



Town of Prescott Valley
Parks and Recreation Department
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Arts & Culture Commission
WORK STUDY MEETING
7501 E. Skoog Blvd., 4th Floor, Conf. Rm. 428
5:30 p.m., Wednesday, August 12, 2020

MINUTES

1. Call to Order & Welcome

Vice-Chairperson Smith called the meeting of the Arts and Culture Commission to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Members present: Vice-Chairperson Nancy Smith, Commissioner Andy Sinclair, and Commissioner Edward Lira. Absent: Chairperson Lindsay Quisenberry, Commissioner Zach Moss, and Commissioner Franki Gibson
Staff present: Brian Witty, Parks & Recreation Director and Isabella Chewning, Recreation Coordinator.

3. Approval of Agenda

Vice-Chairperson Smith asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Hearing none she asked for a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Lira made a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Commissioner Sinclair seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously by those members present.

4. Guest Speaker – Skate Park Art Project- *Nick Tixier*

Mr. Tixier - Thank you all for having me here today. This project is not just me, it's all of us, all the kids at the park, all the people who know Travis. The community at the skate park has lost so many kids due to accidents, suicides, drugs. Travis Parish was my foster son, he lived with me for four years, but I have known him for ten years. Travis Parish, Amanda Colvin, and Amanda's two young sons were in a fatal accident on highway 169, everyone in the vehicle was deceased on scene.

Travis may not have been the mayor of the skate park, but he was definitely on the city council. We do a pizza party every month at the skate park for the kids since Travis' passing. As soon as we received the picture of him that you see in front of you, which was taken by his best friend, I had the idea to create an art piece in his honor. This art piece is not just about Travis. It is about all the kids who aren't here anymore, and the kids that will fall to drugs, alcohol, suicide, or otherwise, in the future. The piece is titled "Remember the Fallen Rider" and it is designed to remind kids that if you see someone who is wrecked, you help them.

I have created 35 small scale renderings of the piece for the kids at the skate park. I want them to be a reminder that you can always reach down and pick someone up who needs help. These kids are so involved in the skatepark and this project can keep the kids focus on something positive. They are a community. They take care of themselves and each other. They are inspiring to me. When I brought the art piece down to the skate park for the kids to see it, all the kids stopped skating and gathered around me to look at it and to take



pictures. I think it will benefit the kids to see this project through to completion. I want to teach them that if you have an idea, by taking something like this through the necessary steps and through the right people in the community, you can achieve a goal.

Vice-Chair Smith - I want to know who dares to tell these kids that they can't do this project. I think it is a wonderful project. It makes me so happy to see that these kids care for one another.

Commissioner Lira - There are always so many kids at the skate park-

Commissioner Sinclair - I think it is an excellent piece and memory.

Director Witty - When Isabella brought this to my attention, I appreciated what Nick did in not exactly making a memorial, but an art piece that will be representative of so many. We also have a memorial bench project underway to compliment this art piece. A few months back we installed steel cutouts at the Dog Park with the Scouts. The look of this project is similar so it will be very complimentary.

Mr. Tixier - The piece will be welded onto the fence to look like he is still riding with his friends. The family was so inspired with how loved and appreciated Travis was by all the kids at the skate park, even the kids who were much younger than him looked up to him. Some of the kids are interested in doing a skate competition on the 27th of September and will be in contact with staff for that event. We are hoping that we can have the piece installed prior to that event.

Coordinator Chewing - We have talked to parks staff already and they are ready to work with you to install this piece as soon as the Commission votes to move forward at the regular meeting on August 19th.

Commissioner Sinclair - I would like to invite you to next week's Commission meeting for you to speak. It is televised so more people will be able to hear your story and learn about your piece.

Mr. Tixier - I would be happy to do so.

Commissioner Lira - This could really grow into something even better over time.

Mr. Tixier - There are so many projects that we can do over time and we look forward to working with the Town on more projects at the skate park. All these projects are to keep the skate park a positive place for the future.

Commissioner Lira - Will the piece be coated?

Mr. Tixier - No, it is stainless steel, so it does not need to be coated. I am also working with the Hotshot Foundation for a memorial with the same stainless steel. Stainless steel is resistant to graffiti. It is almost a ¼ inch thick.

The Commission thanked Mr. Tixier for coming to speak to them and told him they look forward to his attendance at the next Regular Meeting.



5. Review of Work Study Calendar Dates (November 11, 2020 Work Study Meeting) – Brian Witty, Director

We accidentally scheduled and approved a Work Study Meeting on Veteran's Day this November. Staff would still like to host a work study meeting for that month, but we do recommend that we do not host it on Veteran's Day because our offices will be closed. Should we reschedule? Cancel? November 4th or October 28th are options for the new meeting date.

Vice-Chair Smith - Is everybody in agreement with moving the meeting to November 4th? If so, we can adjust the Calendar and vote on its acceptance at the Regular Meeting.

6. Committee Updates/Planning – Isabella Chewning, Recreation Coordinator

- a. Summer Concert Series 2020 - We have three great events planned for our Summer Concert Series this year! The Electric Swamp Poets will be playing on August 22nd, 2020. HIT SQUAD 17 will be playing on August 29th, 2020. The Atomic Surf will be playing on September 19th, 2020. All concerts will begin at 7:00pm.
- b. Prescott Valley Fine Art Showcase 2020 – We are still accepting submissions for the Prescott Valley Fine Art Showcase. We only have a few submissions so far. We have advertised this heavily, but we are getting feedback that many artists just aren't interested in showing work right now due to COVID. Hopefully we can still have a nice show even if it is small. I will be reaching out to Commissioners to ask for your help with the reception on September 25th.

7. Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County Grant Acceptance - Isabella Chewning, Recreation Coordinator

In June, we wrote and submitted a grant through the Arizona Community Foundation of Yavapai County for our Summer Concert Series, and we are excited to announce that we have been awarded a grant of \$3,050 for our 2020 Summer Concert Series. One of the stipulations of the grant is that we provide survey feedback from event attendees. I will be reaching out to Commissioners with volunteer requests to collect survey information at each of our Summer Concert Series dates.

8. Art at the Center – Jenkins Bequest Update – N. Smith & A. Sinclair, Commissioners and Isabella Chewning, Recreation Coordinator

A contract has been drawn up and will be reviewed by Council on August 13, 2020 for the "Jenkins Obelisk". Mr. Reilly has agreed to complete installation of the sculpture no later than May 1st, 2021.

Our Call to Artists is now open for the new corner sculpture project. We have already had multiple artists interest in the Call. The next steps for this project will be as follows: The Selection Committee will review the entries during the first week of October and will individually rank the submissions. The top 5 submissions resulting from that process will be reviewed by the Commission at Work Study on October 14th. On October 21st at the Regular Meeting, the Commission will recommend their top choice to go to Council. Council will review the Commission's top choice for approval on October 22nd. The artist will be notified by November 1st.



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9. Other

Commissioner Sinclair – I went and viewed the new Gene Galazan sculptures at Fain Lake, and they look very nice. (shared photos with other Commissioners)

Commissioner Lira – I would like to let everyone know about the work we are doing to bring the Underpass Mural project back to life. The idea is a Murals Project designed to provide positive direction for the youth of Prescott Valley. This program, with the assistance of Town leaders from the police department, municipal judge, parks and rec, and the Arts & Culture Commission will redirect troubled youth. The Underpass Mural Committee will be working on developing this program with staff, and we will keep the Commission updated on our progress.

10. Next Meeting

- a. Regular Meeting: Wednesday, August 19, 2020, 5:30pm, Auditorium
- b. Work Study Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2020, 5:30pm, Conf. Rm 428

11. Adjournment

With no further questions or comments, Vice Chairperson Smith said that the meeting stands adjourned. Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.



Vice-Chairperson Smith

Respectively submitted by: Isabella Chewning, Recreation Coordinator
August 13, 2020