

**Minutes**  
**City of Yuma Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission Meeting**  
**One City Plaza, Conference Room #136, Yuma, Arizona**  
**Thursday, January 21, 2016**  
**4:00 p.m.**

**Call to order:** The City of Yuma's Parks, Arts, and Recreation Commission (PARC) meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

**PARC Members present:** Christopher Bedinger, William Mowczko, Judy Phillips, Victoria Nguyen and Jeff Marnati.

**PARC Members Absent:** John Stratton

**Staff Present:** Debbie Wendt, Damon Chango, Joe Cox, Brian Farkas and Brenda Sanchez

**Call to the Public:** None

**Approval of minutes:** On a motion by Judy Phillips and second by William Mowczko, minutes of the December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Scheduled Items:**

**A. Moving Alley Collections to Curbside**

Joseph Lopez, Manager at Public Works, presented the following:

- The Solid Waste Division is converting alley service to curbside collection.
- Reasons for the change:
  - Containers are being overloaded and trucks are unable to lift containers. People are dumping items that should not be dumped into the containers.
  - People are throwing items in the alley.
  - The containers are being used as commercial dumpsters instead of a residential dumpsters.

Chris asked if there was another truck that follows the dump truck to pick up items left outside the containers. Joseph responded that at this time drivers are obligated to pick up whatever is inside the container and not what is outside the container. If there is debris outside the container, residents have to call Public Works in order to schedule a truck to pick up the debris. The change has been divided into three phases and phase one has been completed.

Bill asked that once the program is completed and illegal dumping continues, what provision is in place to deal with this issue. Joseph replied that residents have been advised to take trash to the North Gila Transfer located off of Avenue 7E and the Yuma Transfer Station that has a reduce rate for residents. The City has hired a new Code Compliance Leader. Public Works will not be out of the alleys 100%. The alleys will still need to be maintained.

**B. Update on Pacific Avenue Athletic Complex**

Debbie reported the following:

- We are in the process of selecting one out of three architectural firms to do the design and construction for the complex.
- The three firms had made oral presentations to the review committee yesterday. We are hoping to have the facility completed by August 2017.
- Construction should start right after the first of the year. We want to start construction in January because we want to make sure the complex is ready for the ASA National Tournament that is calendared for September 2017.

Judy stated that the commission would have liked to have been part of the oral presentations. Debbie stated that when the constructional stage begins, a member of the commission will be invited to participate. Normally the committee is selected by the purchasing department and CIP manager.

Damon stated that the big issue will be the grass. They will have to work backwards because we need the fields to have usable turf. Debbie noted it could mean seeded turf or sod. Damon added that sod is the last resort. Chris said that the ground has to be very fertile. Damon responded that it is valley clay and it grows great lettuce but growing turf is another story. The soil is not really great for growing grass because of the fact that it is a little bit of water and poor drainage and that gives us mud. There will be significant soil abatement as part of the architectural design, so the problem of turf not growing should be minimize.

### Summary of Updates:

Debbie provided the following updates:

- Debbie stated that there were some great interviews conducted for the Yuma Art Center Manager position. We are in the process of doing reference checks. If all goes well, we are going to offer the position to this individual. If this individual does not accept the position, there are two other viable candidates. It was a really tough decision. Chris asked what is the timeline to fill the position and Debbie replied that if the person accepts the position, it will be a month.
- The new Civic Center Program Manager will start Monday. Hopefully, we will have a full staff in one month. Bill asked who the individual was that accepted the Civic Center Manager position. Debbie replied that his name is Chris Williams and he comes from South Carolina.

### Commission Forum for Advocacy, Feedback, or Questions

Chris asked if everyone is receiving the updates being sent weekly. The commission responded that they were. Chris said that the thought is to send in your meeting agenda requests from these documents. Please review them and send any questions or items you would like added to the agenda. We are no longer doing the briefings during the meeting. If you have any questions, you need to send them in beforehand so we can type them out and have them on the agenda. Bill asked how much in advanced do agenda item requests need to be submitted. Questions and agenda item requests should be submitted at least 5 days in advance.

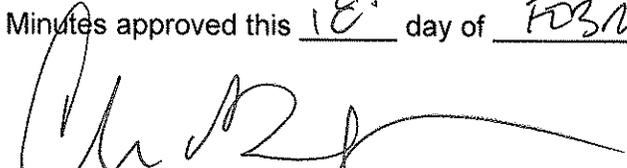
Bill stated that it was upsetting to read that there was already vandalism at the Stewart Vincent Wolfe Playground. Debbie explained that trash is the biggest problem we are having. People and children are taking food into the playground and leaving a mess. Bill asked when the fence would be replaced. Debbie responded that it will not happen until funds are available. The estimated cost may be about \$500,000.

Debbie reported that there are some parking issues at the Yuma Valley Park. We just started the YYSA soccer program there is a major parking problem at the park right now. She stated that it is because the parking lot is not large enough to accommodate the program. As a temporary solution, Parks staff added a milled asphalt surface to the adjacent City owned lot and stripped it while other alternatives are investigated.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:02 pm after a motion by Judy Phillips and second by Bill Mowczko was unanimously approved.

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Minutes approved this 18<sup>th</sup> day of FEBRUARY, 2016.

  
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Christopher Bedinger, Chairman