

**METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes of August 6, 2013**

**Location:** Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW

**Members Present:** Dan Wilkinson, Vice-Chair; Janet Harrington; Rebecca L. Tays; Carmen Garcia; John Myers

**Members Excused/Absent:** John Whitson; Kelly Gossett

**City Staff Present:** Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Garry Wolfe, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

**Visitors:** Lou Romero; Roxanne Turley

**Call to Order:** Mr. Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 12:38 PM

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** The agenda was approved with no objections.

**Approval of Minutes:** The minutes from the July 2013 meeting were approved with no objections.

**Introduction of Visitors and Guests:** Roxanne Turley stated that she has an interest in recreation and is attending to observe the meeting as she is interested in becoming a member.

**Announcements:** None

**General Public Testimony:** None

**Reports:**

- Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, mentioned the recent training which was held to teach staff to conduct audits of Parks and Recreation facilities to ensure compliance with Federal ADA laws. Barbara provided additional information on the training. Christina is taking the lead on the project. All new parks constructed since 2010 are ADA compliant. We are required by Federal law to have accessible facilities with a good geographical spread. After the training is completed, staff will be responsible for assessing all remaining sites in the coming year so that a plan to become compliant can be developed.

Barbara provided a presentation at last night's City Council Meeting concerning the economic impacts of Parks and Recreation. City Councilors made positive comments concerning the Department.

During the recent storm, 87 trees needed to be removed in Parks and Recreation facilities throughout the city. Almost 50 of those trees were located at Puerto del Sol Golf Course. Barbara mentioned that Garry Wolfe took the lead on this and did an

excellent job. Roosevelt, Hyder and Kit Carson Parks and Rio Grande Pool were hit the hardest. We have over \$600K in damage at our facilities and this amount is expected to increase as more work is completed.

John Whitson and John Myers will be approved as members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board at the next City Council Meeting. Mr. Whitson will fill the vacant District 1 position and Mr. Myers will fill the vacant At-Large position.

Garry Wolfe, Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation Department, provided an update on Movies in the Park. He discussed challenges to Parks and Recreation with these types of events. We are attempting to determine how to allow public use of the parks for these events, while protecting the parks and the neighborhoods. A working meeting is scheduled for next week with vendors and neighborhood association members to try and reach a resolution. Barbara mentioned that we are working on establishing a clear policy concerning this matter and on vending in parks.

Barbara discussed the Trails and Bikeways Facility Plan. A Planning Department Planner has been assigned to work on the Plan. The Plan needs to include both GABAC and GARTC. They are currently not seeing eye to eye. A presentation with the consultant will be added to a future agenda. The goal is to have a draft of this plan by next June.

- BFP Commission Representative for MPRAB – Bill Nordin – Mr. Nordin was unavailable to provide a report.
- Sub-Committee reports – Barbara mentioned the Foundation Sub-Committee which was headed by the late Mr. Kraemer. She thought it would be great to have a signature event in honor of Mr. Kraemer, such as a “Jazzfest at Balloon Fiesta Park”. She provided additional information concerning the Foundation. She will provide information on the Foundation to Mr. Myers for his review.
- Members’ Roundtable – Rebecca Tays inquired about “Adopt a Park and Adopt a Median”. Is there any set rules on who can adopt a park or median and can they adopt for commercial promotion? Barbara mentioned there is no set rule on who can adopt a park. An agreement is completed and signed with the interested party. Barbara discussed this matter further with Board Members.

Unfinished Business – Board Members discussed filling vacancies in District 2, 5 and 6. We are awaiting Mr. Lou Romero’s appointment to the vacant District 3 position.

New Business – None

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 3, 2013, 12:30 PM, at the Parks and Recreation Administration Building, 1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW.

**Adjourn:** Mr. Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 1:50 PM.