
**Minutes
Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery
Advisory Board
November 18, 2015**

Minutes of the Parks, Recreation, Golf and Double Butte Cemetery Advisory Board meeting held on November 18, 2015, 6:00 p.m., Tempe Public Library – Library Program Room A, Lower Level, 3500 S. Rural Road, Tempe, AZ.

Members Present:

Sharon Doyle – Chair
Fred Wood – Vice Chair
Judy Aldrich
Mary Ann Dillon
Suzanne Durkin-Bighorn
Christina Hudson
Mary Larsen
Don Watkins

Members Absent:

Tiffany Beyer
Maureen DeCindis
John Vack

City Staff Present:

Charlie Bladine, Public Works Supervisor- Administration
Julie Hietter, Public Works Administration- Manager
Grace Kelly, Public Works Supervisor- Administration
Bobbi Lloyd, Management Assistant II- Field Operations
Dave McClure, Greenscapes/Park Renovation and Restoration
Oliver Ncube, Parks Manager
John Osgood, Public Works Manager- Renew Energy
Kelly Rafferty, Deputy Community Services Director- Recreation
Bonnie Richardson, Principal Planner

Upon the establishment of a quorum, meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by Sharon Doyle.

Agenda Item 1 – Consideration of Meeting Minutes

a. **October 21, 2015**

Motion made by Judy Aldrich to approve meeting minutes of October 21, 2015 as submitted.

Seconded: Mary Larsen

Motion: Approved unanimously

Agenda Item 2 – Public Appearances

Darlene Tussing, north Tempe resident, expressed concern of equalization of parks being worked on. Provided board members map she put together on inspection completed of park assets.

Agenda Item 3 – Grant Project Update

- a. **Escalante Park-** Julie Hietter and Dave McClure provided an update on the progress of Escalante Park. Working collectively, neighbors and staff identified desired changes including installing a multi-use field in the area where there is currently a baseball field, creating a walking/jogging path, adding a volleyball court and adding rubberized surfacing and additional equipment to the play area. Funding for this project comes entirely from various grants. A groundbreaking event will be held on Tuesday, November 24, at 9 a.m.

Agenda Item 4 – Continue Discussion of Process for Review of Park Donations

Grace Kelly continued discussion with the board on the draft process for review of community construction projects in parks. Board provided feedback/comments which will be incorporated into the document and then will move forward to council which will be presented by chair and staff.

Agenda Item 5 – Singh Farm at Rio Salado Golf Course Update

John Osgood provided an update to the board on the status of Singh Farm at Rio Salado Golf Course. Members involved are currently working with Maricopa County Flood Control District and Army Core of Engineers on plan submittals. Some of the proposed ideas for the 60 acre space include; community gardens, walking paths, tree houses, Zen gardens and gathering areas all of which would be moveable since this site is in a flood zone. It is estimated that this project would take about three years which includes preparing the grounds and making the soil healthy to be able to grow on.

Agenda Item 6 – Urban Forest Masterplan Update

Bonnie Richardson presented to the board the Urban Forest Masterplan update. In 2012-13 the Global Sustainability Solutions Services at ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability was contracted to research and evaluate the extent of Tempe's tree canopy in relation to a number of factors including total public canopy coverage, coverage per character area, coverage relative to irrigation service, etc. With this information staff will craft an Urban Forest Master Plan that will:

1. Establish goals for trees and shade management over the next five to ten years including developing strategies and identifying barriers and solutions to meet those goals;
2. Research the impact of goals relative to achieving a 20 minute city as identified in the Tempe General Plan 2040 and related to increasing the urban forest asset value; and

3. Determine budget estimates to implement strategies, accounting for shade, water use, VOC emissions, etc.

The Urban Forest Masterplan presentation to Council will be on April 21, 2016. Additional resources and links regarding the masterplan can be found at:
<http://www.tempe.gov/city-hall/public-works/transportation/urban-forest>

Sharon Doyle noted there used to be a Parks Board member on the Redevelopment Review Board to ensure greenspaces/trees were included in the planning stages, now that is no longer in place and possibly being overlooked.

Agenda Item 7 – Double Butte Cemetery Quarterly Update

Oliver Ncube provided an update to the board regarding the maintenance of the cemetery. There is one city staff person that works at the cemetery and the rest of the maintenance is provided on a weekly basis by Maricopa County probationers.

Kelly Rafferty provided an update to the board regarding the business side of the cemetery. The cemetery was full prior to the 2007 expansion. Sales are handled by Cynthia Yanez. Tempe Double Butte Cemetery flyers and price sheets were provided to the board. Some of the board members were not aware that availability remained and suggested outreach be done to ensure residents are aware.

Agenda Item 8 – 2016/17 Capital Improvement Plan Process

Julie Hietter presented to the board the five year FY16/17 – FY20/21 Capital Improvement Process (CIP) which included the overview of calendar dates. Charlie Bladine added that staff is working with a consultant called FM Solutions and utilizing their Facilities Apps software which incorporated park assets into a program that projects replacement based on industry standard for life cycle by each asset. This asset inventory system is used for prioritizing and ranking data and used in part to help determine how park assets are prioritized in the CIP process. Julie will provide to the board an initial list of park CIP projects at the December meeting, provided it is permitted before council review.

Sharon Doyle noted the board wants enhancements in parks, not just replacements of existing assets. Julie confirmed that a CIP will be submitted for park enhancements and expansion based on the Play Value concept that was presented to the board in October.

Agenda Item 9 – Golf Quarterly Revenues Update

Quarterly update was provided in packet materials.

Agenda Item 10 – Current Events/Board Announcements/Future Agenda Items

- Watershed Management Group at future meeting
- Clark Park Neighborhood Association at future meeting
- Kiwanis Park historical materials shared with board
- Include map from Darlene in future packet if possible

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

Prepared by: Bobbi Lloyd, Management Assistant II, (480) 350-8352

Reviewed by: Julie Hietter, Public Works Administration Manager (480) 350-8412