

**MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
TOWN OF CHINO VALLEY**

**SEPTEMBER 9, 2021
4:00 P.M.**

**CHINO VALLEY COMMUNITY CENTER
1527 N ROAD 1 EAST, CHINO VALLEY, AZ**

Present: Chair Todd League; Board Member Dr. David Somerville; Board Member Richard Coleman; Board Member Guy Roginson; Board Member Laury Holt
Absent: Board Member Celia van der Molen; Vice-Chair Donna Armstrong
Staff Assistant Community Services Director Cyndi Thomas
Present:

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair League called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

2) ROLL CALL

3) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a)** Consideration and possible action to accept the August 3, 2021, regular meeting minutes.

MOVED by Board Member Laury Holt, seconded by Board Member Dr. David Somerville to approve the August 3, 2021, regular meeting minutes.

AYE: Chair Todd League, Board Member Dr. David Somerville, Board Member Richard Coleman, Board Member Guy Roginson, Board Member Laury Holt

5 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously

Members reviewed the following items:

- Staff requested that because Board Member David Somerville was a doctor, he should be addressed as Dr. Somerville.
- Board Members questioned the section in minutes that referred to the Parks Department no longer being part of Recreation. The item would be discussed under reports.

4) **PARKS & RECREATION MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ms. Thomas reported the following:

- The Mud Run had been cancelled. Before they closed the event registration, there were only six registrants for the event. The registration had been live for over a month. The previous 2019 Mud Run event had over 100 people registered in the first month, an additional 350 registrants in the second month, and another 75 the week before the event. Since the staff time and cost for the event site was extensive, the administration had made the decision to cancel the event. Staff had contacted six of the mud run events in the State the Town had modeled themselves after, and found that two of those events had been cancelled, and two had lower than expected numbers. The remaining two events were run by an outside agency, and she could not get a definitive answer on their status. Staff was not clear on the reason, but there had been discussion that mud runs were a fad, the date change was a problem, or that people were still uncomfortable taking part in events. There had been astronomical turn out for other events in Town. It had been advertised the same as previous years. Board Members discussed what could be done with the course in the future, and ideas included a BMX course, corn hole tournament, mutt run, and a mud run partnership with the cross fit community. The Airsoft group would help to maintain the course, which would save the Town money and make the area available for different events.
- Territorial Days had turned out amazing, and had a large turnout. The breakfast had a continuous line of people, and they had a record number of vendors in the park. The 50th Anniversary Event was also a major hit. They did not have an actual count of attendees, but the 450 cupcakes and 150 pieces of cake were gone.

5) **COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**

a) **Committee Chair - Todd League**

- It had been reported to the Board Members the Town was going to hire for a position, giving the Town a Parks Director, and a Recreational Director. The two had been very interdependent, and it was unclear how it would work. It was his understanding the new Parks Facility Manager would handle the daily schedule of the Park's staff, but the department would still fall under the Community Service Director's direction. It was still a question whether that setup would remain the same in the future. It should not affect the duties of the Board, and either a Parks representative would join the meetings, or the current staff would be the liaison and report back to both departments. Staff had been told there would be separation and divisions, but there would not be a lag. Staff was concerned that maintenance issues would get precedence over event functions with the changes. It was discussed that it would require two separate bureaucracies to coordinate events held in Town Parks. There was concern that things would not run smoothly through the transition, but Members hoped that whoever was hired would understand the dynamics of the situation.

- Board Members discussed the transition of board duties and the Town’s new focus on Tourism. The Board had been involved in planning and running past events, but was now more of an advisory board. Duties had been passed along to Tourism department. Members continued to discuss the role of the Board, and the advisory position they had in the past and currently.
- There was \$2,500 budgeted for event advertising that could be used for anything.
- New Board Member Guy Roginson introduced himself and provided a history of his personal and professional life. He wanted to be involved in the community and because of his work, he had access to media sources for event marketing and advertising.

b) Recreation Committee

c) Aquatics Committee

The pool was closed for the season. They wanted to stay open until after Labor Day in the upcoming year, and would encourage both young and seniors to apply for aquatic positions.

d) Parks & Trails - Richard Coleman

- In the future, it would be beneficial to have a vehicle to use for the six miles of trail maintenance instead of using personal vehicles. A small truck would work well. The Chino portion of the Peavine Trail would be connected to the Prescott Trail at some point in the near future.

e) Finance Committee

6) CALL TO THE PUBLIC

Call to the Public is an opportunity for the public to address the Board concerning a subject that is not on the agenda. Public comment is encouraged. Individuals are limited to speak for three (3) minutes. The total time for Call to the Public may be up to 15 minutes per meeting. Board action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date, or responding to criticism.

7) CORRESPONDENCE

8) OLD BUSINESS

- a)** Discussion and possible action regarding the Chino Calley Mud Run.

Since the Mud Run was cancelled, this item was skipped.

- b)** Discussion and possible action regarding the Wind and Kite Festival.

- A Committee had been formed to plan the event. The Committee Members included: Committee Chair Dr. Somerville, Vice Chair Donna Armstrong, Gregg Greenwald, Frank Muto, Patty Freund, and Pat Basset. They would be meeting within the next week for their first meeting. Staff would be included in the process.
- A short review of the event was provided for new members.
- The event was planned for the spring. The windiest days were said to be in April.
- Marketing information was typically handled by staff and the Board.
- The Board would make a recommendation about the event to Council, who would need to approve it.
- Inclusion of a hot air balloon festival in the future was suggested since there was enough space to hold that type of event. The area was in a flight path and coordination with the FAA was required.
- The next step was to hold a meeting to start planning, and then they would hold monthly meetings that would be held before the Board meetings.
- Members discussed the 9/11 Memorial Plaque. There had been a complaint about the wrong plane being on the plaque. The Board discussed the event.

9) NEW BUSINESS

- a) Report and discussion from the Wind and Kind Festival Committee.

There was no report.

- b) Discussion and possible action regarding the Pickleball court.

- Members discussed the 2022 budget, which included \$200,000 for more pickleball courts.
- Board Members needed to give thought to what was going on in the area. The old Sears building at the mall was bought, and it was intended to be indoor air conditioned pickleball courts. This could change future plans for the Town.
- Staff recommended the Board discuss the topic, and give direction on what they wanted done. The pickleball group was still vocal about what they wanted in the community.
- The Board and staff needed more specifics about the intended future plans of the local pickleball courts before they could discuss it and make a determination. Members thought four new courts were planned.
- Members were not against pickleball but wondered if it was the best use of the funds.
- Members discussed having a cover over the local pool so that it could be used more than 2 months of the year.
- Staff explained there was a master plan set for the entire community center area. Staff would bring the master plan to the next meeting.

10) FUTURE AGENDA SUGGESTIONS

- Discussion and possible action regarding the Pickleball court – Old Business
- Community Center Master Plan – New Business
- Ampatheater Discussion – New Business

11) **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Board Member Dr. David Somerville, seconded by Board Member Laury Holt to adjourn the meeting at 5:03 p.m.

AYE: Chair Todd League, Board Member Dr. David Somerville, Board Member Richard Coleman, Board Member Guy Roginson, Board Member Laury Holt

5 - 0 PASSED - Unanimously

Submitted: September 22, 2021.

By: *Traci Lavelle, Deputy Town Clerk*

Approved: January 4, 2022.