



**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
January 18, 2022 6:00 P.M.**

**Gilbert Public Safety Training Facility – Echo Classroom
and Microsoft Teams**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Bob Ferron, Chair
Holly Pritulsky
Scott Williams
Ben Kalkman
Paul Gonzales
Cody Zeimer

STAFF PRESENT:

Robert Carmona, Parks and Recreation Director
Marshall MacFarlane, Parks and Facilities Manager
Jennika Horta, Interim Recreation Manager
Denise Merdon, Recreation Supervisor
Alexander Jones, PKID Administrative Assistant
Aimee Yentes, Town Councilmember

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:

Jason Geroux

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Cecilia Chen, Gilbert Sun News
Chad Atterbury, Dig Studio

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ferron called the meeting to order at 6:03PM.

2. **ROLL CALL:** Roll call was taken, and it was determined that a quorum was present.

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** All present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. **COMMUNICATION FROM CITIZENS PRESENT:** Members of the audience may address the Board on any item not on the agenda that is within the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Board. The Board's response is limited to responding to criticism, asking staff to review a matter commented upon, or asking that a matter be put on a future agenda.

No members of the public requested to speak.

5. **NEW EMPLOYEES:** Heidy Comish, the new Data Strategist was introduced during the meeting.

6. **PASEO MASTER PLAN:** Chad Atterbury, representing Dig Studio at this meeting gave a presentation on several concepts his team had designed for 'The Paseo', a Town Centre pedestrian and bicycle walkway from Elliot Road to Juniper Avenue commissioned by the Town and outlined in the 2018 Heritage District Redevelopment Plan. The design principles that Dig had set to guide the overall direction of the project were as follows: Creating a Connected & Safe Corridor, Creating Strong Identity, maximizing open times as a Commercial Core Area to the public, making it a multi-modal area, and ensuring sustainability.

Chair Ferron asked for the plans on parking availability, which was then described as an attached parking garage one block away.

7. **SISTER CITIES GARDEN PROJECT UPDATE:** Jennika Horta gave an update on the Sister Cities Garden Project that included some rendered concepts of the garden's layout and announcement of Gilbert Leadership's participation in fundraising and planting.

7. **DEPARTMENT UPDATES:**

- a. **Administration** – Director Carmona gave a synopsis on current recruitment within the department.
- b. **Parks & Facilities Division** – Marshall MacFarlane described the current events with the Parks & Facilities Division, including meetings having taken place with citizens enthusiastic about wanting

to be able to play cricket at the multi-use fields, which requires some additional planning, as the boundaries and field dimensions are not readily conducive to the sport.

- c. **Recreation Division** – Jennika Horta provided an update that the Recreation Division has moved out of the holiday event season. The department will be continuing it’s shading projects for Gilbert and in the coming years every playground in Gilbert should have a shade covering.
- d. **Business Division** – Denise Merdon provided a recap of the recent special events. Spring/Summer Aquatics Positions have been posted and recruiting is planned to start in the next couple of weeks. A recent event at Cactus Yards included a nerf war for the youths. Valentine’s Day Movies as well as weekend Concerts during March at Gilbert Park.
- e. **CAPRA** – Jennika Horta had no update on CAPRA for continuing to meet with CAPRA teams and were being updated as needed.

8. PARKS AND RECREATION BOARD MINUTES

Chair Ferron motioned to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 7, 2021 as written. Motion carried unanimously.

9. REPORT FROM CHAIR & BOARD MEMBERS:

No reports were provided from the Board Members.

10. REPORT FROM COUNCIL LIASION:

No updates were provided from Councilmember Yentes.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

The Regular meeting was adjourned at 7:18PM.

ATTEST:

Bob Ferron, Chair

Denise Merdon, Staff Liaison