

**MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**
Meeting of August 9, 2011

LOCATION: Maricopa County Parks and Recreation
234 N. Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT: Jack Stapley, Anne Lynch, Carl Yoshioka, Heidi Fischer,
Joseph Marvin, Rod Jarvis

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT: Jimmie Munoz

STAFF PRESENT: R.J. Cardin, Director; Aimee Upton, Administrator;
Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent;
Teresa Retterbush, Eastside Superintendent; Raymond
Schell, White Tank Mountain Regional Park Supervisor;
Ken Mouw, Engineering Manager; Tom Timmons,
Contract Manager; Kristen Mohammed, Park Planner
Trails; Barbara Lehner, Recorder

The official correspondence and staff recommendations contained in this Commission folder are hereby entered as supportive material to the official minutes of the August 9, 2011 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

ITEM # 1 – CALL TO ORDER – Joseph Marvin, Chairman, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission

- The meeting was 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 MAY 10, 2011 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING – Joseph Marvin, Chairman, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission - *ACTION ITEM*

- Commissioner Stapley motioned and Commissioner Yoshioka seconded the motion to approve the May 10, 2011 minutes as presented. All members were in favor and the motion was approved.

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

- Director Cardin briefly reviewed the highlights of the Director's Summary including Estrella Mountain Regional Park hosting the Maricopa County Teen Leadership Program with 30 youth participants and the Centennial Trail receiving a \$3,000 grant to help seed the project.

ITEM #5 – BUDGET UPDATE – Aimee Upton, Administrator - Maricopa County Parks and Recreation – *INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM*

- The first month of FY12 just closed. The central service costs for vehicle repair and expenditures totaled \$26,000, and details of those charges will be reviewed.

Commissioner Jarvis joined the Parks Commission meeting at 9:16 a.m.

ITEM #6 – MCDOT USERY MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK EASEMENT REQUEST – Ken Mouw, Engineering Manager - Maricopa County Parks and Recreation –DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

- Two public meetings have been held for an easement request by MCDOT to pave a section of road for dust control abatement purposes.
- There were no public comments made during the public meetings.
- Commissioner Stapley moved and Commissioner Fischer seconded the motion to approve the easement requested by MCDOT at Usery Mountain Regional Park to pave a section of road way near the intersection of Jensen Street and McKellips Road for the purpose of dust control and to move the item forward to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors as submitted and recommended by the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission.

ITEM #7 – APS WHITE TANK MOUNTAIN REGIONAL PARK EASEMENT REQUEST – Ken Mouw, Engineering Manager, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation –DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM

- Two public meetings have been held for an easement request by APS to install electrical power for the camp and host sites at White Tank Mountain Regional Park.
- There were no public comments made during the two public meetings.
- Commissioner Yoshioka moved and Commissioner Stapley seconded the motion to approve the easement requested by APS at White Tank Mountain Regional Park to install electrical power to the camp and host sites and move the item forward, subject to counsel review, to the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors as submitted and recommended by the Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission.

ITEM #8 – VULTURE MOUNTAIN UPDATE – Kristen Mohammed – Park Planner Trails - Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

- Public Meetings were held and an on-line survey conducted to determine which of the 4 alternatives was preferred by the public. The preferred alternative is 'C', a mixed-use with moderate development, including a campground with electric and utilities.

ITEM #9 – NORTH LAKE PLEASANT MANAGEMENT PLAN – R.J. Cardin, Director; Jennifer Waller Westside Superintendent – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

- The North Lake Pleasant development is a partnership with the Parks Department, Bureau of Land Management and the Bureau of Reclamation. On July 22nd, the public input period ended and is being reviewed while the environmental assessment is being completed.

ITEM #10 – HASSAYAMPA RIVER PRESERVE/TNC PARTNERSHIP – R.J. Cardin, Director - Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

- The Parks Department invited The Nature Conservancy (TNC) to participate in all public meetings. The TNC owns 630 acres along the Hassayampa River and they are willing to donate 100 acres of property and grant the County a trail corridor easement with the understanding that equestrians will only use 2/10th of a mile along the river trail and then equestrians must turn onto BLM land. Burlington Northern Railway will permit access to a concrete trestle leading onto BLM lands.
- Chairman Marvin asked about the location in comparison to the flood plain. Director Cardin responded that the ADOT rest area consisting of 6 acres including the parking lot and restrooms are in the flood plain. But because the building is concrete and parking lots are paved, there would be clean up after a flood but not major restoration.
- The TNC requests their management presence in the riparian area to better steward the riparian ecosystem.
- The Parks Department will prepare all land patents as each area is developed.
- Commissioner Jarvis asked about the long term campers. Director Cardin responded since it's still BLM land, Parks can not enforce any Park rules. However, discussions have been held with BLM about limiting camping to the back country and the final management plan will define where camping is allowed.

ITEM #11 – MCDOWELL MOUNAIN REGIONAL PARK TRAIL PLAN AMENDMENT – Teresa Retterbush, Eastside Superintendent – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM

- A public meeting was held in June with 50 participants. The meeting explored alternatives to the over crowding and safety issues of the main trail head parking lot during high season. Some options explored included adding 50 more parking spots to the trail head, and the addition of 5 new trails. The public comments are open until August 3, 2011 and afterwards the plan will be presented to the Parks commission.

ITEM # 12 – MARICOPA TRAIL AND PARKS FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT – Joe Marvin, Chair – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission - INFORMATION ITEM

- Chairman Marvin stated the foundation has a strategic planning session set for September and will provide an update at the November meeting.

ITEM # 13 - CALL TO THE COMMISSION – Carl Yoshioka, Vice-Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission – INFORMATION ITEM

- None

ITEM # 14 – CALL TO THE PUBLIC

- None

ITEM # 15 – ADJOURNMENT

- Commissioner Stapley motioned and Vice-Chairman Yoshioka seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. All members were in favor and the motion was approved.

R.J. Cardin, Director/Secretary

Joseph Marvin, Chairman