

TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE FOUNTAIN HILLS COMMUNITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMISSION
November 24, 2025

A Regular Meeting of the Fountain Hills Community Services Advisory Commission was convened at 16705 E. Avenue of the Fountains in open and public session at 5:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chairperson Carey Reddick II; Vice Chairperson Rory Wilson; Commissioner Craig Rudolphy; Commissioner Ron Ruppert; Commissioner Natalie Verela

Members Absent: Commissioner Stephen Barnes

Staff Present: Community Services Director Kevin Snipes and Administrative Assistant Stormy Mazeikis



Post-Production File

Town of Fountain Hills
Community Services Advisory Commission Meeting
November 24, 2025

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be a totally verbatim record of the proceedings.

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REDDICK: Meeting for the Community Service Advisory Commission for Monday, November 25th [sic]. The time is 5 p.m. And can I start a roll call? I'd like to now ask our clerk to call roll.

MAZEIKIS: Carey Reddick.

REDDICK: Present.

MAZEIKIS: Rory Wilson.

WILSON: Present.

MAZEIKIS: Stephen Barnes. Craig Rudolph.

RUDOLPHY: Present.

MAZEIKIS: Ron Ruppert.

RUPPERT: Here.

MAZEIKIS: Natalie Varela.

VARELA: Here.

MAZEIKIS: And Adam Oberg.

REDDICK: All right. Well, thank you. Quorum is present. And I'd like to start with a call to public.

SNIPES: So due to the Council's new guidelines, we will no longer be doing a call to public during our meetings here, just as a heads-up. And until or if they make changes to that, we will no longer be allowing the public to come and speak.

REDDICK: Okay. Thank you for that, Kevin.

VARELA: Not even come to the meeting?

SNIPES: No, they can come.

VARELA: Oh, just not --

SNIPES: We just won't do a call to the public --

VARELA: Okay.

SNIPES: -- so they can come up and speak on whatever they want.

VARELA: Okay.

SNIPES: It would have to be agenda-sized now.

REDDICK: All right. And we will start with our regular agenda; item number 5, an

update on the holiday lights installation staff. Oh, sorry. Number 4, regular agenda.

SNIPES: We're all thinking, go home.

REDDICK: Yeah.

SNIPES: Okay. Good talk.

REDDICK: The consideration for possible action for approval of our Community Service Advisor Commission meeting minutes from October 27th. Can I get --

WILSON: Sure. I do just have one edit. On page 3, it says Bob Burns is speaking. And it should be Carey Reddick, I believe, just for clarification.

VARELA: Nice catch.

REDDICK: Thank you, Rory. Can I --

SNIPES: And so we can approve with that amendment.

REDDICK: Okay. So do I have approval of minutes?

RUDOLPHY: I'll second.

REDDICK: All right. Perfect. Now, we're heading into --

VARELA: I don't know -- who was first? Did --

REDDICK: Rory?

WILSON: I didn't. I was just -- I can be first. I motion to approve with the amendment of the amendment.

REDDICK: All right. Our agenda minutes have been approved. All those in favor?

ALL: Aye.

REDDICK: All right. All right. So we're going to head into our regular agenda. Update on Pleasantville Park. Kevin?

SNIPES: We have a few pictures just up on the main screen or on the screens behind you. So we just got back our 100 percent plans, which means there's a few very small adjustments that we're going to make. So what you're seeing is pretty close to what we're hoping to achieve. So this is our new park that's over on Bainbridge and Golden Eagle Boulevard. It's going to be designated for both stargazing at night -- since we didn't have a stargazing location, we've been working on getting this site so that it would function in that way. It's always been an issue of us being a Dark Sky community

with nowhere to stargaze. The two don't seem to go together very well.

So when we started into this project, we were originally looking at it being more of a daytime-only type of a park. But with the needs that we have, we decided that we could turn it to a dual use and have it where we're still looking to have classes throughout the day there, or have it be a drop-in type of a park with some plant identification around the trails that are there. This trail that's kind of back here will have plants along it with identification markers on it. This big center area will be our primary class location with shade. I'll show you that in just a minute. And then, we'll have two smaller areas off to either side for gathering spaces as well. This is what the center shade area will look like. You'll notice that we have solid walls around it to help keep the headlights out. As you come down Golden Eagle Boulevard, unfortunately, you're coming downhill and your headlights point directly into this location. So we had to be extremely creative with how we can protect the people that are trying to do nighttime observing in that space. And we've been working with our Dark Sky community to help come up with a good plan for how to do that.

And then, this gives you an idea of the amount of plants that we're putting in there. We're putting in a lot of trees; a lot of evergreen trees, especially in the areas where we're trying to block those headlights. We have a lot of shade-type trees around it that will lose their leaves as well. But the areas that we need permanent blocking, we went with trees that will be around year-round with leaves on them to help protect us from that. It should be a -- for as small of a park, it's going to have a lot of different options in it and a lot of different ways to be used. And so we'll kind of figure that out as we go as well so that we can be better prepared as the time comes to break ground on this. Once we get this back to our architect team, which is J2 -- who also worked with us on Adero Canyon -- then, we'll be ready to send this out to bid. And we'll see how closely their numbers come in with the numbers of our construction team. With that, I'll take any questions that you guys have on it.

RUDOLPHY: What's your estimated cost?

SNIPES: The estimated cost as it sits is right around a million. And I need to be down

around 800. And so one of two things will happen. I'll either be going back to Council and asking for some more -- we have been coming in under our estimated bids lately -- which I was surprised by with some of our roads -- and substantially below. So hopefully, those numbers are starting to drop around the board to where that we can make this happen and/or figure out what we need to do and what we can and can't afford to do. With this being done with development fees, it makes it a little bit easier to have funding for anything that's new in town. And so this certainly fits into that bill. And we'll see where that gets us from there.

RUPPERT: Kevin, two questions; the first one being the shade structure -- the corrugated material on the top. Is that just a rusted finish --

SNIPES: Um-hum.

RUPPERT: -- once it's done?

SNIPES: Yup.

RUPPERT: Second question is the right of way that goes through the park, is it one way?

SNIPES: Yes.

RUPPERT: And are you worried that people driving up Golden Eagle are going to make a right into the excursion part right there?

SNIPES: It's certainly something that we've discussed. It'll be signed. The only people that would be able to do that would be if you're coming northbound. And even then, it's going to be aligned so that it only goes to the right out of there. That would make it tougher. It doesn't mean that they couldn't. But we didn't want to have -- there's a couple of things that played into it. One, we wanted to control the flow of lights through it so that we could protect our entry points easier than having to protect both directions as you come in. We went with parallel parking for that same reason, to where the headlights don't turn and shine into any spot along as you're parking. We talked about doing parking towards the hill, but even that created issues with backup lights and issues that made the Dark Sky uncomfortable with how that would be laid out. And so we came up with this design. We've added in lots of protections at the entry points to the actual center area. There should be another sidewalk here I'm

noticing is missing now as we're looking at this. And then, these panels block the light from coming into that. But there should be a sidewalk around this I see they removed. So that's the only thing that we'd have to --

RUPPERT: Oh, as you exit out on Golden Eagle, you cannot go left on Golden Eagle. You have to go up to the next intersection and do that turn or something or --

SNIPES: Yup. Yup.

RUPPERT: Okay. Are you guys worried about that at all? Or no, not really?

SNIPES: Not really, because it's not too far up to that next spot.

RUPPERT: Yeah.

SNIPES: And with this location, it was really the only --

RUPPERT: Yeah, just coming down off Golden Eagle, they --

SNIPES: We didn't feel comfortable cutting -- we talked about cutting through, but that --

RUPPERT: Getting some speed there.

SNIPES: -- became a pretty big hazard of going across that center island and having cars coming down the hill. Your visibility would be --

RUPPERT: Yeah.

SNIPES: -- not good.

RUPPERT: Yeah, no.

SNIPES: And so we decided that we'd rather have people having to drive up. We will be adding parking along Golden Eagle like we have at Golden Eagle Park as well.

RUPPERT: Sure.

SNIPES: And along -- and I believe along Bainbridge too. I'll have to look at that. But I think that we decided there was room there as well that we could have street parking for both sides. So there's other options as well.

VARELA: How many parking spots are you anticipating having?

SNIPES: I think it's 10 or 11, something like that.

VARELA: And if you had classes there, like you said, like, what size classes are you thinking?

SNIPES: It's always going to be relatively small just because of the size of space. But when you add in street-side parking, you probably got enough for 40 or 50 cars to be close by. Thanks. Anything else? All right. Thank you.

REDDICK: Thank you, Kevin. And we'll move on to item number 5, the Arizona State Puzzle Donor Program. If we can get an update regarding the Arizona State Puzzle Donor Program. Kevin?

SNIPES: If I can find them. Alrighty. So we did just install another round of puzzle pieces. We're now at 30 -- I think it was 34 or 35 that we have installed. And we have two more on our next order already. So hopefully, we'll get those to push to where that we can get another round of orders done. It would be nice if we could do it this fiscal -- or this calendar year. That's my hope. We just shot some more things with Mike Pelton to send out to push it to our snowbirds as they come back. A lot of times, that triggers people wanting to do something. And around the holidays, a lot of times we get more donation-type things as well. So that's kind of where we're at for right now.

RUDOLPHY: How many total puzzle pieces are there?

SNIPES: For sale, there's 99.

RUDOLPHY: So you're about a third of the way there?

SNIPES: Um-hum.

REDDICK: Moving right along to our discussion regarding the upcoming events and volunteer opportunities. Kevin?

SNIPES: Right on. Well, we are in our busiest season, so it makes it easy on Stormy to join our team right now. There's hardly anything going on. We sold out of our Turkey Trot registration this morning first thing, which I was very disappointed it didn't happen over the weekend. We were four shy, and those happened first thing this morning. And I'll bet it was within two or three minutes, Ryan got a request from someone to get a late registration. It's like, nope. That's why we've been talking to you since July. We've had registration open since July, and we have maxed out how much the Avenue can handle with the route that we have. And 3,000 people pushes us back pretty close to the roundabout from the start line. So it gets to where that our people will still be

coming through the chute to start the race, and our fastest runners will be coming through the other chute winning the race. So we want to keep it right around 3,000. It's tough to do much more than that with the size of staff that we have. It'll be our biggest that we've ever had. And we think that's the number that we should stay at moving forward.

So they're over right now doing packet pickup. This year, they did a lot of packet pickup early. We just opened it up in Town Hall. It's the first year that we've done that. There were some goods and bads to it. It got pretty hectic the last week when everyone realized it was the end of early packet pickup. Then, they came racing in the last two or three days, and it was Stormy's first week here. So she got a really good taste of what chaos looks like. But we were able to hand out, I think it was around 1,400 -- something like that -- that we handed out ahead of time. So that went really well. So hopefully, this week goes smoothly over at the Community Center for the finishing. And we have different times available for people to pick up packets over there as well.

Then, we start rolling into our heavy season of Breakfast With Santa, Sensitive Santa right after that, which is a great event we added three years ago now, I think, or four years ago for people that -- we have a lot of kids that when they're in a loud environment that our Breakfast With Santa is, they are not as successful in that environment. And so we decided to do a Sensitive Santa. And typically, we have somewhere between -- around 15 people that come to that. And it's just a lot more subdued. We do it out in the lobby. And Santa is there, and he's just in a location where the kids can come over to him as they feel comfortable while they're doing crafts and things like that. And it's worked out really well for us in the past, so we're looking forward to another year of that as well.

Then, we have our Stroll in the Glow. We have a few new things that are going to be happening with our Stroll this year. We have added some colored lighting to the fountains on the Avenue. If you haven't seen the white lights that are in there right now, I suggest you go out after the meeting and take a look. They look a lot better than they have since I've been here. And they were brand new when I got here. So I'm really

happy with the work that the guys did and the selections that were made. But there are also color-changing, and there's 52 lights out there that are each individually color-changeable. So we'll be going through and making some changes to those for the Stroll in the Glow. And that will be the first time that we go colored for the event. We have our Light Up the Town Holiday Tour that's coming up again as well. That event's done really well over the last several years. It was started during COVID as a way to get people to get out and be able to see some lighting displays. And it's one that I think is kind of unique because there's actually a map attached to it, so you can know exactly how far you need to go, how long it'll take you to drive the route. And there's been a lot of activity on that as well over the last few years that it keeps picking up steam. We just need as many people to participate as possible. So if you know anyone that lights up their house, please have them reach out and let us know so that we can get them added to our tour.

And I think that pretty much gets us to the new year. So a few things going on. If you're interested in volunteering at any of them, we'd be happy to have you. And if you're not interested in volunteering but still want to show up, we'd love to have you come out and put your eyes on the events that we have to where that you can share your thoughts on it. We value all of your opinions, obviously. And we'd love to have you come out and join us.

RUDOLPHY: For Stroll in the Glow, have you eliminated the cycling, bicycling?

SNIPES: Yeah. It outgrew the event. So we were getting to where we had 50 people on bikes with a lot more people coming out to stroll as well. And kids on bikes at night with people walking in the same street is very difficult to navigate, as well as prevent injuries. So we tried like crazy to find another date. And it just doesn't fit. We have too many things going on, and all the weekends are taken. And a Wednesday night stroll down the Avenue seemed odd. So not to mention that doing it during Stroll, all the roads are closed, so it's easy to pull off. And any other time, it's just not. So unfortunately, that was one that we don't do anymore. We still had some people show up last year for sure that wanted to participate. But we just -- safely, I just don't know how we pull it off with

the with the way that the Stroll is set up today.

REDDICK: Okay. Well, Kevin, you and the team do an amazing job. So thank you.

And Stormy, welcome again. So we will move right along to our CSAC Youth Commission Mayor Youth Council. And I guess we'll get an update on our youth commissioners and Mayor Youth Council.

SNIPES: Come on up and have a seat.

OBERG: Hello.

SNIPES: We'll have you introduce yourself and tell us a little bit about you. And welcome to our CSAC committee.

OBERG: This is not nervous or scary at all.

SNIPES: No. So off to the right, there's a button here.

OBERG: Gotcha.

SNIPES: And when the light turns red --

OBERG: Perfect.

SNIPES: -- you're good. And if it shuts off, it's just the one on the right.

OBERG: Thank you.

Well, hello, everybody. My name is Adam Oberg. And well, I've been living here in Fountain Hills for about nine or ten years. I moved here from Texas in, like, 2017 or '18, somewhere along the lines around that. And well, I've been part of this community for a while. Actually, I've done a lot of shows at the theater here in town. Currently in one. You should all come see it. It's called A Christmas Carol. It's pretty good. But I mean, of course, been a part of Mayor's Youth Council for around two years. This is my second year. And I've loved it since. So yeah.

REDDICK: Well, we're happy to have you, Adam.

OBERG: Thank you.

REDDICK: Welcome.

OBERG: Thank you, thank you.

REDDICK: And the show has started already, just so I can make a note.

OBERG: It starts the 5th of December.

REDDICK: 5th, okay. Well, thank you.

Okay. Now, I get to head to my favorite; the update on the holiday lights installation.

SNIPES: So we touched on this just a little bit. And every year, we're looking to change things up a little bit. This year's biggest change will be down around the new shade structure with a few trees being removed and the new shade structure being installed. They're working on getting that area lit up as well as with the fountain lights. If you go down into that area, you'll see how the lights come out of the twin fountains that are down there. And it shines up and reflects off of the top of the -- or the bottom I should say -- of the shade structure and reflects back down. It creates a really nice environment down there right now when it starts to get dark. We'll be doing the Centennial Circle area again like we did last year. And then, we have about -- I think it's 19 or 20 trees in the lobby at the Community Center. We'll have the Community Center open during Stroll as well, like we did last year. That worked out pretty well where we had several people that came over. And the year before, we weren't open, and I just saw a lot of people with their faces pushed up against the glass trying to see in and what was going on. And I thought, well, if we got somebody that can work that shift, let's do it. And so I think we're going to continue to do that for the future as long as people keep coming and going through and seeing the hard work that was done in the Community Center lobby.

REDDICK: Thank you for that, Kevin.

SNIPES: Um-hum.

REDDICK: We will move right along to the Community Center Holiday Decoration Policy. I know you touched on that briefly last week.

SNIPES: Yeah, we touched a little bit on that.

REDDICK: Or last month, sorry.

SNIPES: It's a thing that definitely has had some issues in the past. And we're trying to correct as many of those problems as we can to make sure that our Community Center stays as warm and welcoming as it can for everyone that comes to it because it's not like -- the Community Center does not have a slant. It is warm and welcoming to

everyone, and we want to make sure that we maintain that. And so we certainly are trying our best to make sure that that happens.

REDDICK: Thank you, Kevin. And our next agenda item, appointment of Chair. So consideration and possible action for an appointment of Chair for the Community Service Advisory Commission. So I'd like to open the floor for nominations.

WILSON: I would like to nominate Carey again to serve as Chair.

VARELA: I'll second.

REDDICK: All right. Those in favor, please say aye.

ALL: Aye.

REDDICK: Okay. And next, an appointment of Vice Chair. I would like to nominate Rory as our Vice Chair.

VARELA: I'll second.

REDDICK: All those in favor.

ALL: Aye.

REDDICK: And that motion carries. This concludes our agenda. If there are no further business, I will entertain a motion to adjourn. Motion?

WILSON: Move to adjourn.

REDDICK: Second?

VARELA: Second.

REDDICK: All right.

VARELA: Yeah, I'll second it.

REDDICK: All right. This meeting is adjourned. All those in favor?

ALL: Aye.

Having no further business, Chairperson Reddick adjourned the Regular Meeting of the Community Services Advisory Commission meeting held on November 24, 2025, at 5:26 p.m.

TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS

Carey Reddick II, Chairperson

ATTEST AND PREPARED BY:

Stormy Mazeikis, Administrative Assistant

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Regular Meeting held by the Community Services Advisory Commission of Fountain Hills in the Town Hall Council Chambers on the 24th of November 2025. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and that a quorum was present.

DATED this 26th Day of January 2026.

Stormy Mazeikis, Administrative Assistant

