

**Park Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2023
Meeting called to order 5:30 PM**



1. ATTENDANCE:

A. Park Board Members Present:

Board Member, Lori Wood
Board Member, Jacob Powers
Board Member, Michelle Musgrave
Board Member, Gregory Webb

Board Member Absent:

Board Member, Don Mitchell

C. Staff Present:

J.C. Kennedy, Parks & Recreation Director

2. Agenda Approval: A Motion to approve the Agenda was made by Mrs. Woods. Second by Mrs. Musgrave. Agenda Approved.

3. January 5, 2023 Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes was made by Mr. Webb Musgrave. Second by Mr. Powers. Minutes approved.

4. Public Involvement: Mr. Kennedy informed the board that the City Manager was contacted by Mr. Vu Duong regarding the potential to include a sand sledding hill in a future park development project. The City Manager invited Mr. Duong to attend this meeting to provide more context on what he is proposing.

Mr. Duong did not attend the meeting. Mr. Kennedy informed the board that his understanding of what Mr. Duong is requesting. The City Manager informed Mr. Kennedy that Mr. Duong is interested in the development of a sand hill that can be utilized in the winter for sledding and in the summer for sliding down. Without further context on exactly Mr. Duong is proposing a few concerns were discussed by the board. The first concern is maintenance. With the concern being that a sand hill will undoubtedly become a weed attraction and it will be very difficult to mediate that issue to keep it free and clear of weeds so that it can be utilized for sledding/sliding purposes. The second concern would be ADA accessibility.

Mr. Kennedy also provided information from the Parks & Recreation Master Plan that details the public involvement process that the Department and Board undertake to garner input from residents.

Setting the issues and goals that are included in the Parks & Recreation Master Plan is the most important objective of the update of the Master Plan that is conducted every six years. It assures that the projects and priorities that are included in the plan are representative of the needs and wishes of the

community and guides how projects are prioritized for the use of the limited funds available to undertake projects.

Airway Heights Parks & Recreation Master Plan

SECTION VI

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

As part of this Plan's preparation, the City of Airway Heights conducted a Needs Assessment Survey, which was posted on the City website January 28, 2020 through June 29, 2021. Staff from the parks and recreation department canvassed the community with door to door distribution of the survey. Public workshops involving the Park Board, City Council, and citizens were also conducted.

The survey assisted in determining the community's existing needs and future demands for parks and recreational opportunities. In addition, Park Board workshops helped frame the policies to support the City's public investments and day-to-day activities in meeting those future needs.

The City distributed the survey through multiple outreach efforts described above and estimates that all households in Airway Heights were provided an opportunity to complete the survey. Of these, 112 were completed. The results of the survey are compiled in Table 6.2.

Question 1 was verification of resident status and requested address confirmation. If left blank other responses were not included in this analysis.

Question 8. Parks & Recreation Facilities that your household has a need for?

Outdoor Tennis Courts = 23.42%

Park Shelters/Picnic Areas = 43.24%

Playground Equipment & Play Areas = 50.45%

Dog Park = 45.05%

Outdoor Basketball Courts = 26.13%

Youth Center = 33.33%

Skateboard Park = 13.51%

Soccer/Football Multi-Purpose Fields = 32.43%

Baseball/Softball Fields = 24.32%

Paved Walking & Biking Trails = 63.96%

BMX Track = 15.32%

Passive Open Green Space = 27.03%

Outdoor Sand Volleyball Courts = 23.42%

Outdoor Fitness Stations = 34.23%

Spray Grounds = 24.32%

Outdoor Stage = 22.52%

Landscape Improvements on Trails = 40.54%

Question 9. Parks & Recreation Facilities that are MOST IMPORTANT that your household needs?

Please rate by level of important your top 4 choices. 1=Most Important, 2=2nd Most Important, 3=3rd Most Important, & 4=4th Most Important

Most Important = Paved Walking & Biking Trails

2nd Most Important = Playground Equipment & Play Areas

3rd Most Important = Dog Park

4th Most Important Park Shelters/Picnic Areas

Question 16. What actions would your Household be most willing to fund with their EXISTING tax dollars?

1= 1st Choice, 2=2nd Choice, 3=3rd Choice 4=4th Choice

Top Choice = Develop New & Connect Existing Walking/Biking Trails

2nd Choice = 2 Way Tie

*Improve Landscaping on Existing Walking/Biking Trails

*Develop Phase 2 of Recreation Center adding Childcare & Dedicated Youth Center Space

3rd Choice = Upgrade, Fix Up/Repair Existing Neighborhood Parks

4th Choice = Purchase Land to Preserve Open/Green Space

Notable Trends

- Residents rate paved pathways and trails as the highest priority for the community and also placed a high value on making landscape improvements to existing pathways and trails.
- Residents feel that Playgrounds and Picnic areas are a high priority.
- Residents support more Adult Fitness/Wellness, Youth Sports & Camps and Special Events and would like to see a balance between establishing new recreation programs & enhancing existing programming.
- Residents would like to see more linkages between park & recreational facilities, as well as amenity improvements to existing facilities.
- Residents support the creation of a Dog Park.

A sliding / sledding hill was not identified by residents as a priority need and as such was not included in the plan.

5. **Project Update:** Mr. Kennedy provided an update on the status of the installation of the site furnishings at Shorty Combs Park, Landreth Park and Highland Village Park.

Shorty Combs Park - We are waiting for the delivery of a table top that was damaged during shipping to be replaced so that we can get it installed, this install will complete the site amenities installation at Shorty Combs Park.

Landreth Park - We are waiting for the cross supports to be shipped so that we can schedule the installation of the benches.

Highland Village - This project is in the works to have the bench posts and roofs installed this week and we are waiting for shipping notification to get the table installation scheduled, we are working closely with the developer and installers on this project.

6. **Adjourn:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Webb. Second by Mrs. Musgrave. **Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.**