



MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee

22358 S. Ellsworth Rd., Queen Creek, AZ

San Tan Conference Room

January 14, 2020

6:00 p.m.

1. **Call To Order and Roll Call:** Meeting started at 6:00 p.m.

PRAC Members present: Dave Dobbs, Dru Alberti, Ashley Fuller, Brady Hamilton, Karl Kleinebreil, Michael Shirley (arrived at 6:23), Marvin Smith and Sylvia Tarin.

PRAC Members absent: Daniel Babcock, Adam NeVille and David Sobek

Staff present: Adam Robinson-Recreation Manager, Alexis Ramirez-Recreation and Communication Analyst, Tracy Cornman-Assistant to the Town Manager, John Kross-Town Manager and Brad Greer-Recreation Coordinator

Council Liaisons present: Council Member Brown

Public attendees: Dave Odiorne (CLI) and Whitney Tolk (CLI)

2. **Introductions:** John Kross, Tracy Cornman and two members of the Town's Citizen Leadership Institute introduced themselves to PRAC.

3. **Public Comment:** None

4. **Items for Discussion:**

A. Consideration and possible approval of the October 22, 2019 meeting minutes

Motion to Approve: Sylvia Tarin

Second: Marvin Smith

Vote: Approved; Unanimous

B. Presentation and discussion on the Law Enforcement Study - John Kross, Town Manager and Tracy Cornman, Assistant to the Town Manager

- Town Manager John Kross provided an introduction and history of the Police Services Study.
- Assistant to the Town Manager Tracy Cornman provided an overview of the study
 - Multiple departments were involved in the study process

- Growth - FY90 was 25% of one beat or 1 and a quarter officers and now at six beats (49 officers)
- Community Oriented Policing -Proactive vs. Reactive
- Intelligence Led Policing - Data driven and accurate and relevant reporting
- Communication with Town staff, elected officials, medial and residents
- Three Options - 1) contract with another municipality, 2) continued contract with MCSO and 3) Queen Creek Municipal Police Department

Discussion/Questions/Comments:

- Old master plan projected build out was 95k. How much of the 170k build out figure is now coming from annexation and or changing density?
 - Majority is annexation, such as state land and build out communities (Ironwood)
- Previous issue was recruiting and training officers who would then move on to other law enforcement agencies who pay more. Is this still an issue? And would this be an issue if the Town had its own PD?
 - It still is an issue. If the Town created its own PD, we would compensate competitively with our neighboring municipalities. No PD is fully staffed in our area.
- If we created a PD, would we qualify for grants or other programs that we currently do not qualify for?
 - Potentially but most of those grants/programs have gone away. We currently have to work with MCSO and their own priority rank. But yes we could apply on our own.
- Would this create an opportunity for an additional property tax? Law enforcement and public safety always seems to get passing initiatives.
 - The council and Town has forecasted and saved so creating a PD would not require an additional tax.
 - Property and sales taxes will not be raised with the establishment of a Town PD.
- Or will not delay the construction of new parks in the community.
- Is 49 only the officers on the street or the administration side as well?
 - 49 includes the captain, deputies but not the admin (payroll, etc.)
- Town Council approved up to 6 beats but right now we are only receiving 4.5 beats so we will get a credit back for services we did not receive.
- Would the Town create a municipal court if the Town created its own PD? How would that impact and generate additional revenues for traffic tickets?
 - Currently MCSO writes about 150 traffic tickets a month and the Town does not get any revenues.
 - We contract with Maricopa County right now so once a month you can see a judge in QC. We will continue that for the next 5 years.
 - We are focusing on injury accident figures and lowering those. Comprehensive approach during high traffic times to reduce the aggressive driving that causes accidents.
- Do the schools have resource officers now with the current plan?
 - Yes, QCHS and Casteel both have a resource officer and they work with other schools as well.
- Intergovernmental agreements, does MCSO have those now? If they need help, they get it from Mesa or Gilbert, etc?
 - Yes, that is very common. For instance, Mesa PD has a helicopter so we would need to have those IGAs established and they are common but rarely used.
 - The Town would likely still have an IGA or contract with MCSO. For instance a crime lab, there are two in the state (DPS and Mesa). In the history of QC the Town has had one homicide.

- If this is adopted do you foresee any impacts to the impact fees that were just approved?
 - The impact fee already includes public safety, the only potential would be related to vehicles. The largest start up cost is communication and IT equipment that likely would not be able to be credited to impact fees.
- Starting a department will be a lot of work for Town staff, could this impact the development of parks?
 - In theory there could be an impact but no way to forecast.
- Parks keep kids out of trouble, part of the public safety and quality of life cycle.

C. Updates and discussion on East Park design process and schedule

Adam Robinson provided a review of the process and schedule. The design process will include 60% park plans and the amount of water the site will be taking on will determine most of the layout.

Discussion/Questions/Comments:

- Includes the surrounding land and Flow-2D model.

D. Update on Recreation Management Software project

Alexis Ramirez provided a review of the project. The Town opened an RFP in the fall for Recreation Management Software and staff interviewed finalists in December. CivicPlus(Rec) was selected and we are currently under contract negotiations. The timeline is to move to the new system by July 1. The new system will provide a reduction in annual service fees, increase efficiency, allow for efficient online reservations and much more.

E. Department Updates

- Love Bug - February 7, 2020 - Come and celebrate Valentine's Day with your little love bug at the Love Bug Dance! The dance will take place at the Recreation Annex and includes music, games, crafts, desserts and lots of dancing! Children ages 4-12 and their Parent/Guardian are invited. Fee: \$15 for 1 parent/guardian and \$10 for each child; \$10 each additional parent.
- Spring into QC - March 28, 2020
- We welcomed two new instructors this month Jazmine Ryan and Isaac Ost from Crafted Thought, LLC. Jazmine Ryan teaches a wellbeing and fitness program through Belly Dancing. Isaac Ost from Crafted Thought will instruct a creative writing program for youth through a Buddy the Book workshop class where kids learn how to write and illustrate their own book.
- Pickleball - Last month we started a pickleball program. Currently we are still in the implementation stage. We are currently offering more open court dates for the community to come out and try out pickleball every other Tuesday (1/14, 1/28, 2/11 and 2/25) until our spring session starts and we move to every Tuesday as a drop in class.
- Dr. Lafe Harris and Athletic Trainer Fernanda Bueno from Banner Health presented yesterday evening on youth sports injury prevention and concussion awareness. This important information will help our youth sports providers better respond to injuries in our young athletes.


F. Next PRAC meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2020.

5. **Announcements:** Roots n' Boots is around the corner. More than a rodeo, there is a carnival, dances and other events. Invites PRAC to get a team of three together to dress a goat to win a belt buckle (age group 12-99). Pay for parking and the event is free. Carnival is up and

running on Thursday. Special Kids Rodeo is Friday morning and includes adults. Tickets are online, if you want a box seat get those now. 10 year anniversary, gymnastic on horseback.

6. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.
Motion to adjourn: Dru Alberti
Second: Ashley Fuller
Vote: Approved; Unanimous

PREPARED BY: Alexis Ramirez on January 14, 2020
PASSED AND APPROVED: August 11, 2020


David W. Dobbs (Aug 12, 2020 09:41 PDT)
Dave Dobbs, PRAC Chair