

**MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**
Meeting of March 10, 2009

LOCATION: 234 N. Central Avenue, Suite 6400, Parks Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ 85004

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurel Arndt, Salomon Leija, Anne Lynch, Joe Marvin, Jack Stapley, Carl Yoshioka

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Rod Jarvis

STAFF PRESENT: R.J. Cardin, Director; Tina Allen, Administrator; Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent; Teresa Retterbush, Eastside Regional Superintendent; Ken Mouw, Chief Engineer; Karen Truesdale, Administrative Supervisor; Tom Timmons, Contract Administrator; Melanie Brown, Grant Coordinator; David Carrillo, Park Maintenance – Desert Outdoor Center; Rich Glinski, Park Supervisor – Desert Outdoor Center; Amelia Sowers, HR Liaison; Fareed Abou-Haidar, GIS Technician; Kristen Mohamed, Park Planner; Debbie Lemon, Administrative Coordinator and Recorder; Adrian Gough, County Attorney – Civil Division

The official correspondence and staff recommendations contained in this Commission folder are hereby entered as supportive material to the official minutes of the March 10, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM # 1 – CALL TO ORDER – Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission

- Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.

ITEM # 2 – ROLL CALL – Roll Call taken - a quorum was present.

ITEM # 3 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2009 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS – Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission - *ACTION ITEM*

- Motion to approve the minutes as written by Commissioner Lynch. Seconded by Commissioner Arndt.

ITEM #4 - DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS – R.J. Cardin, Director, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – *INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM*

- Director Cardin noted that at this time the department does not have any further information on the budget. The department was scheduled for the mid-February Board of Supervisors' agenda, but it is now rescheduled for March.

- Director Cardin requested information on annual pass sales this year so far versus last year's numbers.
- Lake Pleasant held a seaplane demonstration event on February 21st. Five planes flew over and landed on the water in designated areas. This was set up as a trial with the seaplanes. After the demonstration about 100 feedback forms were handed out to the public in attendance that day.
- The department has issued a Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Recreational Vehicle Rental Concession that the department is going to set up as a pilot.
- Cave Creek Nature Center is completed and the dedication and grand opening is scheduled for Thursday, March 19th at 9:00 a.m. Each Commissioner was mailed an invitation and emailed information.
- Director Cardin noted that the department is continuing to work with the Bureau of Land Management regarding Vulture Mountain. At the next meeting he will provide an update about Vulture Mountain.
- In the last 6 months the department has received 46,000 volunteer hours.

ITEM #5 – SERVICE PIN PRESENTATION – R.J. Cardin, Director, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation – *PRESENTATION ITEM*

- Director Cardin presented David Carrillo with a 20 year service pin.

ITEM #6 – FEE SUBCOMMITTEE – Tina Allen, Administrator, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission – *INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM*

- A summary of the history of park fees was handed out to the Commissioners.
- August 2007 was the last increase in park day use fees at the desert mountain parks. Lake Pleasant has not had an entry fee increase since 1999. Camping fees were increased throughout the system in 2007.
- Mrs. Allen requested a Fee Subcommittee be appointed and meet in April. The department is looking for Commission support.
- Chair Stapley appointed Anne Lynch to Chair the Fee Subcommittee, along with Joseph Marvin and Salomon Leija to be a part of the subcommittee.

ITEM #7 – ARIZONA HERITAGE FUND – R.J. Cardin, Director – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – *INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM*

- Director Cardin advised the Commission that in the past the Arizona Heritage Fund benefited the department in both park projects and trail projects. Occasionally these funds are raided by the legislation. The Arizona Heritage Alliance was created to help protect those funds. Janice Miano presented a brief history to the Commission. The Alliance has been asking groups to sign a letter to support the Heritage Funds.
- Janice Miano, Director of Administration with Arizona Heritage Alliance provided information folders to the Commissioners. She explained that Heritage Fund monies are derived from the Arizona State Lottery, this year the state legislature has taken 4.9 million from the Fund. One of the handouts was

a document that listed grant projects from across the state that have been affected, Ms. Miano stressed the importance of the Arizona Heritage Fund.

- Noting that grants processed in 2008 were stopped and grant monies were rescinded.
 - There will be no grant projects in 2009 for 2010.
 - For the future, the Alliance would like to be under the Voter Protection Act.
 - The Alliance is looking to have the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department sign the letter to the legislature to protect the Arizona Heritage Fund.
- Director Cardin advised the Commission that before the department signs the letter that the department wanted to present the information to the Commission first to review.
- Action Item tabled so that the Commission may review the information.

ITEM #8 – UPDATE ON THE PLANNING OF THE NORTH REACH OF LAKE PLEASANT – Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission – INFORMATION ITEM

- All comments from the public meetings were reviewed. Ms. Waller noted that each agency involved will record the information received.
- The area is currently closed to vehicle access.
- The Bureau of Reclamation recommends the area not be open until the Environmental Assessment (EA) is completed. The department is currently awaiting completion of the EA.

ITEM #9 – UPDATE ON THE SYSTEM STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN – R.J. Cardin, Director, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission – DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

- A public comment sheet was handed out to the Commission, which contained a summary from the five public meetings that were held.
- At the public meetings, there was a strong equestrian turn out. The department assured the group that the plan supports multi-use trails.
- Commissioner Arndt stated that she has used a punch card or passes in the past for various Park entries and supports the use of them. Commissioner Arndt expressed interest in having the Fee Subcommittee consider a punch card as well.
- A motion was made by Commissioner Arndt to adopt the Parks System Strategic Master Plan and to recommend to the Board of Supervisors the Parks System Strategic Master Plan for final approval. Seconded by Commissioner Lynch. All in favor none opposed.

ITEM # 10 – CALL TO THE COMMISSION

- Commissioner Leija stated that he had been asked by some of the public to name the pistol range at the General Joe Foss Shooting Range.
- Director Cardin stated that would be an Item to be on the April Commission agenda to discuss, and for possible public meeting.

Item # 11 – CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None.

Item # 12 – ADJOURNMENT

- There being no further business, Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission, adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m.

R.J. Cardin, Director/Secretary

Jack Stapley, Chair