

anthem community council

Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 24, 2017
OPEN SESSION at 6:30 p.m.
Anthem Civic Building
3701 W. Anthem Way

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Roger Willis, President
Bob McKenzie, Vice President
Dino Cotton, Secretary
Terry Mullarkey, Treasurer
John Balzer, Director
Ryan Halleran, Director
Rick Kesselman, Director –
Via phone

Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Jenna Kohl, Community Executive Officer
Neal Shearer, Community Operations Officer
Doug Greenstein, Community Finance Officer
Kristi Northcutt, Communications Director
Kevin Shaffer, Community Center Director
Jim Metcalf, Parks and Facilities Director
Michele DeMichele, Special Events & ACB Operations Director
Mark Sahl, Legal Council
Johnathan Ebertshauser, Legal Counsel
Kim Bodary, Recording Secretary
Dawn Dworak, Management Analyst

CALL TO ORDER

The Open Session of the Anthem Community Council (ACC) was called to order at 6:31 p.m.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

President Willis established a Quorum with six Board members present.

ADOPT AGENDA

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to adopt the agenda with the revision of permanently adding item 3A, the Pledge of Allegiance to all future agendas. Treasurer Mullarkey seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 22, 2017 Work Session and the April 26, 2017 Open Session Meetings. Director Balzer seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION/AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Anthem Youth Advisory Council Announcements

Maxwell Serke-Smith and Brenden Castellanos updated the Board on the end of the year AYAC projects. AYAC had a very successful year assisting with the opening of Opportunity Way Park, handing out trail mix at Anthem Days and leading a poster contest on the vandalism project. This year's group had a lot of energy and ideas and they were able to have a vandalism contest which went very well. Mr. Castellanos stated he has been able to take away many leadership opportunities as well as enhanced leadership skills which he will bring to the Arizona Governor's Youth, Faith and Family Commission. Mr. Serke-Smith stated his first year was great in getting to know new people and stated how important it is to know what is going on in the community.

Director Halleran stated AYAC came about three years from a former Board member, Rob Linder, who still inquires how the group is doing. Director Halleran stated that he was proud to tell Mr. Linder how well the group did this year. Director Halleran thanked the Board and staff for their support with the AYAC and we hope that we see less vandalism in our parks and community in the future.

B. 2016 Audit Presentation

Brad Enos of Mansperger Patterson & McMullin, PLC, stated that the 2016 audit report was issued and showed a minor, non-material audit adjustment. The auditors found no material weaknesses in the accounting records and internal controls were acceptable and satisfactory. The Anthem Community Council's audit showed strong growth in community equity, improved revenues, reduced costs overall, and investment accounts have increased in value.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Kohl summarized the staff report and shared the following:

- May 26: Music in May, 7-9 p.m., Community Park (final concert)
- May 29: A Day of Remembrance, 9 a.m., Anthem Veterans Memorial (note new time)
- June 3: Java & Jammin', featuring Art in Public Places, 9:30 a.m., Civic Building
- June 6: Teen Summer Series begins, 1-3 p.m., Civic Building (recurs each T/W/Th)
- June 6: Public Safety Roundtable, 2 p.m., Civic Building
- June 28: ACC Board of Directors Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Civic Building
- Veterans Memorial Ceremony Planning. Staff and Board Liaisons Balzer and Halleran met with representatives of Daisy Mountain Veterans, American Legion and the VFW for preliminary discussions on ceremonies at the Anthem Veterans Memorial. A small planning team has been organized to finalize details. We expect to bring a recommendation back to the ACC Board this summer.
- Insurance Renewals. CFO Greenstein has spearheaded discussions with our insurance broker and HOA partners to make the liability (and related) insurance selections for 2017-2018. We have expanded coverages and a reduced premium for this year.
- Park Signs Project. The project is complete. Staff is submitting a presentation proposal for the 3CMA fall conference in Anaheim, CA about how to take on a community sign project.
- Two budgeted part-time staff have been hired in the membership department and are in training for the busy summer season. Hailey Lawry, Membership Coordinator, is moving on to an internship and her last day is May 19.
- Dave Fermoile has been hired as the Assistant Community Center Director. Dave has spent the past 15 years working in the industry in both Arizona and New York State. For the better part of his career he has specialized his efforts in program innovation, staff development, and risk management.
- Jodi Claver (internal promotion) was selected to fill the budgeted part-time program and scheduler assistant position.
- Big Splash Water Park is open for weekends and will open full-time for the season on May 27 with 73 hired lifeguards.
- Water park repairs have been completed on budget for the start of the summer season. The slides were disassembled, cleaned, sealed and reassembled along with replacement of three slide tube pieces.
- New shade sails will be in place over the pool barbeque, pool playground and slide tower in time for the summer opening. Additional metal pool lounge chairs and upright chairs are expected by the first week of June.
- Stone flooring at the Community Center has been stripped down to the original finish and resealed.
- The planter close to the Memorial was removed and finished in cement due to challenges in sustaining plants in this location; this also opens up that busy area to foot traffic.
- Several broken sidewalk panels have been replaced throughout the main park.
- The Paseo landscape project is proceeding with 20 trees removed and over 700 plants replaced to date.
- Several sections of sidewalk have been replaced under warranty at OWP.
- Parking lot repairs have begun for both the Community Center lot as well as the Main Park lots. Repair work is taking place in May and sealing and striping are happening in June.
- July 3 is the Independence Day Celebration from 6-10 p.m. in Community Park.

- The administrative judge in the Wasterwater Rate Case made a recommendation which is consistent with our position and is recommending full consolidation in all of the wastewater districts. This recommendation will, if approved by the Commissioners, result in a cost reduction to most of the Anthem residents and is pending a final decision by the Arizona Corporate Commission. People are encouraged to attend the Corporation Commission meeting on June 13/14 to show their support.
- President Willis and Ms. Northcutt attended the Phoenix North Community Salutes Ceremony held by the US Army recruiting offices here in the North Valley. The event recognizes the Future Soldiers who have recently enlisted in the Army from this recruiting region.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Greenstein summarized the Balance Sheet and Income Statement for the Board. He summarized the financial performance, fund balances, and collections activities. He noted that the ACC's monthly financial package has been upgraded to provide additional historical Balance Sheet information, additional graphs of operating and cost trends and summary variance reporting. As always, our full disclosure financial statements are posted to the OnlineAtAnthem website as part of the documents supporting this open meeting. We encourage all property owners to take the time to become familiar with our financial standing and results.

CIVIC BUILDING USE REPORT

Ms. Kohl invited Anthem Civic Building Meeting and Program Manager Taylor McCulley forward. Ms. McCulley provided an overview of the 2016 building usage for the Anthem Civic Building. Revenue exceeded projected income by \$34,595.36. Wednesday is the busiest day and the Game Room is now the most used space. Vice President McKenzie thanked Ms. McCulley and stated she is doing a super job and he is glad she is in that position.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

Ron Jerich, resident, stated his concerns on issues with trash being left at clothing bins around Anthem and Ms. Kohl will provide feedback at a future meeting.

Ron Jerich, resident, inquired on the usage at Opportunity Way Park and Mr. Shearer stated the park is being used as they expected it would be and they have received much positive feedback.

Vice President McKenzie inquired if the Board was willing to approve a one-time waiver of fee for the Anthem Area Chamber of Commerce's June 8 meeting since they have lost half their meeting space at the Hampton Inn. Ms. Kohl stated we do have availability and can accommodate the Chamber but we would apply all the same parameters that would apply to any other group. Ms. Kohl stated that a Board motion is needed if we wish to waive the rental fee for the Chamber's June 8 meeting and to consider that the ACC will still incur costs as we have to bring staff in early. Vice President McKenzie clarified no one approached him regarding this but he was at the last Chamber meeting and saw that it was overcrowded and so this was his own suggestion.

Ms. Kohl stated for the record that staff does have concerns about providing free space as we don't do it for other groups that use the civic building.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to accommodate the Anthem Area Chamber of Commerce for its monthly meeting on June 8, 2017 only at our expense and we add this discussion item at the June 7 Strategic Planning meeting. Director Balzer seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed with 3 Ayes (Willis, McKenzie, Mullarkey), 2 Nays (Balzer and Cotton) and Director Halleran recusing himself.

CONSENT AGENDA/ACCEPT COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A. Accept Committee Reports

- 1) Community Planning and Development Committee
 - a. April 11, 2017 Meeting minutes
 - b. May 2, 2017 Meeting Minutes

B. Approve Anthem Country Club Community Association's Resolution to Prohibit Curb Ramps

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the CPDC minutes from April 11, 2017 and May 2, 2017 and the Anthem Country Club Community Association's Resolution to Prohibit Curb Ramps. Treasurer Mullarkey seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Consider Facilities Master Plan Report and Recommendations and Provide Direction to Staff

Director Kesselman joined the meeting via phone at 7:19 p.m.

Ms. Kohl thanked Mr. Shearer, Ms. Dworak, and the Community Planning and Development Committee for their hard work on this project over the past year.

Mr. Shearer presented highlights of the Master Plan process and updates and stated the report is included in the Open Session packet. Mr. Shearer stated the Master Plan process has been open and transparent since 2016. Four projects were proposed by residents: pickleball courts, dog park, skate park expansion and an indoor skate park. Staff and the CPDC eliminated the indoor skate park due primarily to cost implications and land limitations.

The Board invited resident comment:

- Mel Kahn, resident, stated he is in support of the dog park.
- Sharon Link, resident, stated she is in support of the dog park.
- Barb Patterson, resident, stated she is in support of the pickleball courts and the dog park.
- Gretchen Bender, resident, stated she is in support of the pickleball courts.
- Craig Patterson, resident, spoke on behalf of resident Jacqueline Roersma who is in support of the dog park.
- Rob Charles, resident, stated he is in support of the pickleball courts.
- Alan Ecker, resident, stated all projects are worthwhile but feels \$1 million to build a dog park is too expensive and suggests we look at sponsorships. Director Halleran responded that we tried to get a sponsorship via PetSmart about three and half years ago but we never heard back.
- Boro Reljic, resident, stated he is in support of the pickleball courts and the Anthem Pickleball Club is willing to donate \$5000 towards the new courts.
- Greyson Bacal, resident, stated he is in support of the skatepark expansion.
- Teresa Bacal, resident, stated she is in support of the skatepark expansion. Secretary Cotton, complimented Greyson for his efforts at his age; he noted that you can do anything you want if you put your mind to it.
- Carolyn Richins, resident, stated she is in support of the dog park.
- Doug Meyer, resident, stated he and his wife are in support of the dog park and from a real estate perspective, clients expect a community with a dog park and they have lost clients because Anthem does not have a dog park.
- John Birdseye, resident, stated all the projects are good and it's best to stagger them beginning with the skatepark first. Mr. Birdseye also inquired if it's going to be easy to move the Maricopa trail and if Maricopa County has been contacted.
- Ron Jerich, resident, stated he believes money will be an issue and the projects are at a 40% estimated cost.

Director Halleran stated he believes this has been the most praise and thanks our Board has received in the four years he has been on the Board. Director Halleran thanked everyone who's been involved with the process and to those who proposed a project. Director Halleran stated the Mr. Greyson Bacal is the only person in attendance under the age of 18 and that his tenacity and follow-through to attend and speak at every meeting is incredible. Director Halleran further stated whether his project is the number one priority, second or third, his project made the list and when Greyson comes back to Anthem in the future and the skatepark has been expanded, he can say he impacted this.

Director Halleran informed Mr. Ecker that money is not the problem but it is a priority for us when looking at projects and in regards to where the dog park is built, people will still need to drive there. Director Halleran informed Mr. Meyer that his suggestion of two off leash zones won't work because of wear and tear. Director Halleran informed Ms. Patterson that there is no age discrimination and we base our priorities on the needs and interest of the community. Director Halleran stated he is in support of all three projects.

Director Kesselman stated all three projects are worthwhile and he is in support of all projects but the issue is the priority and timing. He would like to come back in two months once staff has been able to conduct further research and financial analysis to consider the timing further.

Ms. Kohl stated there are funds to do all three projects which will come out of the enhancement fund but the operating costs come out of assessments and we have to look at that very carefully.

Treasurer Mullarkey stated there are actually four projects if we include the Community Center renovation which will also come out of the enhancement fund. Treasurer Mullarkey also stated we only have so much staff to get all of this done. If we do all three concurrently, then additional staff and resources will need to be brought in. Treasurer Mullarkey stated he measures things financially based on risk and how we manage that risk, and how to deal with things along the way and to stay in budget. Treasurer Mullarkey added that Mr. Greyson Bacal has been a lone wolf in his project; he knows there is an issue with the mixed age groups at the skate park and that scooters and boarders don't mix well. The Board will need to think about the age group issue. He feels that bathrooms are needed at the dog park and doesn't feel Parker Court is an option.

Director Balzer stated we could do all three projects sequentially within three years, do all three in parallel or a third option is to take in seasonal considerations - we should keep an open mind. Director Balzer thanked everyone for their input and attendance at the meetings.

Vice President McKenzie thanked everyone involved with this process. He is in favor of a dog park and is thrilled with the number of people who stepped up; he likes the Meridian site. Vice President McKenzie stated he is concerned with safety of the participants at the dog park especially with parking issues at the Parker Court site. Vice President McKenzie is a big believer in pickleball and shared that he suggested years ago that the Board should embrace pickleball. Vice President McKenzie also stated he brought his 13-year old grandson to the skate park but when asked if he wanted to go back, his grandson stated it was boring. Vice President McKenzie is in favor of all three projects.

Secretary Cotton stated he likes all three projects and places the skate park as his first priority followed by the dog park then pickleball courts.

President Willis stated this has been a great process and thanked those from the dog park group for working with staff and not being challenging. He feels that it has been a very cooperative effort and everyone's done a great job.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to fund, design and build the pickleball, dog park, and base skate park expansion projects along with the community center renovation project; to direct staff to do further research and analysis and provide proposed project schedules and related recommendations, ideally by the July Board meeting, and to do the outreach necessary to survey the residents residing within 500 feet of the proposed Meridian dog park site. Director Balzer seconded.

Treasurer Mullarkey proposed an amendment to allow no external funding (for example, no loans). Director Balzer seconded. Director McKenzie remarked that he intentionally did not include that language because he did not want to foreclose on an opportunity to use external funds if needed. Director Halleran clarified that this would not preclude the ACC from using donations or grants for the projects. President Willis called for a vote on the amendment. Voting took place; the amendment to the motion passed with four ayes and two nays (Directors McKenzie and Cotton).

President Willis called for a vote on the amended motion, which is repeated here for clarification purposes:

Vice President McKenzie moved, and Director Balzer seconded, to internally fund (i.e. ACC funds), design and build the pickleball, dog park, and base skate park expansion projects along with the Community Center renovation project; to direct staff to do further research and analysis and provide proposed project schedules and related recommendations, ideally by the July Board meeting, and to do the outreach necessary to survey the residents residing within 500 feet of the proposed Meridian dog park site.

Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kim Bodary
On Behalf of the Anthem Community Council Board of Directors