

CITY OF GLENDALE  
SPECIAL MEETING: PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
GLENDALE ADULT CENTER – PALO VERDE ROOM  
5970 W. BROWN ST.  
FEBRUARY 26, 2015  
6:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:       John Krystek, Chair  
                                  Barbara R. Cole, Vice Chair  
                                  David Moreno  
                                  Robert Irons  
                                  Manuel S. Padia, Jr.  
                                  Manuel Padia  
                                  Jeri Ann Soper  
                                  John Faris

MEMBERS ABSENT:       Chase MacKay

OTHERS PRESENT:       Erik Strunk, Director  
                                  Lori Bye, Operations Manager  
                                  Mike Beck, Chief Librarian  
                                  Gwen Benoit, Management Aide

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Krystek called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

All Commissioners were present, except for Commissioner MacKay.

III. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

IV. POSSIBLE RELOCATION OF THE FOOTHILLS BRANCH LIBRARY AND EXPANSION OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Mr. Strunk gave a brief background of the proposed purchase of the existing Foothills Library building by Midwestern University and the relocation of the library to the Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center (FRAC) and recent public meetings regarding the proposal. Mr. Strunk noted that on February 9, 2015, the Commission conducted a meeting to discuss the proposal and entertained public comments. Mr. Strunk stated that two other public meetings on the topic were held as well of the Library Advisory Board and the Arts Commission. Mr. Strunk distributed the comments from all the meetings. Mr. Strunk indicated that the Commissioners would discuss the proposal and vote on a recommendation to Council.

Commissioner Cole asked if the Council would listen to the recommendation of the Commission. Mr. Strunk replied in the positive stressing that Council has directed staff to engage the Commission and the public in the consideration of the proposal. Commissioner Cole stated that she could not picture a library

with children running around in bathing suits. Commissioner Cole stressed that the FRAC should remain as a recreation center, not a library.

Commissioner Padia commended the members of the public for coming out to the meetings and sharing their opinions. Commissioner Padia stated that even without the move to FRAC, the library should continue to keep up on new technology. Commissioner Padia encouraged the members of the public in attendance to continue to be involved in the issues of arts, library and the parks.

Chair Krystek commented that the city is obligated to provide services such as police and fire, however, much of the community is made of parks and libraries, which the city must also keep as a priority.

**Commissioner Padia motioned, seconded by Commissioner Moreno, to forward to Mayor and Council a recommendation not to approve the sale of the Foothills Branch Library and the relocation of library services to the Foothills Recreation and Aquatics Center. Chair Krystek conducted a roll call vote. Motion carried 7 – 0.**

Mr. Strunk announced that the recommendation and comments would be presented to Mayor and Council at the March 17<sup>th</sup> Workshop. Mr. Strunk explained that Council does not vote at Workshop, but does provide direction to staff at Workshop. Therefore, Council will either instruct staff to continue to pursue research regarding the proposal or to let the proposal die.

#### V. COMMISSION COMMENTS

Commissioner Irons thanked the members of the public for attending the meeting and stressed the importance of public support and interest in community issues.

#### VI. ADJOURNMENT

**The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m. by consensus.**

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Kazmierczak