

anthem

community council

Meeting of the Board of Directors
May 22, 2019
Open Session at 6:30 p.m.
Anthem Civic Building
3701 W. Anthem Way
Community Room

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:

Terry Mullarkey, President
Bob McKenzie, Vice
President
Darrin Francom, Secretary
John Balzer, Treasurer -
Entered at 7:16 p.m.
Roger Willis, Director
Dino Cotton, Director
Carolynn Hiron, Director

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Neal Shearer, Community Executive Officer
Doug Greenstein, Community Finance & Operations Officer
Kristi Northcutt, Communications and Public Affairs Director
Michele DeMichele, Special Events & ACB Operations Director
Dave Fermoile, Community Center Director
Dawn Dworak, Management Analyst
Robin DePetro, Controller
Mark Sahl, Legal Counsel
Jonathan Ebertshouser, Legal Counsel
Kim Bodary, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

President Mullarkey called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. and recognized those in attendance.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

President Mullarkey established a quorum with six Board members present.

ADOPT AGENDA

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to adopt the agenda. Director Willis seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the minutes from the April 24, 2019 Open Session. Secretary Francom seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

STAFF REPORT

Mr. Shearer summarized a few items on the staff report that were included in the Board packet and posted online.

Mr. Shearer expressed gratitude to the many Anthem residents and our neighboring community residents for taking the time to get involved in the Riverview rezoning case, and expressing their concerns in such respectful and articulate ways.

Mr. Shearer gave special thanks to the ACC's long-time summer camp leader Brie McDowell, the current Children's Program Manager, who is relocating to the Flagstaff area. The Anthem community will miss Brie, and we wish her and her family all the best.

Mr. Shearer thanked ACC staff consisting of Dave Fermoile, Brian Duncan, Dawn Dworak, Doug Greenstein and Mike Krask, our electrician, who worked together to convert the lights for all six tennis courts to LED.

Mr. Shearer gave special thanks to Bob Hedrick, who has been the ACC's architect on design review matters for the past ten years. Mr. Shearer extended our heartfelt thanks to Mr. Hedrick for ensuring that Del Webb's design vision for non-residential properties was sustained in this beautiful community. Tony Smith, ACC's Business Services and Code Compliance Manager, recently presented Mr. Hedrick with a special framed photo to thank him for many years of dedicated service to Anthem. Mr. Smith, who is an architect, will now serve in this role.

Mr. Shearer expressed gratitude to Jennifer Toth, an Anthem resident who is the County Engineer/Director of MCDOT, the agency that manages the roads and transportation systems for Maricopa County, including the east side of Anthem. Mr. Shearer thanked her for all that MCDOT does for Anthem and congratulated her for being recognized by the American Public Works Association as one of the top 10 engineering leaders in the country. A small token of appreciation was presented to Ms. Toth from the Anthem Community Council.

BrightView leadership staff, consisting of Joshua Dake, Sr. VP of the Southwest Region, and Jon Berg, Branch Manager, presented a detailed PowerPoint outlining the Anthem spring status report on landscaping services for Anthem.

President Mullarkey thanked the BrightView staff for attending, and asked about slit seeding the Bermuda grass so that it looks healthier this year than it did last year. Mr. Berg stated that crews have already started transitioning the grass near outlying areas, so slit seeding should work well in Anthem. The preemergent should help with weed control.

Vaughn Miller, resident, stated his continued concerns regarding the landscaping around Anthem.

Chris Gonzales, resident, asked about the landscaping service rotation on the west side and Mr. Dake confirmed both the east and west side have the same rotation.

FINANCIAL REPORT

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

OPEN DISCUSSION

Ron Jerich, resident, commended Mr. Shearer for doing a great job speaking at the recent Riverview rezoning meeting and then stated his continued concerns with open garbage containers at McDonalds, Del Taco and Safeway. Staff will follow-up and respond to Mr. Jerich, accordingly.

CONSENT AGENDA/APPROVAL

- A. Approve Anthem Country Club Community Association's Revised Design Guidelines related to adding Additional Paint Colors for Gate Slats and Metal Framing

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the Anthem Country Club Community Association's revised design guidelines. Director Willis seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

- A. **Consider Approval of Dog Park Membership Guidelines, Rules and User Fees**

Mr. Shearer stated that following the April Board meeting presentation, the ACC has received feedback from a number of Anthem residents, about the proposed rules and fees.

Ms. Dworak presented a detailed PowerPoint about the proposed membership process and guidelines, rules, hours of operation and user fees for the Anthem Dog Park.

Director Willis suggested a process for registering non-resident dogs (i.e. a "guest pass" for a dog visiting a resident/authorized user). Director Willis stated that guest dogs need to follow the same requirements as a resident dog.

Director Cotton inquired about pet sitters and their limitations, and Ms. Dworak stated that residents would be required to list their pet sitters on their registration form. Guests of the residents would be required to follow the same rules as residents.

Treasurer Balzer asked how staff would monitor when the County license and rabies vaccinations expire. Ms. Dworak stated that reports could be pulled from our software program and email reminders sent to residents. If no response was received from the resident, their privileges could be revoked until vaccinations are brought current. Mr. Shearer suggested that we simplify this process by requiring residents to show proof of current vaccinations at the time of registration and make it the responsibility of the owner to keep their dog's vaccinations current.

President Mullarkey suggested that we follow the same guest policy as the Community Center.

Mr. Ebertshauser stated that the policies, as we proposed them, permit a resident to register two dogs and up to two additional dogs; so, if the registration process allows a member to add a dog, a guest dog could presumably be added in the procedure as it stands today. It's an accountability process to the ACC, so that we understand who is bringing a dog or dogs into the park.

Vice President McKenzie stated, and Secretary Francom and Director Hiron agreed, that guest dogs should be treated the same as a resident dog and residents should be allowed to register up to four dogs.

Kris Madson, resident asked that the ACC consider lighter-weighted tags for smaller dogs, agreed with Mr. Shearer on simplifying the vaccination and registration process, and suggested a \$25 user fee to attract residents to use the park.

Chris Willis, resident, inquired about social media discussions regarding the user fee, and President Mullarkey stated that fee suggestions cover the spectrum from no fee to a substantive fee to cover the operating costs.

Ron Jerich, resident, stated his concerns with misuse of the dog tags and asked how the ACC will monitor this. Mr. Shearer stated each dog will receive a color-coded tag each calendar year and we are trusting that Anthem residents will follow the rules. President Mullarkey followed up stating that the responsibility will lie on the resident who signs up for that tag. If that tag is moved to a different dog that is not vaccinated, the ACC would hold the resident responsible.

Sheryl McKenzie, resident, stated that she supported the proposed \$50 user fee to help absorb some of the operating costs.

President Mullarkey asked for Board comments regarding the dog park membership process and rules; dog park hours of operation; and any initial membership fee for the approximate fifteen-month period from October 2019 through December 2020.

Director Hiron stated she supports the \$50 user fee.

Secretary Francom suggested charging \$20-\$25 the first year, then re-evaluating the fees and operating costs for second year, and potentially establishing a new user fee for the second year that covers some portion of the ACC's fixed and operating costs. Two additional dogs could be added at \$10 each.

Vice President McKenzie supported the \$50 user fee and also suggested re-evaluating and adjusting the user fee after one year if needed.

Treasurer Balzer stated he was in favor of option three as presented, charging \$20-\$25, and thinks the Board could find other funds to help maintain the dog park.

Director Willis suggested the \$20-\$25 user fee for the first year to attract as many people as possible. but is in agreement to possibly re-evaluate the user fee after the first year.

Director Cotton suggested charging \$52 a year for the first two dogs, which equates to \$1 a week, and charge \$12 for each additional dog, up to two. Director Cotton further stated that if you charge a user fee, people are likely to self-govern the area.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the dog park membership process as written. Director Willis seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the dog park hours of operation. Director Willis seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve the dog park rules as amended in the Board packet. Treasurer Balzer seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

Vice President McKenzie made a motion to approve an initial fee of \$52 a year for the first two dogs plus \$12 a year for each additional dog up to four dogs total. Director Cotton seconded. Voting took place; the motion the motion failed with 3 Ayes (Mullarkey, McKenzie and Cotton) and 4 Nays (Francom, Willis, Balzer and Hiron).

John Birdseye, resident, suggested a user fee of \$30 for any early birds who register within the first three months.

Secretary Francom stated his concerns with a higher user fee and not getting enough residents to register. Secretary Francom liked Mr. Birdseye's suggestion of establishing a lower rate for any operational months in 2019 once the park opens, then raising the user fee to \$50 at the beginning of the 2020 calendar year for the first two dogs.

Mr. Shearer stated that there is no guarantee the dog park will open in the fall of 2019 as planned, so please keep in mind that any pre-registration period could vary in terms of the number of months.

Steve Geertz, resident, stated it would be hard to increase a fee after the fact, so it is better to set your user fees now.

Chris Gonzales, resident, stated he's in favor of setting a reasonable user fee.

President Mullarkey stated he's in favor of at least a \$50 user fee and like the idea of a marketing period as an incentive to bring in dog park users.

Director Cotton suggested tabling this item for a few months to allow our Communications Department to run a marketing campaign.

Director Willis made a motion to set the standard fee of \$50 a year for the first two dogs plus \$10 for each additional dog for a total of four dogs, and move that we empower staff to establish a marketing period with a reduced price to be approved at a future Board meeting. Secretary Francom seconded.

Mr. Shearer said that staff is seeking Board direction tonight so we can move forward with finalizing the registration materials and process.

Director Willis amended the motion that the marketing fee for a period to be determined by staff be \$30, and the standard yearly user fee after that period would be \$50. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

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