



Minutes City Council's Sports, Recreation, Arts & Cultural Development Committee March 4, 2009

Minutes of the meeting of the City Council's Sports, Recreation, Arts and Cultural Development Committee held on Monday, March 4, 2009, 3:00 p.m., in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Tempe City Hall, 31 E. 5th Street, Tempe, Arizona.

Committee Members Present:

Councilmember Mark Mitchell, Chair
Councilmember Onnie Shekerjian

City Staff Present:

Travis Dray
Kate Hanley, TCC
Shelley Hearn, Comm Rel Mgr
Jayson Matthews, TCC
Adrienne Richwine, Dep Comm Svcs Mgr
Mark Richwine, Parks & Rec Mgr
Nancy Ryan, Comm Dev/Rio Salado

Guests Present:

Brian Belkin, TCVB
Ashton Kapphahn, student reporter
Stephanie Nowack, TCVB

Councilmember Mitchell called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

Agenda Item 1 – Public Appearances

None.

Agenda Item 2 – Review of Minutes

The meeting minutes from February 9, 2009, were accepted.

Agenda Item 3 – 2009 Angels Baseball Spring Training Updates

Travis Dray summarized that Spring Training began on February 25th. Ticket sales are slightly down, possibly due to the early start, although there are three sold-out games: March 13th with the Cubs, 20th with Diamondbacks, and 21st with the Brewers. It is anticipated that sales will build as we get into March with the spring breaks coming.

Agenda Item 4 – Tempe Community Council Human Services Recommendations

Jayson Matthews summarized that the annual recommendations will be coming forward at the Council's IRS meeting on March 5th. Woody Wilson, one of the volunteer co-chair, and Margaret Hunnicutt, TCC Board President, will make that presentation. He distributed a copy of the recommendations. He highlighted the following:

- For the 2009/2010 funding cycle, there were 36 agencies with 51 programs, requesting a total of \$1.4M. This was about \$165K above what the City of Tempe allocated with a supplemental for the FY 2008/2009 cycle. We are about \$280K above the budget amount for FY 2009/2010.
- With only two new agencies and programs the additional requests came from existing programs that have seen an increased demand for services.
- The community volunteers renewed funding for 49 programs and they did recommend that one new agency and program be funded, the "Girls For A Change" Action Team at Fees Middle School for \$1K.
- In this cycle, the Community Volunteers did face some challenges including that TCC will not be submitting a supplemental for Human Services per City management direction through the City budget process. With less resources and increased demand for all programs, difficult decisions were made to strengthen the Homeless Shelter and Services category by reallocating some funds from Youth Prevention & Programs.

He added that the Community Volunteers thank the Mayor and Council for their incredibly strong and sustained support for human services and these agencies that help Tempeans in need. There were 46 volunteers this year. They make the agency review process a robust and accountable and grass-roots assistance process.

Agenda Item 5 – Earned Income Tax Credit

Kate Hanley summarized

- They will be closed on March 14th, but will be open all other Saturdays until tax day.
- They have completed nearly 500 tax returns totaling more than \$1,040,000.
- They are offering Refund Anticipation Loans (RALs) this year with an interest rate of 12% and the average cost will be about \$7.
- They received money from the Arizona Community Foundation to offer a free \$50 savings bond to any clients who open savings accounts and purchase savings bonds. The first 50 received this and the Arizona Community Foundation is so impressed that they hope to provide more money to help clients embrace the concept of savings.
- They have also added a benefit screening component to determine eligibility for other benefits in order to short-cut the wait time for these benefits.

Ms. Hanley will provide another update after tax day.

Agenda Item 6 – City of Tempe Affiliation with Caremark Prescription Drug Card

Kate Hanley summarized that Councilmember Mitchell heard about this program at the National League of Cities and Towns and it is a partnership between CVS Caremark and the National League. Any city can go under the umbrella memorandum of understanding with the League.

- Caremark operates under the CVS umbrella and the Caremark card can be used at any prescription drug setting.
- The City of Tempe logo will be at the top of the card.
- Use the card to the pharmacy and it will provide at least 20% off the retail. People are actually seeing an average of 70% off retail.
- Even if a person has insurance, the MOU has been adjusted to ensure that the drug store is giving the best price.
- She will work with Community Relations to generate information through the water bill, Channel 11, schools, Head Start, YMCA, Boys & Girls Clubs about where the cards will be available for residents.
- Helps the uninsured most but others can use it in limited situations.

Mark Richwine suggested that presentations could be made at the Cahill and Pyle Centers.

Councilmember Mitchell suggested that another opportunity might be with the Education Partnerships Committee. Ms. Hanley was directed to contact Shauna Warner, who could also work with getting the information to the neighborhood associations.

Ms. Hanley added that Caremark will collect data to provide feedback.

Agenda Item 7 – Youth and Amateur Sports Complex RFP

Nancy Ryan summarized that an RFP was issued on February 11th. The closing date is April 27th at 3 p.m. This morning a pre-proposal conference meeting was held and primarily there are engineers, architects, and contractors in attendance. There were also one or two groups that are familiar with these types of facilities. Questions focused on the existing conditions at the site and the remediation. It is on the City's website at www.tempe.gov/purchasing/bids under RFP #09-096.

Mr. Richwine added that the City has expressed an interest in knowing if there is a responsible party who wanted to develop such a facility that we would be willing to work with them, either to extend the use of other City facilities for major tournaments, events, or potential usage for City programs and activities.

Councilmember Mitchell asked that Ms. Ryan keep them informed.

Agenda Item 8 – Future Agenda Items

- Caremark Update
- Library/Museum Project Update
- Explore selling advertising in facilities
- Brainstorm ideas for opportunities for brown field cleanup for sports facility
- Human Services stimulus packages

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

Prepared by: Connie Krosschell
Reviewed by: Mark Richwine

Jan Hort
City Clerk