



Lake Havasu City
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Monday, February 24, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

MEETING MINUTES

Lake Havasu City Municipal Courthouse – Council Chambers
92 Acoma Blvd., Lake Havasu City, AZ 86403

www.lhcaz.gov

1. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chairperson Kyler Cox called the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairperson Cox led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. ROLL CALL

Parks & Recreation employee; Lynn Vignati conducted a Roll Call of the Board members:

Board Members Present: Chairperson Cox, , Vice Chair Mercedes Kaiser, Ashley Pascual, Alex Ross, Phillip Shannon, Ally Strader (*Teen Member*).

Excused:

Absent: Jason Mitchell, Karen Cooper, Shannon Murray.

Parks & Recreation Staff Present: Director Gabby Vera and Lynn Vignati

4. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

N/A

5. MINUTES

5.1 Approval of February 24, 2025, Meeting Minutes

- Vice Chair Kaiser made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of February 24, 2025, as written, second by member Ross and carried out by the following vote:

AYE 5: – Pascual, Shannon, Cox

6. COMMUNICATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, STAFF REPORT

6.1 Directors Report



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- Parks & Recreation Director, Gabby Vera provided the board an update on current projects, including enhancements to the pickleball courts at Dick Samp Park. The courts will feature eight new lights which are installed, with staff running wiring to ensure they are operational early next week, just in time for Picklefest.
- Vera mentioned Parks staff is working on consistent signage out at SARA Park including the disc golf course.
- Vera provided update to the Board on ongoing and upcoming programs and events.
- Vera mentioned that the voting poll for the Catalyst project closed today and hinted at an exciting announcement regarding the project's name, encouraging everyone to be on the lookout for Midge Bridge.
- Vera discussed progress on the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) Amendment with the school district regarding facility usage. Due to a significant turnout of citizens advocating for increased youth space, the agreement is being amended to expand field availability for practices. The school board has approved the amendment, and it will be presented to the City Council for approval.
- Member Shannon inquired about the potential expansion of the summer camp program to an additional school site. Vera explained that the number of students that could be accommodated would depend on the site. "Last year we had 355 participants registered so I'm hoping we can see an additional 100-120 kids depending on the site and staffing. We have some schools in mind but nothing in concrete". Member Ross asked if the ASU facility is included in these discussions since they are closing. Vera clarified that since the fields belong to the school district, they would remain available despite the closure.
- Vice Chair Kaiser inquired about the age range requirements for the baby-sitting class and the Come Fly With Me event. Vera confirmed that the Baby-sitting class is designed for participants aged 12 – 17, while the Come Fly With Me event is for ages 7 – 10.
- Member Pasqual expressed appreciation for the school district's willingness to offer three campuses for the summer camp. She questioned whether this could be an opportunity to explore Head Start locations that are on school campuses. Vera stated that she had not yet reached out regarding the use of those campuses but would look into the possibility.
- Pasqual raised several questions regarding Teen Break, including participant capacity and cost. Vera responded that the fee is set at \$50 for the week. When asked about the decision to manage the program in-house rather than using vendors, Vera explained that this approach was chosen to change things up a bit this year and to ensure a more structured experience as the kids that were showing up in the past didn't reflect what was registered. While registration numbers were strong in years past, many participants did not fully engage with the program as intended. By shifting to model where recreation leaders facilitate activities, the goal is to foster a camp-like atmosphere with outdoor play and engagement. This year's Teen Break will have a Survivor theme.
- Pasqual inquired whether First Aid and CPR training are included in the baby-sitting class? Vera confirmed that these are part of the Red Cross structured program.
- Chairperson Cox commented about the light poles at Dick Samp Park, expressing excitement about the progress.



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- Cox highlighted the importance of Kinderswim and boating safety classes, making it a point to have training space for these agencies is so important in a water-based town. He expressed gratitude for showing our community partnership.
- Cox noted that many individuals in the public safety sector began their careers as lifeguards and emphasized that this could be a great opportunity for those interested in such professions.
- Cox also commended the Parks & Recreation Department for their numerous events and contributions to the community.
- Cox asked Vera about the number of votes cast in the naming of the Downtown Catalyst project naming poll. Vera stated that with “860 something with over 400 name submittals. She expressed strong community engagement in the project.

7. PUBLIC HEARING

- Grants Manager, Vijette Sarri presented on a recently awarded grant for an ADA accessibility project at Rotary Community Park. The total project cost is approximately one million dollars, with \$969,750 secured through the Arizona State Parks and Trails Grants under the State Lake Improvement Fund (SLIF). This grant covers 93% of the project’s total cost, with remaining expenses primarily allocated to labor and landscaping. Member Ross inquired about the Mobi mat and Sarri explained that it is a roll-up boardwalk mat that is placed across sand that will allow individuals with disabilities to navigate across the sand.
- Pasqual asked Sarri about the timeline of the project. Sarri responded that the grant application has been awarded, and the project is currently undergoing a survey process that includes cultural assessments by Arizona State Parks & Recreation. The estimated project start date is in approximately one and half months. Chair Cox congratulated Sarri and her team on securing the grant.

8 FUTURE DISCUSSION ITEMS

There were no future discussion items presented.

9 FUTURE MEETINGS

- Monday, April 28, 2025
- Monday, May 26, 2020 (City Holiday)

10 ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 6:33 p.m.