

Balloon Fiesta Park Commission

November 12, 2013 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM

Meeting Location: Banquet Room / Balloon Fiesta Park

Not a full quorum so board could not take action.

Meeting Discussion (Not a Quorum)

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Sandy Cohen , Elise Rogers, and Mark Johnson

Members Absent: Justin Garcia, Dr. Steve Komadina Rick Treadwell, Gov. Victor Montoya, Dave

Downey, Frank Mezzancello and Barbara Baca

City Staff Present: Susan Rice, Alexandra Kiska, Billy Gallegos, Daphany Martin

Guests: Paul Smith

1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER MINUTES:

Copies of the approved Fee Schedule as well as Balloon Fiesta Park Usage Fee Schedule approved in September handed out.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Past Events –Doggie Dash was a success.

Future Events –

Hoof it to Happy Hour-August 22, 2014 5-8pm Will be serving alcohol. Mr. Nordin said to move forward and will vote officially at next meeting.

Hoop It Up-June 14-15, 2014 No fireworks for this future event, as they did have fireworks at previous event. No problems from this year's event. Mr. Nordin said we should move on, and vote next meeting.

UV Splash Color Dash July 12, 2014- Evening color run through the interior of the park. They will not be serving alcohol, first time in Albuquerque. Discussion had on decimal meter readings, and how they are read. Discussed previous event and turn out for Doggie Dash as being a success.

5. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE PARK –

Where do we go from here? Mr. Wentworth spoke with the Mayor directly and stated the Mayor said the process was flawed, and that he supports a new building out here but did not state exactly why he denied. Alex did confirm that the Mayor did put a hold on project due to the cost. Mr. Wentworth recommended to the board to contact Mayor directly instead of through other parties and find out what the Mayor has in mind for the building. Ms. Rogers agrees in getting feedback from the Mayor would be a good idea. Discussion had

on the development of the new building and uses and how the process should be handled in the future on when the board should be reviewing building priorities before or after approval by the Mayor. Mr. Wentworth recommended that staff draft a letter from the Board to Mayor Berry and try and get clarification on his ideas for the building and open communication to him. Mr. Johnston and Mr. Cohen agreed with Mr. Wentworth. Mr. Haley believes that needed infrastructure, electrical distribution, water and sewer piping, etc. should be the priority and that the architects should be held to a budget. Ms. Rogers would like to know for sure if the Mayor is behind the 25 year plan that was proposed. Mr. Nordin would like to send a letter to the Mayor from the commission to ask for further information as there is a gap of information missing from him. Ms. Rogers recommended sending a letter prior to the idea of meeting with the Mayor.

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

• Department of Municipal Development

2013 Balloon Fiesta was the 2nd highest attended event, 1st was back in 2007. Approximately 856, 000 estimated attendees. Economic impact draft is double what the last one was two years ago. Two big factors were 150,000 more in attendance than in 2011, and higher percentage of out of state attendees. Only one bad experience the one balloon crash. Doing their best to improve traffic in the neighborhoods in North Edith, obtained a permit from County to close highway as if was a run, and was a great help in regards to traffic. Mr. Smith provided a copy of the report that he had done to help lower noise volumes to Mr. Wentworth. Fireworks discussed in regarding the fireworks with quitter shells than others. All fireworks make explosions which make noise. There was no difference in the sound level from the different shells in regards to fireworks. RV Parking area had no issues other than picket's being run over and damaged, one time a water main was broken in the middle of the night. Water Authority took care of these problems. There was also a water main crack on vendor's row, replaced and repaired in 1/2hr. Facility had backups in the bathrooms during high peak hours of traffic. Mr. Wentworth brought up that in previous events when there is rain, there is drainage issues and needs to be addressed. Mr. Cohen referenced issues trying to access the museum during the Fiesta, as he was denied access a few times. Mr. Haley and his staff did not have the same issues except for the first day of the event.

• Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

• Past Events-

- i. The museum drew about 19,000 for Fiesta...which, I think, was very good considering there were no real big events that we hosted. Slightly down from previous year.
- ii. The SW Bacon Fest on November 2 was an enormous success (8,000 people). Ms. Kiska brought up that having the Doggie Dash same day worked well with the SW Bacon Fest.

• Upcoming events-

- i. Global shaped water feature – honoring international balloonists – is ready to be installed in the tribute area.
- ii. The “Entertainment Area” (part of new tribute area) is being used for museum events. The museum is utilizing the grass area for weddings, and other events.

iii. Budget sub-committee has been formed for the museum to try and raise funds for operating expenses. Museum is currently functioning “in the red” despite small staff and limited programming.

Mr. Nordin would like to continue the rest of the Agenda at the next meeting. He also referenced that the meeting in December is usually deferred until January and thought should continue as such, all agreed that it should remain as such. Also would like to have the sign committee to review and set another meeting as well as including Mark Johnston in the invitation. Next meeting will be 2nd Tuesday in January 2014.

Mr. Wentworth clarified that to request public information it is ok to reply to all in form of email, but any comments or questions should not be addressed on a “reply all” basis, as that would be a violation to the Open Meetings Act.

Quorum discussion adjourned 7:10pm, next meeting January 14, 2013