

**Recreation and Public Grounds
Commission
Regular Meeting
Agenda**

Litchfield Park Branch
Library Community Room
101 W. Wigwam Blvd.
Litchfield Park, AZ 85340

Thursday, June 11, 2026

7:00 PM

Members of the Recreation and Public Grounds Commission will attend either in person, by telephone, or video conference call.
Physical access to the meeting room will be available 30 minutes prior to the meeting.

I. Call to Order

- A. The agenda and packet are available at: www.litchfieldpark.gov**
- B. A video recording of the meeting can be seen [here](#) the next business day.**

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Call to the Community

This is the time for citizens who would like to address the Commission on any non-agenda item. Action taken as a result of public comment will be limited to asking staff to review the matter, asking that the matter be put on a future agenda, or responding to criticism.

IV. Staff Report

A. Community and Recreation Services Monthly Report

INFORMATION ONLY

Presenter: *Tricia Kramer, Community & Recreation Services Director*

Ms. Kramer may provide an update on the following:

- Recreation Center Facility
- Community Services
- Special Events
- Aquatics
- Preschool
- Sports

B. Public Grounds Monthly Report

INFORMATION ONLY

Presenter: *Kevin Hamilton, Public Grounds Superintendent*

Mr. Hamilton will provide an update on current park maintenance and Public Grounds projects.

C. Opportunities for Improvement

INFORMATION ONLY

Presenter: *Tricia Kramer, Community & Recreation Services Director*

Staff may provide updates on improvements made within the city since the Commission last met. Additional areas of opportunity for improvement may be discussed.

V. Business

A. Approval of Minutes

ACTION/COMMENT

Presenter: *Tricia Kramer, Community & Recreation Services Director*

Discussion and possible action to approve the May 14, 2026, regular meeting minutes.

B. Litchfield Park Library Mural

ACTION/COMMENT

Presenter: *Tricia Kramer, Community & Recreation Services Director*

Discussion and possible action to recommend a mural design concept for the new Litchfield Park Library.

VI. Commissioners Report on Current Events

This is the time Commissioners may present a brief summary on current events. The Commission may not propose, discuss, deliberate or take any legal action on the information presented, pursuant to A.R.S. § 38-431.02.

VII. Topics for Referral to City Council

VIII. Adjournment

Anthony Taddei, Chair

Affidavit of Posting

I, Tricia Kramer, do hereby certify that I caused to be posted a true and correct copy of this agenda for the Recreation and Public Grounds Commission meeting of Thursday, June 11, 2026, in the following place in the City of Litchfield Park:

1. City Hall, outside bulletin board
2. City Website

Tricia Kramer, Staff Liason

Persons with special accessibility needs should contact City Hall, (623) 935-5033, at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.



**RECREATION AND PUBLIC
GROUNDS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATION**

**Staff Report Item IV.A
Community and Recreation
Services Monthly Report**

To: Recreation and Public Grounds Commission Members
From: Tricia Kramer, Community and Recreation Services Director
Meeting Date: 6/11/2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

See attached report.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Community and Recreation Services Monthly Report - June 2026

**COMMUNITY AND RECREATION SERVICES
MONTHLY REPORT**

To: RPG Chairperson and Commissioners
From: Tricia Kramer, Director of Community and Recreation Services
Meeting Date: 06/11/2026

Recreation Center Facility

- New lifeguard stands and picnic tables for the pool deck were installed and are already being put to good use.
- The community has been enjoying the first week of open swim at the Rec Center Pool. Visitors can cool off in the pool during the following public hours:
 - *Monday thru Thursday:* 12pm-4:30pm and 7pm-9pm
 - *Friday:* 12pm-9pm; *Saturday:* 10am-7pm; *Sunday:* 1pm-7pm

Aquatics

- Lagartos Swim Team has been busy with suit fittings, fundraisers, team pictures, stroke clinics, and their first home swim meet of the season on June 5 against Buckeye.
- Session 1 of Swim Lessons began on June 1. Preschool Aquatics, Group Swim, Parent-Tot and Elite Lessons are all at or near capacity for this session.

Community Services

- A brief but meaningful Memorial Day Ceremony was led by Mayor Schoaf on May 25 in front of the WWII Memorial on the grounds of Litchfield Elementary School.
- A flag raising ceremony to honor the Army and celebrate Flag Day will take place on Friday, June 12, at 8:15am in front of City Hall.

Preschool

- Our Explorers Summer Camp is off to a fun start. There are 13 campers in our morning session and 11 campers in our afternoon session. We continue to register for our July Summer Camp.
- Enrollment for the 2026-2027 School Year is ongoing. We currently have 41 students registered. ABC AM – 19 (FULL); ABC PM - 13; Adventures in Learning - 8.

Special Events

- Staff have been working on digital and social media advertising for Sparkle in the Square as well as the activities schedule for the event.
- Staff have been in discussions with various bands to secure the lineup for the upcoming Arts in the Park concert season.

Sports

- Challenger Soccer Camp was held June 1-5 at Staggs Park. 32 kids participated.
- Our June Intro to Tee Ball clinic is June 8-12. There are 9 registrants so far.
- Registration for our Youth Coach Pitch League opened June 1. So far, we have 4 kids registered. Practices begin in August.



**RECREATION AND PUBLIC
GROUNDS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATION**

**Staff Report Item IV.B
Public Grounds Monthly Report**

To: Recreation and Public Grounds Commission Members
From: Kevin Hamilton, Public Grounds Superintendent
Meeting Date: 6/11/2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Public Grounds Superintendent Kevin Hamilton will provide an update on current park maintenance and Public Grounds projects.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:



**RECREATION AND PUBLIC
GROUNDS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATION**

**Staff Report Item IV.C
Opportunities for Improvement**

To: Recreation and Public Grounds Commission Members
From: Tricia Kramer, Community and Recreation Services Director
Meeting Date: 6/11/2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

N/A

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

Staff may provide updates on items previously submitted by Commissioners regarding the maintenance and upkeep of city parks and public grounds. Commissioners may also notify staff about additional areas of opportunity for improvement. No action will be taken during the meeting on any items presented as part of this agenda item.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None

ATTACHMENTS:



**RECREATION AND PUBLIC
GROUNDS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATION**

**Business Item V.A
Approval of Minutes**

To: Recreation and Public Grounds Commission Members
From: Tricia Kramer, Community and Recreation Services Director
Meeting Date: 6/11/2026

**RECOMMENDED MOTION:
MOVE TO APPROVE THE MAY 14, 2026, MEETING MINUTES**

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:
None

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:
Staff recommends approval.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:
None

ATTACHMENTS:
1. 051426 REG Minutes - Draft

Thursday, May 14, 2026

Regular Meeting

I. Call to Order

The meeting was held in the Library Community Room and called to order by Chairperson Taddei at 7:06 p.m. A video recording of the meeting can be viewed [here](#).

Present: Chairperson Anthony Taddei, Vice Chairperson Andrea Phillips, Commissioner Brian Culbreth, Commissioner Brian Faith, Commissioner Christoph Gerz (ZOOM), Commissioner Krysten Giordano, Commissioner Adam Schwartz

Absent: Council Member Justin James

Staff: Tricia Kramer, Community and Recreation Services Director; Kevin Hamilton, Public Grounds Superintendent; Pat McCoy, Sports Coordinator

II. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairperson Taddei.

III. Call to the Community

There were no requests to speak.

IV. Staff Report

A. Community and Recreation Services Monthly Report

Ms. Kramer reviewed her written report. She shared that three additional portable pickleball nets have been ordered. She confirmed the Recreation Center pool opens for the season on Saturday, May 23. She invited the Commissioners to the Memorial Day Ceremony. Sports Coordinator Pat McCoy added that staff are preparing for the summer skills clinics for flag football, soccer, and tee ball.

B. Public Grounds Monthly Report

Public Grounds Superintendent Kevin Hamilton introduced himself to the Commissioners and shared some of his background. He then provided the following verbal updates:

- The City's date palms are fruiting early due to the heat, so pruning has begun. It should take about two weeks to complete.
- Citywide painting of certain areas such as Aleppo Park structures and wall stucco near Dysart and Villa Nueva is in process and should be completed within two weeks.
- Staff recently completed the first phase of a multiphase planting project along the east side of town.

- Public Grounds met with West Coast Arborists for an annual tree planning meeting. They have added the City's tree inventory to our GIS system and are looking into providing details about the City's trees to the public through our website.
- Staff are looking into installing new ramada rental signs to upgrade from the current system of taping signs to the park ramadas.
- Staff are in the early stages of discussions with The Church at Litchfield Park for possibly acquiring a sidewalk right of way area along Old Litchfield Rd. right outside the church.

Commissioner Culbreth inquired about the work being done at Turtle Park. Mr. Hamilton confirmed that there had been some bathroom plumbing problems at the park. A contractor was hired to fix the plumbing by running a new line from the bathroom out to the street. Staff will be monitoring the trees and turf to make sure they are not affected by this.

Commissioner Faith informed Mr. Hamilton that there was discussion a while back about adding more amenities to Rose Park. He would like to reopen this discussion. Mr Hamilton shared that there was a splash pad there in the past, and he could see if that is an option. Commissioner Faith said that there is no seating under the ramadas and perhaps that is a good starting point for the amenities.

c. **Opportunities for Improvement**

Public Grounds Superintendent Kevin Hamilton provided updates on the following items that the Commissioners have brought to our attention:

- Gophers - Mr. Hamilton is collecting bids from contractors to specifically treat gophers in all city parks annually, including Scout Park, which has extensive damage on the northeast side. Mr. Hamilton will be asking the golf course how they are handling their gopher treatment efforts. He will continue researching this topic. He is hoping to change the condition of the turf and treat for the weeds.
- Public Drinking Fountains - Staff have identified the water source for the Rec Center drinking fountain near the tennis courts. The source backflow needs to be repaired. A plumber will be coming out to fix this next week.
- Blower Schedule at the Rec Center - Mr. Hamilton has addressed this with the crew, and they will no longer be using any power or hand tools out in those areas during school drop off time. Instead, they will complete this by 6:45 a.m.
- Possible Coyote Den at La Loma and Sonoma Dr. - The crew filled in the hole and will continue to monitor this. Mr. Hamilton is getting an animal control plan together and will be relying on Avondale and Maricopa County for information and assistance.

Commissioner Gerz requested updates in the future on any trends and themes that Staff observe with the concerns reported through Engage LP.

Commissioner Culbreth recommended adding a drinking fountain to Turtle Park. There used to be one, but it has been gone for a couple of years. Chairperson Taddei suggested that new fountains include a bottle refill station as they are added or replaced. This topic will be passed along to our new Facilities Manager for follow up.

V. Business**A. Approval of Minutes****APPROVED****MOVE TO APPROVE THE APRIL 9, 2026 MINUTES****MOVER** Commissioner Faith, **SECONDER** Commissioner Giordano**AYE:** Chairperson Taddei, Vice Chairperson Phillip, Commissioner Culbreth, Commissioner Faith, Commissioner Gerz, Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Giordano**7 - 0 - 1 Passed****B. Yard of the Quarter Selection****APPROVED**

Vice Chair Phillips recommended 221 Bahia Lane E for Yard of the Quarter for the second quarter of 2026. She noted that this is the first time a home from that area would be recognized as Yard of the Quarter.

MOVE TO APPROVE VICE CHAIR PHILLIPS' YARD OF THE QUARTER RECOMMENDATION**MOVER** Commissioner Schwartz, **SECONDER** Commissioner Giordano**AYE:** Chairperson Taddei, Vice Chairperson Phillip, Commissioner Culbreth, Commissioner Faith, Commissioner Gerz, Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Giordano**7 - 0 - 1 Passed****C. Turtle Park Playground****APPROVED**

Public Grounds Superintendent Kevin Hamilton presented a proposal from Miracle Playground for renovations to the playground at Turtle Park. This was initially driven by safety concerns that the public made staff aware of. The large slide that is part of the current 10+ year-old play structure is cracking and damaged. The playground is also missing some of the original sensory amenities. A subsequent inspection by a Certified Playground Inspector advised that the playground should be replaced before the summer heat kicks in.

The City has secured a \$17,000 Building Community Connections Playground Grant towards building a new structure. The order deadline in order to receive the grant is August 15, 2026. Mr. Hamilton went over the amenities of the new play structure. He asked the Commissioners for their input regarding color choices and the optional toppers. Discussion was held. The Commissioners preferred Marsh Madness for the Color Option. They also agreed that the toppers do not add anything aesthetically because the shade structure will be placed over them.

MOVE TO RECOMMEND THE PLAY STRUCTURE AS SHOWN MINUS THE TOPPERS IN THE MARSH MADNESS COLOR SCHEME

MOVER Commissioner Gerz, **SECONDER** Commissioner Culbreth

AYE: Chairperson Taddei, Vice Chairperson Phillip, Commissioner Culbreth, Commissioner Faith, Commissioner Gerz, Commissioner Schwartz, Commissioner Giordano

7 - 0 - 1 Passed

VI. Commissioners Report on Current Events

Commissioner Schwartz has been enjoying the farmer’s market.

Commissioner Giordano said everything is looking really good.

Commissioner Faith had nothing to report this month.

Commissioner Culbreth thinks the city looks really good right now and said that the Engage LP app is working out really well.

Commissioner Gerz is very excited to have Kevin on board and is looking forward to working with him.

Vice Chair Phillips used engage LP and got a really fast response. She is encouraging others to use it.

Chairperson Taddei agreed that Engage LP has been really helpful so far and he is impressed by the expansion of the farmer's market.

VII. Topics for Referral to City Council

New Turtle Park Playground Structure

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Taddei at 8:43 p.m.

APPROVED:

Anthony Taddei, Chair

CERTIFICATION

I, Tricia Kramer, do hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the meeting of the Recreation and Public Grounds Commission of the City of Litchfield Park held on Thursday, April 9, 2026. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held and that a quorum was present.

Tricia Kramer, Staff Liaison



**RECREATION AND PUBLIC
GROUNDS COMMISSION
COMMUNICATION**

**Business Item V.B
Litchfield Park Library Mural**

To: Recreation and Public Grounds Commission Members
From: Tricia Kramer, Community and Recreation Services Director
Meeting Date: 6/11/2026

RECOMMENDED MOTION:
LEFT TO THE COMMISSION'S DISCRETION

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The City of Litchfield Park has been working with Catitude Arts to design and paint a mural inside the new Litchfield Park Library at The Hilltop. Representatives of Catitude Arts will present several design choices to the Commissioners for their feedback and possible recommendation to Council.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

N/A

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$2,500

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Library Mural Design Concepts







