

Minutes
City of Yuma Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission Meeting
One City Plaza, Conference Room #141, Yuma, Arizona
Thursday, March 21, 2024
4:00 pm

Call to order: The City of Yuma's Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission (PARC) meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

PARC Members present: Judy Phillips, Sara Bowerman, Stephanie Cabrales, and Brannick Harris.

PARC Members Absent: Kristen Carpenter, Raul Canal, and Jaime McGalliard.

Staff Present: Eric Urfer, Kami Ellsworth, Espy Matlock, Ann-Jeanette Mosqueda, Joel Radatz, Andrew Smith, and Ana Padilla.

Call to the Public: None.

Approval of minutes:

- a. Judy Phillips, seconded by Brannick Harris, made a motion to approve the January 18, 2024, meeting minutes as presented. The motion carried by the following votes:
Aye: 4 Judy Phillips, Brannick Harris, Sara Bowerman, and Stephanie Cabrales.
Nay: None.

Schedule Items:

- a. **Introductions – Chairperson**
- b. **Director's Update**

- i. **Master Plan Update**

Steven Duh reported the following on the Parks, Arts, Recreation, and Trails (P.A.R.T.) Master Plan:

- First phase of the Master Plan has been completed.
- P.A.R.T. Master Plan will be the guide for improvements needed over the next decade.
- Two surveys to collect community input have been made available.
 - The first survey took place late fall
 - The second is available now until April 5, 2024.
 - The surveys have been advertised at community events, small group discussions, mail and online.
- Some highlights of the first survey are:
 - We received over 1,500 responses.
 - 98% think parks and recreation is important and essential to quality of life in Yuma.
 - 88% visit parks and open spaces at least once per month.
 - The top activities and programs responders participate in are the low or no cost, family/group oriented.
 - The most popular activities and programs responders participate in are walking/running, community events, playground, family gatherings or picnics. Equal to national data.
 - Responders rank revitalizing existing parks as a top priority, the most popular revitalization are restroom facilities, renovating existing playgrounds, additional walking trails/bike paths, and recreation center.
 - Responders are in support of additions of playgrounds, outdoor splash pad/water spray area, 50-meter pool, picnic areas and ramadas.

- Responders are interested in seeing more or different community events, the most popular are aquatics, youth sports, outdoor recreation, musical festivals and concerts, farmers markets, artist/art festivals, non-sport-oriented youth activities, indoor events and activities during summer.
- The top reasons responders do not participate in activities or programs are because they are not aware, inconvenient dates/times, age/physical limitations, or because they are not interested.
- System analysis through visual observations of physical assets, travel shed mapping, distribution, and usage.
- Brannick Harris added that he has received inquiries about when indoor recreation and covered pool are coming. Sara Bowerman added that she was surprised that fields were not highlighted in the survey.
- Stephanie Cabrales commented that indoor facilities are needed because summers are too hot in Yuma. More regional events are needed at Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex. Eric responded, Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex falls short on scale to compete with cities like Phoenix and San Diego.
- Judy Phillips asked if Parks and Recreation has noticed an impact in activities and programs due to not printing the activity guide. Eric responded, not on attendance, maybe on the marketing side a little. We are working hard on our marketing to let people know of everything the department offers.

Eric reported:

- City council will review P.A.R.T. Master Plan in May.
- The department used some of the data that has been received to build next year's budget.
- Outcome from the first survey was lower than expected.
- Second survey was sent to different associations and boards to be shared.

ii. **City Council Reports**

- Yuma Police Department gave a presentation to City Council regarding drones.
- Parks and Recreation drone policy has been put in place.
 - Can't fly over Desert Hills Golf Courses due to the proximity to airport and the Marine Corps Air Station.
 - Our department has a certified drone pilot, Eduardo Marquez.

c. **Staff Update**

i. **Project Updates**

Ana Padilla reported:

- Photographic Display for Fire Station No. 7 Project:
 - 1% of project budget was allocated for artwork pieces.
 - The department received only four submissions; some submitted their portfolio not the actual art pieces.
 - Artists were contacted to confirm that their submissions were correct, and they confirmed.
 - An email will be sent to commissioners to vote on submissions received.

ii. **Program and Event Updates**

Joel Radatz reported:

- We are working on new conference room; it should be done in a couple of weeks.
- We will work on more building update projects during the summer.
- Tattoo Festival happening this weekend, includes car show in parking lot and music.
- Teacher of the Year Banquette will be in three weeks.

Ana Padilla reported:

- Yuma Art Center sign is still in process, hopefully will be install before the summer.

- Childrens Festival of the Arts will be on April 20, 2024.
- TAD production is having over 20 concerts this season, some are doing great, some are not. We are talking to producer too see what might work better for future seasons.

Judy Phillips added, maybe bringing original artist can help. Eric responded, venue and supporting structure are not capable for that type of events because of capacity and cost.

Espy Matlock reported:

- 13 tree palms were installed downtown.
- Bathrooms at Sanguinetti Athletic Complex and Ray Smucker Park have been completed.

Drew smith reported:

- Announced his resignation as Golf Operations Manager.

Action Item:

- a. Open/Close Nominations for Vice-Chairperson
Judy Phillips, seconded by Sara Bowerman, made a motion to nominate Brannick Harris for Vice-Chairperson. The motion carried by the following votes:
Aye: 3 Judy Phillips, Sara Bowerman, and Stephanie Cabrales.
Nay: None.
- b. Accept Election Ballots of Nominated Commissioners
Brannick Harris accepted the nomination for Vice-Chairperson.

Summary of Current Events: None

Commission Forum for Advocacy, Feedback, or Questions:

- a. Report on programs or events attended
 - Judy Phillips commented:
 - Feedback on Dinner Theater: Food was cold, people couldn't heard, some art pieces need to be on walls during performance.
 - Stephanie Cabrales reported:
 - Hockey tournament was a success, a lot of out of town people. Great improvements at the Hockey Rink.

Adjournment

Judy Phillips, second by Sara Bowerman, made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 pm. The Motion carried by the following votes:

Aye: 4 Judy Phillips, Brannick Harris, Sara Bowerman, and Stephanie Cabrales.
Nay: None

Minutes approved this 18 day of April, 2024.



Raul Canal, Chairperson