



**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING  
October 11, 2022 6:00 PM**

**McQueen Park Activity Center | Javelina Room  
510 N. Horne Street Gilbert, Arizona 85233**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Bob Ferron, Chair  
Ben Kalkman, Vice Chair  
Brian Cannon  
Florence Daniels  
Paul Gonzales  
Holly Pitrusky  
Whitney Pitt  
Cody Zeimer  
Scott Williams

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Robert Carmona, Parks and Recreation Director  
Lane Gram, Recreation Manager  
Rocky Brown, Business Manager  
Amy Nugent, Interim Facilities Manager  
Kylie Clore, Parks Manager  
Jennika Horta, Management Analyst  
Heidy Comish, Strategist

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Paul Gonzales

**PUBLIC PRESENT:**

**1. CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Ferron called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

**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:** No citizens were present.

**5. MCQUEEN PARK ACTIVITY CENTER:** The McQueen Park Activity Center Recreation Coordinators, Stephanie McMullen and Zaina Torres, presented to the board regarding the center and the programs provided. The presentation began with an overview of the staff and the facility. Ms. McMullen presented data regarding the recent surge in rentals they've experienced since the pandemic began. Information on the programming and events offered at the facility was also presented.

**6. CERTIFIED AUTISM CENTER TRAINING:** Lane Gram, Recreation Manager, presented the department's intent to become a certified autism center. Ms. Gram reviewed the current training stage of the process to obtain certification. The requirement by the certification authority, IBCCES, is that 80% of all department staff complete the training and test. The department goal is to reach 100% and provide on-going training. Information regarding autism, the details that would be shared at training for frontline staff as well as what to expect from the certification were discussed. Ms. Gram also presented an example of the sensory guides that would be created for 5 locations once certification is reached. The first 5 locations would include the Riparian Preserve, Cactus Yards, Gilbert Regional Park, Freestone Park and the Freestone Recreation Center.

**7. MASTER PLAN UPDATE:** Jennika Horta, Management Analyst, provided an update on the department master plan project. The board was reminded that this project is due to the national accreditation requirement to have a master plan no older than 10 years. With the current plan adopted in 2014, the process to update has begun. The process has 5 main components: vendor selection, public outreach & data collection, data analysis, visioning, draft & final plans, and implementation. An example of the selected vendor's current work with Pflugerville, Texas Parks and Recreation was provided including interactive mapping and comment tools.

**8. DEPARTMENT UPDATES:** Robert Carmona, Director, introduced Heidi Comish, Parks and Recreation Strategist to the board. Rocky Brown, Business Manager, provided a calendar of upcoming special events. Ms. Gram thanked the board for their time today discussing the McQueen Park Activity Center and the Certified Autism Center Training. Kylie Clore, Parks Manager, provided updates regarding the on-going projects at Gilbert Regional Park.

**9. MEETING MINUTES:** A motion was made by Member Pitt, seconded by Member Gonzales to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2022 Regular Meeting. Motion carried 8-0-1. Member Williams abstained from the vote.

**10. REPORT FROM CHAIR & BOARD MEMBERS:** There were no updates provided by the Chair nor board members.

**11. REPORT FROM COUNCIL LIASION:** No update was provided by the Council Liaison.

**12. ADJOURNMENT:** The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 7:37PM.

ATTEST:

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Bob Ferron, Chair

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Jennika Horta, Staff Liaison