may**

**include but is not limited to liability issues, previous discussion on possible closure and staff plans to correct non-member use. (requested by Chairperson Whatley)**

Whatley said she was concerned about the weight room being closed, and questioned the proposal to raise fees.

Moore explained that tomorrow night the Council will be addressing the liability issue that was brought to their attention by the Town Manager, and legal advice will be requested from the Town Attorney. Moore outlined the plan for installing a system for members to use their own key codes, after adoption of the new budget. The members also briefly discussed the difficulty of making sure that the facility is used only by members.

9. **Update by Parks & Recreation Director relative to the elimination of Town sponsored events, followed by possible discussion that may include but is not limited to list of events eliminated, who will take events over, and ways the Parks & Recreation Commission can assist those who took events over. (requested by Chairperson Whatley)**

Whatley said she has not heard any public outcry over the plan to eliminate some of the Town events, and commended Moore on her assistance at the first planning meeting for Fort Verde Days. Moore assured the Commission that she will do everything possible to assist those groups who will be volunteering for the different events. Moore added that the local merchants have started a non-profit Camp Verde Promotions organization that would like to take over Fort Verde Days and the Cornfest, as well as others who will be handling other events.

There was no Commission discussion.

10. **Discussion relative to the condition of Town parks and playgrounds, followed by possible discussion. (requested by Commissioner Goetting)**

Commissioner Goetting outlined the problems with sports facilities that he has observed, primarily two park issues, the small size and dangerous condition and surroundings of the basketball court in back of Town Hall, and the poor condition of the basketball court and tennis courts at Butler Park.

Perez acknowledged the issues raised by Goetting, pointing out the financial constraints involved; Moore explained the difficulty of addressing such problems with the current shortage of staff as well. Moore added that some of the needed improvements are being addressed, possibly as part of a CIP package request.

11. **Update on the Heritage Grant and the progress of the Community Park, followed by possible discussion. (requested by Chairperson Whatley)**

Moore reiterated that there is no Heritage Grant available, same as the last report. A bid packet is being prepared by the Town Engineer to get engineering drawings completed and ready in the event any stimulus funding should become available and so that the project can be shown as shovel-ready.

There was no Commission discussion.

12. **Update by staff relative to the Camp Verde Heritage Pool opening date,**

**followed by possible discussion. Discussion may include but is not limited to staff recommendation on opening date, costs incurred to open pool and budget constraints that may affect the pool.**

Moore reported that 20 to 30 calls are being received daily regarding the opening of the pool; the issue will be addressed by the Council tomorrow night. The Council will be requested to make no decision until after the May budget hearings. The Town Manager feels it will be in the best interest of the community for the Council to become aware of the overall current financial picture. Moore said that Clarkdale has currently closed its pool, and Cottonwood has imposed a three-week delay.

The members discussed with Moore the costs of operating the pool, the need for the pool being available for the children who otherwise would risk harm by swimming in the river, and the fees charged which traditionally are kept low and affordable for all members of the community. There was also discussion on adopting shorter hours of operation, and a shorter pool season.

**PUBLIC INPUT**

(Comments from the following individual are summarized.)

**Mary Bloomfield**, said that she thinks a swimming pool is part of the Arizona experience; with the high temperatures, not having a swimming pool seems absurd. The kids are not sent off to a country club since this is a poor community. There could be some cost savings by keeping the water temperature lower.

There was no further public input.

13. **Update followed by possible discussion relative to fingerprint policies for volunteers working with youth.**

Moore said that she and Perez had planned to address the subject fingerprint policies, and apologized that there was nothing to report since they had not had sufficient time to work on the project. Moore added that she coordinates with the Marshal's Office and that there is a policy in place, but she and Perez will be working on it as directed.

There was no Commission discussion.

14. **Possible acceptance of Chairperson Whatley's resignation letter, effective at the close of the May 5, 2009 meeting.**

On a motion by Goetting, seconded by Clawson, the Commission unanimously accepted Chairperson Whatley's resignation letter, effective at the close of this meeting.

Moore offered thanks from all for Whatley's work on the Commission, and wished her the best of luck.

There was no Commission discussion.

15. **Director's Report, followed by possible discussion.**

Moore reviewed highlights of her written report, and also outlined the highly successful Prom event and the number of teens who were provided with gowns and tuxedos in order to attend the Prom.

Whatley asked about the costs for the school field trips, and whether it was necessary to

sign up for the entire series; Perez and Moore explained the policy for trying to make sure everyone can participate regardless of finances.

There was no further discussion.

16. **Commission Informational Reports:**

**Parker** requested an agenda item to discuss Co-Ed Baseball. *Moore said she would be happy to discuss that with him further.*

**Thomas** asked about the effect of the increase in vendor fees. *Moore invited Thomas to come to her office to discuss the subject .*

**Goetting** requested an agenda item for July for an update and recommendation concerning the presentation of the National Bicycle League and possible invitation of the ABA.

**Ellington** commended the staff for everything they are able to get done, especially with the way the economy is and the shortage of personnel.

**Whatley** said she is impressed with the flexibility of staff handling difficult situations on the sport, such as coping with the bad weather for the Easter Egg Hunt.

17. **Adjournment.**

On a motion by Goetting, seconded by Thomas, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p.m.

---

Jim Ellington, Vice Chairperson

**CERTIFICATION**

I hereby certify that the foregoing Minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Parks & Recreation Commission of the Town of Camp Verde during the Regular Session of the Parks & Recreation Commission, Camp Verde, Arizona, held on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of May 2009. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

---

Margaret Harper, Recording Secretary