

City of Prescott

Civic Enhancement Committee



July 2, 2026 | 3:30 PM
201 N. Montezuma Street
Council Chambers, 1st Floor
Prescott, AZ 86301

AGENDA

The following Agenda will be considered by the **Civic Enhancement Committee** at their meeting to be held **July 2, 2026**. Notice of this meeting is given pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes, Section 38-431.02.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
2. **ROLL CALL**
3. **DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS**
 - A. Reconsideration Regarding Recommendation(s) for Award of Acker Trust Grant Program Funds to Prescott Life School per City Council Direction.
Recommended Action: MOVE to approve recommendation(s) for award of Acker Trust Grant Program FY27 funds to Prescott Life School and forward the same to Council
4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Upon a public majority vote of a quorum of the Board, the Board may hold an executive session, which will not be open to the public, regarding any item listed on the agenda but only for the following purposes:

- (1) Discussion or consideration of personnel matters (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(1));
- (2) Discussion or consideration of records exempt by law (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(2));
- (3) Discussion or consultation for legal advice with the city's attorneys (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(3));
- (4) Discussion or consultation with the city's attorneys regarding the city's position regarding contracts that are the subject of negotiations, in pending or contemplated litigation, or in settlement discussions conducted in order to avoid litigation (A.R.S. § 38-431.03(A)(4));
- (5) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations with employee organizations (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(5));
- (6) Discussion, consultation or consideration for negotiations by the city or its designated representatives with members of a tribal council, or its designated representatives, of an Indian reservation located within or adjacent to the city (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(6));
- (7) Discussion or consultation with designated representatives of the city to consider its

position and instruct its representatives regarding negotiations for the purchase, sale or lease of real property (A.R.S. §38-431.03(A)(7)).

CERTIFICATION OF POSTING OF NOTICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that a copy of the foregoing notice was duly posted at Prescott City Hall on 6/26/26 at 3:00 p.m. in accordance with the statement filed by the Prescott City Council with the City Clerk.

Sarah M. Thornhill

Sarah M. Thornhill, City Clerk



TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA: July 2 Civic Enhancement Committee Meeting
DATE: July 2, 2026
DEPT: City Clerk
ITEM #: 3.A
SUBJECT: Reconsideration Regarding Recommendation(s)
for Award of Acker Trust Grant Program Funds to
Prescott Life School per City Council Direction.

ITEM SUMMARY

This item is for reconsideration of a request and recommendation for funding of Acker Trust Grant funds to Prescott Life School. At the June 23, 2026 City Council meeting, Council directed staff to bring this item before the Civic Enhancement Committee for further review of the program financials for Prescott Life School's grant request. The application and supplemental information are included in this memo.

BACKGROUND

In accordance with the will of J.S. Acker, non-profit organizations that promote "... music and parks, especially for the children of Prescott ..." are encouraged to apply. Reference: City of Prescott Acker Trust Grant Program – Arizona

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

MOVE to approve recommendation(s) for award of Acker Trust Grant Program FY27 funds to Prescott Life School and forward the same to Council

ATTACHMENTS

1. Project Budget Page 1
2. Project Budget Page 2
3. Acker Grant Funding Use - Financial Breakdown
4. Acker Grant Clarification Letter

[Empty box]

Project Budget:

Funding from Earned Income and Support (Contributed Income):

Amount \$

- 1. Admissions
- 2. Contracted Services
- 3. Other Revenue
- 4. Corporate Sponsors
- 5. Foundations Grants
- 6. Private Contributions
- 7. Governmental Support (Identify source)
 - a) Federal-
 - b) State-
 - c) City of County-
- 8. Applicant Cash

N/A

[A series of 13 empty rectangular boxes for entering amounts, all crossed out with a large diagonal line.]

Grant Amount Requested: *

\$4,500.00

Expenses:

Amount \$

- 9. Personnel / Staff (include salary and benefits)
 - a) Administration
 - b) Artistic
 - c) Technical / Production
- 10. Outside Fees and Services (provide details)

[A series of 5 rectangular boxes containing the handwritten text 'n/a', corresponding to the expense categories.]

a) Artistic

n/a

b) Development

n/a

11. Product Expenses

see attached
breakdown
Thank You!

\$4,500.00

12. Rental Expenses

n/a

13. Promotion

n/a

14. Other Operating Expenses

n/a

Note: "Total Funding" should equal "Total Project Cost"

Total Funding \$4,500.00
Thank You!!!

Submit

Print Form

CITY OF PRESCOTT ACKER TRUST FUND

FY 2027 GRANT APPLICATION

Prescott Life School

Acker Grant - Financial Breakdown

Music Theory Books = \$15-25 (used vs. new)
(at \$15/per book, 30 students, total \$450)

Concert Ukulele = \$60
(includes tuner, case, and strap)
(\$60 per uke, 10 students, total \$600)

Beginner Guitar (Pyle) = \$60
(includes tuner, case, and strap)
(\$60 per guitar, 10 students, total \$600)

61-key Beginner Piano - \$90
(includes stand)
(\$90 per keyboard, 10 students, total \$900)

Approx. *Total Spend = \$2,550

*Total does not include sound system as that is optional and not needed as much as instruments and music!

Sound System = \$1,500-\$2,500 (approx.)

June 25, 2026

Attn: Civic Enhancement Committee

Re: Acker Grant

To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, I am Marilyn Mott and you met my husband (Michael Mott) and me, on May 28, 2026, when we had the opportunity to present to your group about Prescott Life School (PLS) and the music program we have begun building. We were approved that day to receive \$4,500.00 of the Acker grant money.

During the most recent city council meeting certain concerns were brought up. I watched the recording of the last city council meeting so I could respond to the concerns and answer any questions that arose.

Prescott Life School is a 501c3 (documents were provided with our original application) nonprofit school that opened its doors in August of 2024 and is entering year three. PLS comes alongside homeschool students and families to offer support. Our first year we had 91 students, year two 172, and we are going into year three with enrollment at over 200 students, and counting! We are located at Granite Hills Retreat & Conference Center on Iron Springs Road. The school offers expert teachers, in varying subjects, such as, German, Spanish, Music, Art, Science, History, Outdoor Survival, Physical Education, Math, English Language Arts (ELA), and specialty electives each student gets to choose from to shape and enhance their own interests.

The music program we started this past year served approximately 40 students. The Music Appreciation class and Chapel Leadership class were the two most requested specialty electives on campus during the 25'-26' school year. For the upcoming year, we have over 60 students interested in our small group classes for guitar, piano, and ukulele, not to mention the children who wish to take private lessons, and the older students interested in using their skills/talents to help in Chapel Leadership.

As you know, many schools have cut arts programs, home ec, shop class, etc., PLS is a tech-free campus, so kids get to be hands-on without the distraction of their phones! We believe this has led to greater interest in kids wanting to learn how to play an instrument, write their own songs, and be creative. AI has many wonderful things it can do, but taking away a person's desire/ability to be creative is unhealthy. We want to be able to give back to our community and support real, live music!!

Throughout the past school year (25'-26'), we did our best to provide instruments to the students. My husband and I used our own money to purchase used keyboards, guitars, and ukuleles. We also purchased and loaned a small sound system from Prescott Valley Music. Our school being smaller, newer, but continuously growing is in need of equipment. We also hope to be able to provide any student wanting and willing to take lessons, the opportunity to have their very own instrument. Anyone who has played knows how important an instrument can become in shaping your life! It is a connection. It is creativity. Music brings all kinds of people together. We hope and pray we are able to teach the children attending PLS and encourage personal growth through music!!

The funds listed on the originally submitted grant application, did not reflect the program monies and how the grant money would be spent. I was under the impression the grant application was requesting financial info regarding the school (e.g., staff pay, tutoring costs, special needs teachers, books, supplies, etc.). Our Director, Brooke Fremouw, was out of town when the grant was due, so I did my best to add in the information I believed was being requested. I apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

Please note, **none** of the Acker grant money will be used to pay teachers, keep the lights on, or cover the cost of our space. Every penny, or should I say nickel, will go to purchasing music books, sheet music, instruments, and music equipment, for our students. I read the grant stipulations very carefully before applying and I believe our school and our music program are in line with what Mr. Acker intended when he very generously created a trust to keep real music alive and growing in Prescott, AZ.

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify. We are truly grateful!

Sincerely,

Michael and Marilyn Mott
Prescott Life School