

**MARICOPA COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
Meeting of August 11, 2009

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**LOCATION:** 234 N. Central Avenue, Suite 6400, Parks Conference Room, Phoenix, AZ 85004

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Laurel Arndt, Rod Jarvis, Salomon Leija (9:06a.m.), Joseph Marvin (9:12a.m.), Jack Stapley, Carlton Yoshioka

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT:** Anne Lynch

**STAFF PRESENT:** R.J. Cardin, Director; Aimee Upton, Administrator; Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent; Teresa Retterbush, Eastside Regional Superintendent; Ken Mouw, Chief Engineer, Patty Sanford, Financial Supervisor; Dawna Taylor, Public Information Officer; Tom Timmons, Contract Administrator; Karen Truesdale, Administrative Supervisor; Fareed Abou-Haidar, GIS Technician; Amelia Sowers; HR Liaison; Debbie Lemon, Administrative Coordinator and Recorder

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The official correspondence and staff recommendations contained in this Commission folder are hereby entered as supportive material to the official minutes of the August 11, 2009 Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**ITEM # 1 – CALL TO ORDER – Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission**

- Meeting began at 9:01 a.m.

**ITEM # 2 – ROLL CALL – Roll Call taken - a quorum was present.**

**ITEM # 3 – APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 12 AND JULY 14, 2009 PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETINGS – Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission - *ACTION ITEM***

- Commissioner Arndt motioned to approve the minutes as written. Second by Commissioner Yoshioka.

**ITEM #4 - DIRECTOR'S SUMMARY OF CURRENT EVENTS – R.J. Cardin, Director, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – *INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEM***

- A couple of new trails at McDowell Mountain Regional Park are now open. One location is waiting for the iron ranger to be finished. Director Cardin applauded staff, volunteers and the Friends group.
- The movie program in the park, 'Creature Feature', has brought new visitors into the parks.
- The department has partnered with Cabela's on various projects and programs.

- Wet n' Wild held their dedication on August 5<sup>th</sup> and City of Phoenix Mayor Phil Gordon attended, made a statement, and rode down the Phoenix Flyers water slide.
- Director Cardin introduced Aimee Upton, the Department's new Administrator. She came to Parks from Environmental Services, where she has been for 13 years, most recently as the Enforcement Manager. Welcome Aimee.

**ITEM #5 – FEE SUBCOMMITTEE – Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – *INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM***

- Jennifer Waller, along with Teresa Retterbush, Eastside Regional Superintendent, presented an overview of the proposed fee schedule.
- The majority of proposed fee increases are for entry fees at Lake Pleasant and in the area of camping fees at all regional parks. The fees are consistent with other agencies across the State of Arizona. There are also several areas where new fees are requested, including:
  - Creation of an annual senior discount at the mountain parks, allowing for \$10.00 off the normal annual rate.
  - At Spur Cross, children under 15 will get in free with a paid adult.
  - At Utery, a \$1.00 Archer Supply fee (per archer) will be assessed.
  - Establishment of new fees at the nature centers for wedding packages, classroom rentals, and security/cleaning deposits.
- Chair/Commissioner Stapley asked if the \$1.00/archer supply fee would cover the costs for the archery range.
- Director Cardin advised the Commission that the department would be asking the Board of Supervisors to allow the department to change fees in the future as the market changes based on a cost of service model.
- Commissioner Arndt requested that a policy be implemented to place verbiage on all annual passes, stating that staff is able to request identification as needed.
- Chair/Commissioner Stapley requested a motion to approve the fees as presented and forward to the Board of Supervisors. Commissioner Arndt motioned to approve the recommendations as presented, with the exception that the archer supply fee be increased to \$2.00, rather than the initial \$1.00. In addition, a motion was made to hold a public meeting on Tuesday, September 8 at 8:30 AM to review the proposed fee schedule. Commissioner Jarvis seconded the motions. All in favor; none opposed.

**ITEM #6 – NAMING THE PISTOL RANGE AT THE GENERAL JOE FOSS SHOOTING COMPLEX – R.J. Cardin, Director – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – *INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM***

- Director Cardin recommends naming the pistol range Silvestre S. Herrera Pistol Range.
- Director Cardin advised the Commission of notice received by the Buckeye Hills Shooting Club to no longer manage the facility as of August 31<sup>st</sup>.

- The Department has scheduled a meeting with Buckeye Hills Shooting Club to discuss the shooting complex. Arizona Game and Fish Department will be a mediator.
- Commissioner Stapley recommended tabling this item until further notice. After discussion, Director Cardin requested to accept the recommend naming and forward to the Board of Supervisors when long term management is in place.
- Commissioner Arndt motioned to approve the naming and that the formal naming will not be done until a long term agreement is in place. Commissioner Leija seconded. All in favor, none opposed.

**ITEM #7 – UPDATE ON THE PLANNING FOR THE NORTH REACH OF LAKE PLEASANT – Jennifer Waller, Westside Regional Superintendent – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM**

- Jennifer Waller advised that the Bureau of Reclamation was still reviewing the Environmental Assessment and that there is no actual update at this time.

**ITEM #8 – UPDATE ON SYSTEM STRATEGIC MASTER PLAN – R.J. Cardin, Director – Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Department – INFORMATION/ACTION ITEM**

- The Department has taken recommendations from the System Strategic Master Plan and emphasized four main strategic areas: Programs, Operations and Maintenance, Finance, and Land Acquisitions. Each area will be represented by a team of Department staff who will address many factors within their area including what makes a quality park, revenue generating ideas, and program standards. Director Cardin also stated that the department will be looking at developing land acquisition criteria and once completed, creating a list of potential future park sites.
- Director Cardin also shared a quote from County Manager David Smith that he used at a recent budget meeting, “It’s not about being mandated by the law, but being mandated by the heart”. Director Cardin will share this quote at the upcoming All Hands Meeting on August 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ITEM # 9– CALLS TO THE COMMISSION**

- Commissioner Arndt wanted to note that she test drove the Pemberton Trail. She stated that the Department did a great job on the trail and she had gone out for a pleasure ride, but the trail wasn’t a pleasure. They also rode the competitive track that day and she noted there are some drainage issues from recent rains that should be addressed.

**Item # 10 – CALL TO THE PUBLIC**

- None.

**Item # 11 – ADJOURNMENT**

- There being no further business, Jack Stapley, Chair, Maricopa County Parks and Recreation Commission, adjourned the meeting at 10:33a.m.

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R.J. Cardin, Director/Secretary

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Jack Stapley, Chair