



MINUTES
Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee
22358 S. Ellsworth Rd., Queen Creek, AZ
San Tan Conference Room
November 14, 2017
6:00 p.m.

1. **Call To Order and Roll Call:** Meeting started at 6:03 p.m.

PRAC Members present: Dru Alberti, Daniel Babcock, Dave Dobbs, (arrived at 6:20 p.m.), Cherie Richardson, Michael Shirley, Marvin Smith, David Sobeck (left at 6:48 p.m.), and Sylvia Tarin (arrived at 6:05 p.m.)

PRAC Members absent: Karl Kleinebreil, Eileen Koceja, and Adam Neville

Staff present: Recreation Superintendent - Adam Robinson and Recreation and Communications Analyst - Alexis Ramirez

Council Liaisons present: Council Member Wheatley and Council Member Benning (arrived at 6:09 p.m.)

Public attendees: Amanda Kechely and Brandon Phillips

2. **Introductions:** None

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Items for Discussion:**

A. Consideration and possible approval of the September 12, 2017 meeting minutes.

Questions/Comments:

- Cherie has concerns about asking the community for their input about the naming process and other items, such as the master plan, making recommendations to Council, and then Council disregarding the process to select their own name/plan. She does not perceive that PRAC's recommendations are meaningful due to the pattern of council not accepting their recommendations. Town is wasting resources and money asking for community input that is later disregarded.
 - Mansel Carter Park and Oasis Park were both submitted names. The Town Council reviewed the full list of submitted names and determined they wanted a

name that is unique to Queen Creek. Council felt Adventure Park was too general of a name and combined two submissions to approve Mansel Carter Oasis Park.

- Dru suggested in the future the naming process for the park can be done earlier to incorporate the name into design features of the park.

Motion to Approve: Cherie Richardson

Second: Sylvia Tarin

Vote: Approved; Unanimous

B. Discussion on the trail system

Staff provided an overview of the trail system and key issues in future development. Displayed a color coded detailed map showing current public and private trails and proposed trails. A major goal is to connect the trails to complete a trail loop. As you can see in equestrian heavy areas there are trails throughout. The newest community built by Fulton also has this large trail around the community to provide an east-west corridor. Staff is now working on how to best map trails in developed areas without trails to connect them to the trail system. Planning staff are on board to ensure useful and complete trails are developed when new communities are built.

Questions/Comments:

- Most the the trails you are showing are not maintained by the Town, correct?
 - Yes, the blue trails that just popped up are not maintained by the Town.
- Do you know how to access that east-west blue trail by the new Fulton home community because it is gated on both sides?
 - There is supposed to be access and we will check on it to get back to you.
- What is a HAWK crossing?
 - It is a pedestrian crossing with lights that blink above the roadway to stop traffic.
- Why isn't there a blue X on the new Sossaman farms trail at Ocotillo?
 - Staff will add one at that location.
- Sossaman is not developed on the West Side. If you do down 196th it dead ends into a private road/community so that is not an option. Those homeowners would not be okay with increased use of 196th.
 - Staff will note to not go south on 196th.
- Suggestion to come up with another plan to get around the railroad track. Even if you just want to work by the track it is a 6 month permit process. Might need to find one location to cross and funnel everyone there.
- Is the path on Hawes road between Chandler Heights and Ocotillo is that locked in? Is that decision already made? There is a partial trail and partial sidewalk there now. The sidewalk on the east side goes all the way down but the one on the west side does not. It's a real mess in that area. When you come down Hawes you are in HOA or homeowner trails. Most homeowners in Circle G own into the trail and it is not an easement. If it is deemed an actual trail on the public trail map then the traffic will increase. The homeowners may not be happy with that because the more horses on their trail the higher their maintenance costs.
 - No, it is not a lock. We will need to work with the different groups to get permission to fully develop that trail area.
- Cherie would like to recommend Sossaman versus Hawes because it is not developed yet as the north south connector.

C. Discussion on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update Draft - Adam Robinson, Recreation Superintendent

Staff provided a review and update on the master plan. When we were first starting the master plan, we were also knee deep in the discussion of what can be built with impact fees. From a timing perspective, the Sossaman Cloud Park was the next best option to build. However, due to the changes to the IIP and the timing of the plan completion, the Queen Creek Sports Complex is the next park scheduled to be built. The master plan update is now scheduled to go to council in mid-February. The delay of the master plan update is related to the impact fee issues. Dru Alberti, who is the PRAC representative on the Impact Fee Task Force, can explain their work and progress so far.

Impact Fee Task Force Review - Dru Alberti

It is not a board or commission like this with only Town residents. One person from each of the Town's commissions/boards is on the focus group (four total). The residents on the board are only the commission members and town staff; developers make up the rest of the task force. Multiple meetings scheduled through March 2018. Starting in late November the task force will be looking at impact fees as a whole.

Important things to mention:

- Developers feel the biggest competing town or area for Queen Creek is San Tan Valley (STV).
- From the developers point of view it makes sense that STV is a competitor but there are disparities in the quality of life and services Queen Creek provides our community.
- Construction sales tax is 2% higher than all other sales tax. That 2% increase in construction sales tax only funds transportation but is at the discretion of the Town Council. It acts as a quasi-impact fee for transportation only.
- Task force hasn't gotten to the meat and potatoes yet, all discussion is in the discovery area.
- The selling of park land is listed in the work load/program for the task force. Dru plans to address this issue when it arises and she does not feel it is the appropriate group to discuss the selling of Town owned land designated for park use.

Questions/Comments:

- What is the time frame of the task force?
 - Each month is a different impact fee. Last meeting is scheduled for March. Parks is scheduled for the February meeting.
- Who is chairing the task force?
 - No one because it is not a commission, it is a focus group. Town staff is facilitating the discussion topics.

D. Department Updates

- Trunk or Treat on Saturday, Oct. 21 with an estimated 14,500 in attendance.
 - Business and community participants:
 - Food Vendors - 11
 - Vendors - 58
 - Carnival Games - 43
 - Trunks - 58
 - Town Center Businesses - 9
 - New elements added to this year's event included the following:
 - Paradox Escape Rooms (3 mini escape rooms in the Rec Annex)
 - "Hoof"oween Costume Contest (addition of canine and critter category)
 - Roaming Flash Mob performances

- **Zombie Fest (Teen Yard)**
 - The 2016 event map for Trunk or Treat won an Arizona Talent in Event Concepts Awards (AzTEC) award for the best information brochure or program category.
- **Bacon Blues and Brews** was held on Saturday, Nov. 4. We do not have official attendance numbers yet but it was a busy event all day. The event promoters also tracked online purchasing locations and tickets were sold all over the country. PRAC members asked that the following list be included in the official minutes:

City	Number of Sales
Phoenix	512
Queen Creek	475
Mesa	416
Gilbert	331
Chandler	191
Scottsdale	157
Tempe	108
Glendale	97
Los Angeles	62
Apache Junction	43
Long Beach	34
Atlanta	30
Bell	27
South El Monte	25
Peoria	18

San Diego	17
Las Vegas	15
Surprise	10
Santa Ana	8
Laveen	8
Tolleson	7
Middletown	6
Maricopa	6
Florence	6
El Mirage	6
Casa Grande	6
Buckeye	6
Whittier	5
Tucson	5
Glendale Heights	5
Dearborn	5
Avondale	5
Wichita	4
West Covina	4

Prescott	4
Summit	3
Santa Ysabel	3
New York	3
Houston	3
Folsom	3
Downey	3
Denver	3
Columbus	3
Anaheim	3
Whitby	2
Toronto	2
Sunnyvale	2
Sun City	2
Smithtown	2
San Marcos	2
San Francisco	2
Sahuarita	2
Safford	2

Redwood City	2
Pekin	2
Mooresville	2
Manassas	2
Madison	2
La Puente	2
Idaho Falls	2
Eudora	2
Elkhorn	2
Coolidge	2
Carmichael	2
Santa Clara	1
Sacramento	1
Ontario	1
Milwaukee	1
Middletown	1
Garden Grove	1
Fontana	1
Carson	1

- Is Bacon Blues & Brews (BBB) a part of the Festival Partnership Program (FPP)?
 - Yes, it is a part of the program but FPP after this year will end. Staff is hopeful some of the FPP events will continue without the program in place including the Feastival, Vintage & Vino, and BBB events.
- Vintage & Vino was held on Oct. 13-14 with an estimated attendance of 4,000 and 100+ vendors.
- Winter registration is open for both residents and nonresidents.
- Pancake Breakfast will be Saturday, Nov. 18 from 9-11 a.m. in the Town Hall Courtyard.
- Holiday Festival & Parade is Saturday, Dec. 2

E. Next PRAC meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2017.

5. Announcements: The Friend of Horseshoe Park received an AzTEC award for the best kids' element category for the Family Rodeo.

Brandon - He did not realize there was that much detail and work that went into planning parks and trails for the community he has lived in his whole life.

Amanda - Enjoyed attending and hearing the details of the trails and events as her background is in volunteer work.

6. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Motion to adjourn: Dru Alberti

Second: Daniel Babcock

Vote: Approved; Unanimous

PREPARED BY: Alexis Ramirez on November 14, 2017

PASSED AND APPROVED: February 13, 2018

Dru D. Alberti, PRAC vice chair

David Dobbs, PRAC Chair

DRU D. ALBERTI