

**MINUTES
REGULAR SESSION
PARKS and RECREATION COMMISSION
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE
Tuesday, December 2nd, 2008
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. with Vice Chairperson Ellington presiding.

2. Roll Call

Vice Chairperson Ellington, Commissioners Clawson, George, Parker and Goetting were present; Chairperson Whatley arrived at 5:41 p.m.; there is one seat vacant.

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

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge was led by Ellington.

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.) November 4, 2008

b. Set Next Meeting, Date and Time:

1) February 3, 2009

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

Commissioner Goetting expressed concern about the length of time between meetings by setting the next meeting for February 3, 2008; he was advised that the issue is slated to be discussed in Item 7.

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

There was no public input.

6. Welcome new Parks and Recreation Commissioner, Marlin Parker.

Ellington extended a welcome to the new Commissioner Parker who said he is looking forward to working on getting the new Community Park done.

7. Update on the Nov. 19th Council meeting approving that Commissions meet every other month until further notified, followed by possible discussion.

Parks & Recreation Director Moore explained that on November 19th Town Manager Scannell reported on the negative financial condition of the Town, and the Council approved several recommendations for budget cuts, including Council limiting its meetings to twice a month, and the Commissions and Boards meeting every other month, until there is an upturn in the economy, in light of the estimated expense of holding the various meetings.

Commissioner Goetting voiced his strong opposition to limiting the number of meetings of the Parks & Recreation Commission since he believes the function of the Commission is to find solutions to problems; he hopes that the value of the Commission is worth more than the estimated expense of holding a meeting. Moore assured him that special sessions can be called if necessary, but pointed out that all departments are making sacrifices at this time, and that Scannell will be giving a follow-up report to Council in January. Goetting continued to state his opposition to the change in meetings, and asked for the date of the upcoming Pecan & Wine event, questioning how the change in meetings would affect that event. Further discussion included what effect, if any, the change in meetings would have on presenting the Quarterly Reports.

Chairperson Whatley had arrived at 6:41 during the discussion on Item 7, and presided over the remainder of the meeting.

8. **Discussion relative to the Parks & Recreation Commission having more involvement in the Parks & Recreation department. Discussion may include but is not limited to the Park Master Plan process, responsibility of commissions, discussion of ways for the Commission to be more hands on.** Moore said that Whatley had met with her to discuss how some of the Commissioners could become more involved in the decision-making process. Moore explained that Commissions function only as advisory boards to consider and discuss issues and then make recommendations to Council. Goetting stated his objection to the issue of the Commission not having been directly involved in the Park planning process; he said he would have preferred to have had a separate meeting with the consultant. During further discussion, Moore explained how the planning process meetings were scheduled, and that those public meetings had always been open to the members of the Commission as well. Goetting insisted that the Commission, with all of its special expertise that would be different from the community outlook, should have had direct interaction with the consultant, and questioned whether a lot of the planning is financially practical and operationally practical. Moore further explained the steps taken to keep the community involved, and Ellington expressed his opinion that the P&R Commission had been covered very well in the process, including the involvement of the Tactical Committee with the expertise of its members.

Returning to the issue of the Commission wanting to have more hands-on involvement with the Parks & Recreation Department, Moore outlined the many ways that the members could be of help, including assisting maintenance staff where possible in preparing for special events, and volunteering their time for the events. After further discussion, Moore said she would continue to call the members and let them know whenever they could be of help.

Goetting reiterated his opinion that the Commission should have had a separate presentation by the Community Park consultant, so the Commission would have been able to vote on and send a recommendation to the Council, which is what Goetting believes the Council has hired the Commissioners to do. There was further discussion on how the park planning process was handled, including the valuable participation by Ellington and Joe Perez.

9. **Update on the Community Park Project, followed by possible discussion.**

Discussion may include but is not limited to Heritage Grant process, Phase I, Costs of Phase I, obstacles and funding sources.

Moore said that she will be making a presentation to Council tomorrow night regarding applying for a Heritage Grant on the Community Park project, which requires the Town to equally match the Grant funds, using the purchase price of the land as the Town's portion to qualify for the estimated \$1.5 million Grant, or \$750,000; for example, the State would reimburse the Town \$750,000 which can then be used for the utilities, road and entrance. Moore reviewed the details of the method of financing that the Town Manager has proposed; in 2010 the Town will then apply for the next Heritage Grant in order to finance the development of the Park amenities. There was further discussion with Moore regarding the possibility of corporate sponsorships, naming rights, in-kind donations, community involvement, use of the funds allocated from sales tax proceeds, and problems faced in connection with water issues.

10. **Update on upcoming events, followed by possible discussion. Discussion may include but is not limited to Christmas Craft Bazaar, Breakfast with Santa, Light Parade, Pecan, Wine & Antique Festival and changes to the Pecan Festival.**

Moore named December 13th as the date for various Christmas festivities, describing the Santa's Breakfast event, Crafts Bazaar, Christmas Parade, and activities taking place at the Fort and the Library Endowment Wreath Auction as well. Moore outlined the changes being made in connection with the Pecan & Wine event, primarily the decision to charge the wineries for their participation, to use local musicians, and to use the free advertising available through the Chamber of Commerce. Moore said those changes should make a big improvement in the financial statement for this year. Moore added that there is some discussion with the merchants about holding a 12 Days of Christmas event for next year.

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

Moore reviewed highlights from her written report, including comments on the Grasshopper Basketball activities, and the enjoyment of being spectators at their games. Moore described planned activities in connection with the Teen Center, and said that Saturday nights are especially important on which to have volunteer help. Moore also reported on the financial status of the Teen Center, the loss of the Boys & Girls Clubs support, and the plan to apply for other funding. Moore displayed a drawing of the logo designed as a Youth Commission project for the Parks & Recreation Department; the logo will be presented to Council tomorrow night for approval; a report on the Corn Festival was included in the agenda packets. Ellington explained the need for and function of the fiber-optic system being installed for the Town. Moore advised Goetting that donations may be accepted now for the Kingdom of the Spiders event planned for next year, and can be used for advertising expenses during the current fiscal year.

12. **Commission Informational Reports:**

Goetting said he was impressed with the Parade and was especially impressed with the Women of the Wild West; he added his welcome to Marlin Parker.

Ellington said he is truly enjoying the Grasshopper games since his two grandsons are participants; it is amazing how well the staff and volunteers manage the scheduling.

George requested an agenda item to try to get Camp Verde up to speed on bike lanes

and bike paths, and to be more bike-friendly like Cottonwood and Sedona.

Parker apologized for not having been present at his first meeting last month.

Whatley apologized for being unavoidably late, and welcomed the new member, Marlin Parker. She also commented on participating in the Veterans Day Parade, and enjoying the Clear Creek Ceremony.

13. **Adjournment.**

On a motion by Goetting, seconded by George, the meeting was adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Robin Whatley

Robin Whatley, 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 2nd day of December 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 3rd day of March, 2009

Margaret Harper

Margaret Harper, Recording Secretary