



Meeting of the Board of Directors
July 27, 2022, 6:30pm - Open Session
Anthem Civic Building, Community Room

MINUTES

Members Present:

Darrin Francom, Chair
Carolynn Hiron, Vice Chair
Chilesa Ready, Secretary
Doug Sutherland, Treasurer
Bob McKenzie, Director
Barb Patterson, Director
Gina Richard, Director

Members Absent:

Others Present:

Aaron Baker, Executive Director
Paul Conley, Sr. Director Finance
Scott Newell, Dir. of Programs & Aquatics
Mike Krask, Dir. Of Parks and Facilities
John Safin, Communications Director
Alyssa Tarpley, Communication Specialist
Jonathan Ebertshouser, Legal Counsel
Gay Johnson, Recording Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Francom called the meeting to order at 6:48pm and recognized those in attendance.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

Chairman Francom established a quorum with seven Board members present.

CONSENT AGENDA/APPROVAL

Director McKenzie made a motion to approve the June 22 and June 29, 2022 meeting minutes. Treasurer Sutherland seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

i. Republic Services Presentation

Executive Director Baker introduced Zack Goetz and Sidiq Young from Republic Services, who provided a company overview and presented about local operations including recycling, trash and bulk services on the east side of Anthem. Director Patterson inquired as to whether visits were allowed at their facilities. Mr. Goetz responded affirmatively. Mr. Young responded that they would be happy to provide a tour upon request. Vice Chair Hiron inquired as to whether the recycling collected was cleaner than in the past. Mr. Young stated that it was good, but education is always encouraged. Vice Chair Hiron suggested posting on the website to inform residents. Resident Ron Jerich posed a question about the duration of the contract with Anthem. Mr. Young responded that the contract expires in 2025.

STAFF REPORTS/FINANCIALS

i. Executive

Executive Director Aaron Baker supplied information regarding public safety with positive results over the past month, great communication for both recent Anthem incidents. Captain Brandimarte with MCSO in attendance and available for resident questions. Mr. Baker also supplied information of New Board Supervisors Boundaries, after the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors voted 4-1 to approve a new map adjusting the boundaries of the county's five supervisorial districts. The new map will be effective January 1, 2024, with the impact to Anthem having two supervisors, East Anthem continues with Bill Gates and West Anthem will now be in Clint Hickman's district. Mr. Baker also announced that discussion about the Sk8 & Ride Park will be on the August agenda for public discussion with a possible Board decision in September with implementation to follow.

ii. Programs

Director of Programs & Aquatics Scott Newell gave the report of activities including successful Water Park season, fall swim lessons coming in August, final Lifeguard Audit results; Sports & Fitness outdoor sports sign-up available, new programs for outdoor fitness area; Parks/Fields and Security update on Sk8 & Ride Park with upcoming July 30 bike/scooter safety class and fall skate safety planned; Youth/Family Programs camps full all weeks with amazing feedback and fall programs to include Youth Music, Parents Night Out, babysitting certification, with more information available on the website.

iii. Operations

Director of Parks & Facilities Director Mike Krask reported that erosion control has been installed off Meridian Drive, DLC began first half of tree management of over 17,000 trees; Parks has completed conversion of Softball Fields 3 & 4 to 90 ft. bases, granite and plant refresh at the Big Splash exercise area, weed control and Little League fields turf repairs begin August 8 for one week.

iv. Financials

Sr. Director of Finance Paul Conley spoke on status of accounts. Full disclosure financial statements are posted at *OnlineAtAnthem.com* as part of the documents supporting the open meeting.

v. Communications

Director John Safin supplied recap of 3rd of July Celebration and upcoming Special Events information, including *Go Green* and Autumnfest for October; appreciation given to MCSO and ACC staff for their work before, during and after the July 9 protest, coordination and contact with organizers were key to protecting Anthem residents and property; Representative Town Hall will be held via Zoom on Friday, August 12 at 9am, with details posted the week prior to the meeting on our website; next Family Movie Night on September 16.

Resident Ron Jerich made a comment regarding the reduction in speeding and expressed appreciation for partnership with MCSO. He also questioned the Sk8 & Ride Park usage by non-residents and usage should mirror the Dog Park as an example.

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Chair Francom suggested he bring his comments to the August meeting. Mr. Jerich then commented on the robbery of Andrew Z that he was not happy that the owners were not mentioned in the release from the ACC. Chair Francom stated that the ACC strives to please.

Director McKenzie motioned to accept the Staff Reports and Financials as presented. Director Patterson seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Update from Finance Committee

Committee Chair Sutherland stated they met on July 26 with a quorum, review of the report has us in outstanding financial condition; Investment Adviser reported what was invested was done wisely, with 90% of the monies invested in the most conservative municipal bonds and that they will continue to watch and advise every three months. Resident Christenson stated that nothing in the report about rate of inflation rising, questioned if policy was taking that into consideration. Mr. Sutherland responded that the policy does, but it is also intentionally conservative in nature.

B. Update from the Facilities Master Plan Committee

1. Facility Master Plan Project Recommendations

Committee Chair Sutherland supplied an explanation of the process leading to the listed recommendations. Discussion took place including a motion from Director McKenzie to amend the recommendations, adding shade structure and bleachers to Tennis Court #1 proposal. Director Patterson stated that the original request from tennis group proposal was only for resurfacing, update lighting and add fencing to enclose the entire court.

Resident Gretchen Bender provided that the pickleball proposal asked for six courts and that six are justified by attendance of club members. Ms. Bender believes that the space will accommodate 6 courts, but professionals will need to evaluate the space. Also, stated that the proposal did not request restrooms and would not be utilized by users.

Resident Jason Richard stated that much time and effort had been spent by the Committee and the recommendations should be accepted as presented.

A motion was made to approve the accepted Facilities Master Plan Project Recommendations as presented. Voting took place; the motion carried by majority vote of 6, with one abstention (McKenzie).

Vice Chair Hiron motioned to accept the Committee Reports as presented. Director McKenzie seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Graffiti and Vandalism Policy

Executive Director provided background for the current regulations and presented the Graffiti and Vandalism Policy in order to establish enforcement measures for non-action for property owners.

Resident Ron Jerich expressed his appreciation for getting the policy done. He expressed his concern with the situation behind Safeway if they will be notified. Chair Francom stated the policy will be enforced as adopted and work from there.

Resident Basil Fernimos expressed that residents want to work with the Board; with changing times to work together and inquired about engaging citizens and the community. He stated that there is tagging at Starbucks and had called the Property Manager as the graffiti had been there for eight weeks. Executive Director Baker explained the process for reporting graffiti on commercial property. An accompanying female resident then commented on the homeless situation, explaining their experience in California and wanting to work with Anthem. Chair Francom provided that we are not a town so we work thru jurisdictions.

Director McKenzie made a motion to approve the Graffiti and Vandalism Policy as presented. Treasurer Sutherland seconded. Voting took place; the motion passed unanimously.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Resident Margie Schnell expressed concern over community park use by non-residents as Anthem is at a critical juncture with the growth trend toward the community. She suggested enforcement by Park Patrol to request ID and enforce regulations to control access. Chair Francom expressed appreciation for the comments and will look into engaging residents with a survey so the Board may take a wise look, including consideration of costs.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

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8/29/2022

Chilesa Ready, Secretary
On Behalf of the Anthem Community Council Board of Directors