MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD OF THE TOWN OF CHINO VALLEY
TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2025
2:00 PM
AQUATIC CENTER | 1615 NORTH ROAD 1 EAST | CHINO VALLEY, ARIZONA 86323

1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Present:	Chair Celia van der Molen, Board Member Jeffrey Crandell, Board Member Susie Jarvis
Absent:	Board Member Michael Pickett
Staff Present:	Community Services Director Cyndi Thomas, Recreation & Events Coordinator Morgan Heiner, Recreation & Events Coordinator Susan Palmer, Facilities & Parks Manager Jason Olson, Deputy Town Clerk Sara Burchill

2. CALL TO THE PUBLIC - Individuals requesting to speak, please complete a Speaker Comment Card and return to the Clerk.

Call to the Public is an opportunity for the public to address the Board on any issue within the jurisdiction of the Board that is not on the agenda. Individuals are limited to speak for three (3) minutes. The total time for Call to the Public may be up to 30 minutes per meeting. Board action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to directing staff to study the matter, scheduling the matter for further consideration and decision at a later date, or responding to criticism.

There were no requests to speak.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Consideration and possible action to approve the April 22, 2025, regular meeting minutes.

There was no discussion on this item.

MOVED by Board Member Jeffrey Crandell, seconded by Board Member Susie Jarvis to approve the April 22, 2025, regular meeting minutes.

AYE: Chair Celia van der Molen, Board Member Jeffrey Crandell, Board Member Susie Jarvis

NAY: None

3 - 0 Passed – Unanimously

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. Community Services Director

Cyndi Thomas, Community Services Director, presented the following:

- The budget requests made by staff were moving towards approval; however, they did not request a lot.
- Council chose to put $250,000 toward park amenities. This would mostly cover site work to get the ground ready for the plans recommended by the Board. While it wasn't a lot of money, it would help to get the plans going.
- Community Services would be presenting to Council at the June 24th study session for updates regarding Recreation, Aquatics, Senior Center, and Library.

b. Facilities & Parks Manager

Jason Olson, Facilities & Parks Manager, presented the following:

- Weeds mitigation was ongoing.
- Little League was nearing the end of their season with the Tournament of Champions for one division being held in Chino Valley this weekend.
    - The week of June 26 Chino Valley would be hosting the Juniors and 5070 League All Stars.
- The last phase of spring agronomics would be starting next week.
- Staff took care of some maintenance needs for pickleball.

c. Recreation Coordinator

Morgan Heiner, Recreation & Events Coordinator, presented the following:

- The Town hosted a May 4th event last month with a Star Wars movie and food trucks.
- There were events scheduled for every Saturday in June starting with the 20th anniversary pool party this weekend. Staff was hoping to get some alumni to come back. Councilmembers would be serving hot dogs.
- Other events in June included Mom/Son Olympics, movie nights in the park, and a Daddy/Daughter dance.
- Aquatics opened on Memorial Day and it was the biggest opening day they had ever had. Staff actually had to turn people away a couple of hours in. Staff was also anticipating a large turnout for the anniversary event.

Susan Palmer, Recreation & Events Coordinator, presented the following:

- The Senior Center had some educational presentations coming up including fallprevention, overdose prevention, elder abuse prevention, etc.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. Consideration and possible discussion regarding plans and funding for Community Center Park Phase III, Appaloosa Meadows, and Center Street Park improvements.

Cyndi Thomas, Community Services Director, presented the following:

- Regarding the plans made by the Board, the Council provided positive feedback.

- A location for disc golf needed to be established. Staff had not spoken with disc golf participants yet, but they were looking to move disc golf to Old Home Manor (OHM) as it was a blank canvas and could be designed however they would like. The course could be the same size as the current course, or it could be larger. Staff would have the conversation after July 1st once the final budget approval comes through.

Board and staff discussed the following:

- Board Member Crandell inquired what was happening at Center Street Park since it was last discussed that disc golf would go there.
    - Chair van der Molen stated that they felt it was small and might not be very desirable there as opposed to OHM.
        - Staff stated it was still a suitable alternative if the group didn't want to travel to OHM.
        - Members mentioned some players saying that the court is small and they would like one bigger. Discussed other options for disc golf to expand the course, like a multipurpose course or multilevel course.
- Board Member Jarvis inquired how many people play disc golf.
    - Staff did not know that number as the group did not have an association like pickleball does. However, staff stated that the course was busy, and usually had at least one person playing any given day of the week. People will even drop their kids off at the pool and then go play disc golf.
- Staff stated that Council seemed amenable to phase 3, but there was not a lot of discussion on Appaloosa and Center Street Parks. Recreation would eventually be moving farther west toward OHM, so it would make more sense to put something out there with some permanency. For that reason, staff felt it made the most sense to focus the $250,000 on phase 3.
- Staff presented a list of phasing and priorities for the phase 3 build-out.
- Board Member Jarvis discussed the pickleball association beginning more fundraising to help with the project.
- Chair van der Molen further discussed the phases, alternative options such as pathways, trails, ramadas, and lighting, and the costs for each. It would be about $200,000 for grading and adding gravel to the parking lots. She also offered the alternative of paved parking. Restrooms were estimated to be about $300,000 based on previous Town restroom installations. Discussed various alternative options for each phase and the cost of each.
    - Staff discussed some possibilities if there were funds left over, such as upgrading the dog park.
- Discussion ensued regarding the cost of building pickleball courts.
- Board Member Crandell inquired if the pickleball courts would be open to the public.
    - Staff stated that they would have to be with the amount of money that was being spent on them. Discussion ensued regarding check-outs of balls and paddles, etc.
    - Discussion ensued regarding the preferred location for pickleball, whether it be Community Center park or OHM. The consensus was that Community Center Park was the best option for cohesiveness and the central location.

6. NEW BUSINESS

a. Consideration and possible discussion regarding a presentation and update to Town Council.

The Board and staff discussed the following:

- Reviewed last year's presentation to Council and discussed topics to focus on for the presentation.
- Discussion ensued regarding lighting for Field 4 and the playground along with retrofitting what is currently there.
    - Staff was hoping to get with Chino Valley Little League to try to facilitate a partnership and have them apply for an Arizona Diamondbacks grant to look at helping with lighting the fields.
- Discussion ensued regarding providing an update on short-term priorities with recent funding, particularly from the pickleball association.
- Discussion ensued regarding master planning for OHM and updating the previous OHM conceptual plan to include disc golf.
- Discussion ensued regarding long-term planning and removing Del Rio Springs.

7. FUTURE AGENDA SUGGESTIONS

a. Consideration and possible discussion regarding scheduling the next meeting.

- The Board and staff discussed whether there was a need for a meeting before the Board presentation to Council.
- The Board discussed scheduling for 2:00 p.m. on June 17th depending on Board Member Picket's availability.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOVED by Board Member Jeffrey Crandell, seconded by Board Member Susie Jarvis to adjourn the meeting at 2:53 p.m.

AYE: Chair Celia van der Molen, Board Member Jeffrey Crandell, Board Member Susie Jarvis

NAY: None

3 - 0 Passed - Unanimously

Submitted: June 5, 2025
By: Sara Burchill, Deputy Town Clerk
Approved: April 29, 2026