

Minutes

Desert Conservation Commission

June 4, 2024

Minutes of the Desert Conservation Commission meeting held on June 4, 2024, 3:30 p.m., Hybrid Meeting- Tempe Public Library, 2nd Floor Board Room, 3500 South Rural Road, Tempe, AZ. and virtually through Microsoft Teams

Members Present:

Laura Stewart – Chair
Kelli Cholieu – Vice Chair
Donald Burt
Kimberly Gaffney-Loza
Dushawn John-Armenta
Ricardo Juan Leonard
Shereen Lerner
Jane Neuheisel
Elba Quintero

Members Absent:

None

City Staff Present:

Alex Jovanovic, Staff Liaison- Deputy Community Services Director – Parks
Alex Cortese, Community Services Manager
Shelbie Meyer, Management Assistant II
Gabe Sabori, Community Services Supervisor

Guests Present:

Ashley Akens, Manager of Spinners on the Green
Dylan Almquist, ASU Disc Golf Club
Keith Murray, Owner of Spinners on the Green
Paul Sacco, Law Offices of Paul Sacco

Upon the establishment of a quorum, meeting was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chair Laura Stewart.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2024

Motion by Donald Burt to approve the meeting minutes of April 2, 2024 as submitted; seconded by Kimberly Gaffney-Loza. Motion passed on a 7-0 vote.

Ayes: Chair Laura Stewart, and commission members, Donald Burt, Kimberly Gaffney-Loza, Ricardo Juan Leonard, Shereen Lerner, Jane Neuheisel and Elba Quintero.
Absent: Vice-Chair Kelli Cholieu and Dushawn John-Armenta.

Agenda Item 3 – Graffiti: Streamlining Removal Process

Alex Jovanovic presented to the commission a PowerPoint presentation on Graffiti: Streamlining Removal Process. Presentation included the following:

- Graffiti team
 - Strategic priority: quality of life
 - Private property: graffiti removal program
- Preserves graffiti team (Hayden Butte & Papago Preserve)
 - Arizona Antiquities Act
 - Arizona State Museum
 - Old process
 - Per occurrence permit
 - New process
 - Annual permit
 - Update on current graffiti
 - Tempe Historic Preservation Officer
 - Tribal outreach, ceremony
 - Contract for permit, survey, removal
 - Bid review
 - Work scheduled as soon as permit is issued
 - Survey, removal, report

Agenda Item 4 – Operational Items

- **Preserve User Groups**
 - Keith Murray and Ashley Akens from Spinners on the Green attended meeting to provide information and Q&A as needed by the Commission regarding disc golf in Tempe.
- **Projects: Management Plan**
 - Board wanting to go over the entire Preserve Management Plan as the draft plan will be available for comment after August 26, 2024.
- **Upcoming: Management Plan Future Work Session**
 - Tentative date set for Saturday, August 10, 2024. Board members will plan to meet in the morning from 9am to 1pm. The meeting will be agendized with blocked off portion of times to speak on certain issues.

Staff to follow up and send out all documents passed out by Spinners on the Green, the CIP portion of the presentation, and results of the Draft Preserve Management Plan (if applicable) to the board.

Agenda Item 5 – CIP Update

Alex Jovanovic presented to the commission a PowerPoint presentation on the CIP Update. Presentation included the following:

- CIP Approach
 - Public health & safety
 - Existing assets

- Customer enhancements or level of service
- System expansion & new amenities
- CIP Project Development Process
 - Public Outreach
 - Design
 - Bids & council approval

Agenda Item 6 – Future Agenda Items

- Future work session/retreat for review of Draft Preserve Management Plan
 - Pollinator & Monarch Pledge
 - Sensory Garden

Agenda Item 7 – Upcoming Park Public Meeting Notices & Announcements

- Tribal meeting with user groups on June 24, 2024 at Tempe Multi-Generation Center starting at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Prepared by: Shelbie Meyer, Management Assistant II, (480) 350-8353

Reviewed by: Alex Jovanovic, Deputy Community Services Director – Parks, (480) 350-5811