

**MINUTES  
VISIONING MEETING  
MAYOR and COMMON COUNCIL  
of the  
TOWN OF CAMP VERDE  
473 S. Main Street, Room 106  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2008  
5:00 P.M.**

1. **Call to Order**

Mayor Gioia called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. **Roll Call**

Mayor Gioia, Vice Mayor Hauser, Councilors Elmer, German, Garrison, Kovacovich, and Smith

**Also Present:** Recreation Coordinator Joe Perez, Parks & Recreation Director Lynda Moore, and Town Clerk Deborah Barber.

3. **Discussion with RBF Consulting concerning the Council's vision for the Community Park. Discussion may include, but not be limited to Council's objectives and desires relative to the park facilities, active and passive recreational uses, access points, water, lighting, funding, cost-saving measures, and other miscellaneous concerns.**

Kevin Kugler of RBF Consulting introduced the RBF team. Kugler said that RBF is excited to work with Council and on the Park project. Kugler explained that tonight's exercise was to establish a vision. He advised that several flyers were handed out during the block party that generated a lot of interest. He also advised that flyers are being distributed at Bashas'. Kugler said there would be an Open House on September 16 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and that the RBF team will complete a community-wide survey along with a 'design your own park exercise.' Kugler stated the purpose is to get a vision of what the community wants with no preconceived ideas. Kugler noted the team hopes to establish values, priorities, and vision for the park. Kugler advised that RBF would be doing this same exercise with the Tribal Council next week. He further advised that they plan to meet with the Technical Advisory Committee to develop three conceptual park plans. On October 2, the team will present the plans and survey the participants. From the information gathered, the Council will have a work session and RBF will present the results, and hold a joint work session with Yavapai Apache Nation on October 29.

When asked if the Parks Commission would participate, Director Moore indicated the Commission will participate during the work sessions and the community meetings. Councilor Smith requested that the Trails Committee be asked to participate in the work session, noting that all the trails can be accessed at White Hills and it would be a good location for a trailhead.

Councilor Kovacovich stated he has lived in the area forever and would like to see enough facilities for the community to enjoy.

Councilor Garrison stated she has lived in the community for thirty five years and stated her two most important issues are the Town only get one shot, and we need to do it right and the community owns this park and it is important their fingerprints are all over the project.

Council Smith stated he has lived in the area for 15 years and he hopes to see ball fields, access to USFS trail system, along with a trailhead.

Council Houser stated she has been in the area for forty years, and stated the Town needed ball fields and a park with picnic tables & parkland.

Councilor Elmer indicated he has been in the area for 17 years, and coached Little League for many of those years. Elmer stated the need for ball fields and to be cautious of development, stating the Town must be a good neighbor.

Council German stated he has been in the area since 1951 and served as volunteer firefighter, and taught school for years. German noted he felt the same in that we need to take care of the kids and be conscious of our kid's needs. German commented he would like to see the Town get it right from the outset.

Mayor Gioia stated he has been an elected official for eleven years and an appointed official two years prior to being elected. Gioia stated the Town needs everything that has been expressed, plus more. Gioia indicated his number one issue is that every citizen is heard and that some wonderful Godsend pays for it. Gioia noted he would like to see the ball fields first; it is the loudest cry from the community.

Kugler stated the access to the park is the cornerstone of this project and will be the key to success and will determine where everything will be placed. Kugler recommended that vehicular access be off McCracken, explaining that this point is the most logical and efficient due to safety, ADOT plans, and planned signalization.

Council discussed the impact to the neighbors and requested that the design have as little impact on the surrounding neighborhood as possible. Council discussed the possibility of a maintenance yard access and the need to identify the area early in the project.

Council questioned Kugler regarding right-of-ways from the Forest Service and ADOT. Kugler responded that there would be no right-of-way concerns if the main access were off McCracken, a Town-owned road.

### **Public Input**

Linda German asked for clarification of the proposed location of the development. German stated she would have to disagree with the McCracken access noting that it is a very dangerous road. She suggested a one-way loop out to 260. She said the park would be a disastrous change to our area.

Carol German asked the Council to also consider the traffic that will be created because people may believe that there is river access.

Council Elmer stated he would like the school district to have input in the community involvement, and Director Moore stated the Town will send flyers to the school inviting the kids and parents, and focus on the kids.

Council Hauser stated she did not want to see a skateboard park; however, a BMX track might be a good idea.

Jim Ellington stated he has been waiting for a BMX track and needs about 3 acres.

Mayor Gioia stated he has a commitment from the Cottonwood Mayor & the recreation department to use their cloverleaf ball fields building plans that would save the Town a lot of money. Kugler said that the fields must be constructed with existing topography in mind and that we might not be able to use Cottonwood's construction plans.

Kugler asked Council if they had a 'theme'. Council stated the Town identifies with a western heritage and associated with agrarian in the part of the area along with Wagon Wheels. Council requested the Native American history be included.

Kugler suggested a multi-generational center where there would be co-mingled uses.

Kugler pointed out some of the Active Recreation facilities Council may want to include: baseball, softball, soccer, football, basketball, volleyball, tennis, golf, rodeo grounds, skateboard park, horseshoe park, racquetball courts, shooting range, shuffleboard, BMX, roller hockey, and a playground.

Kugler then reviewed some passive Recreation – picnic areas, walking trails, hiking, amphitheater, public garden, plaza/fountain, stargazing/observation, Dog Park, fishing, equestrian trails, natural open spaces, communal agriculture.

**Public Input**

Linda German stated she like the idea of a trail circling the perimeter of the park.

Lisa Mina asked Council to consider underground parking so that fields can be on top. Kugler stated that would be very expensive and a measure that would only be taken if there is not sufficient land.

**4. Adjournment**

On a motion by Hauser, seconded by Garrison the meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Deborah Barber  
Deborah Barber, Town Clerk

**CERTIFICATION**

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING, minutes are a true and accurate accounting of the actions of the Mayor and Common Council of the Town of Camp Verde during the Work Session of the Town Council of Camp Verde, Arizona held on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of January 2008. I further certify that the meeting was duly called and held, and that a quorum was present.

Dated this 18 day of Sept. 2008

Deborah Barber  
Deborah Barber, Town Clerk