

**METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes of May 28, 2013**

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

**Members Present:** William Kraemer, Chair; Janet Harrington; Rebecca L. Tays

**Members Excused/Absent:** Kelly Gossett; Carmen Garcia; Dan Wilkinson

**City Staff Present:** Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department;  
Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

**Visitors:** Angela and Charles Ratliff; Jan Zerr; George Miller; John Whitson; Alicia Quinones; John Myers; Councilor Ken Sanchez; Elaine Romero

**Call to Order:** Mr. Kraemer called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** Mr. Kraemer approved the Agenda as distributed via email.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Kraemer approved the Minutes as distributed via email with no objection from Board Members that were present.

**Introduction of Visitors and Guests:** All visitors introduced themselves.

**Announcements:** None.

**General Public Testimony:** Alicia Quinones of the Oso Grande Neighborhood Association spoke about the El Oso Grande Natural Space. She discussed issues with drought and dog and foot traffic causing deterioration in the area. She is applying for a PNM grant for \$10K to be utilized to designate trails to keep people and dogs in specific areas. She would also like to utilize the funds to create a pollination area for revitalization and regeneration of the area. Mr. Kraemer inquired about the timing of the grant. Ms. Quinones indicated that PNM would like the project completed in 2013, but she will request an extension with the hope that the project will be completed in 2014. Mr. Kraemer inquired if there is anything the Board can do to help. Ms. Quinones indicated that she has been in contact with Barbara Baca, Director of the Parks and Recreation Department. She feels Barbara's cooperation is vital. Mr. George Miller of the New Mexico Native Plant Society mentioned that his organization is concerned with habitat landscaping. His organization has been in contact with Ms. Quinones and will assist with the project.

**Action Items**

- Review Requests to Rename Parks – Mr. Kraemer indicated that we do not have a quorum of the Board in attendance and decisions cannot be made concerning the renaming of the following parks. The Board has reviewed and revised the Policy for Renaming Parks. Letters were sent to individuals who generated requests to rename parks, along with a copy of the revised policy. Mr. Kraemer reviewed the

policy with attendees and encouraged them to name a facility within the park in honor of the individual in lieu of renaming the park. Although there is no quorum, the Board Members that are present would still like to hear from visitors:

- Bel-Air Miramontes Park after Lee Julian – Barb Johnson, President of the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association, was unable to attend, but did forward a letter which was distributed to all Board Members. Jan Zerr of the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association was in attendance and spoke about Lee Julian and how the park and pavilion may never have been in existence if not for Lee Julian. Ms. Julian also organized clean up days every third Saturday of each month and worked tirelessly to ensure that the neighborhood did not deteriorate. Christina mentioned that she had worked with Ms Julian on the renovation of the park; however, during the research of this facility, she found a Purchase Agreement, a legal document, which contains a stipulation that the park be named Bel-Air Miramontes in perpetuity. After further discussion, Parks and Recreation Department will work with the Bel-Air Neighborhood Association to honor Ms. Julian by naming the Pavilion after her.
- The Trails Park after Hailey Ratliff – Angela and Charles Ratliff attended the meeting. Ms. Ratliff provided background on how Mr. Banuelos generated the request to rename this park after their daughter, who had been killed while riding her bicycle home from school after a move to Novato, California. Hailey attended Tony Hillerman Elementary School in the northwest quadrant of Albuquerque. Since Hailey's death, the Ratliff's have moved back to Albuquerque to be close to family. Ms. Ratliff also mentioned an interest in possibly renaming Seville Park after her daughter. Christina provided information on both The Trails and Seville Parks. Both parks have play areas and grass fields. Ms. Ratliff also expressed her concern with the lack of trails in the area. She said children are riding their bicycles on the streets and not wearing helmets. Contact information for the Parks and Recreation Bicycle Educator was provided to Ms. Ratliff so that she can work with him on an educational program for parents and children in the area and a possible fundraiser to provide helmets to these children. Mr. Myers suggested that a portion of a planned trail may be named to honor Hailey. Christina said she will look into this and will keep Ms. Ratliff in the loop.
- Carlos Rey Park after Benny Aragon – Councilor Sanchez indicated that Elaine has done research on where the name "Carlos Rey" came from. She was able to determine that Carlos Rey Park was named after a king, and not a specific individual from the community.
- Sunrise Terrace Park after Kyle Robert Irwin – Mr. and Mrs. Irwin were unable to attend, but forwarded an email expressing their desire to have this park named after their son. Mr. and Mrs. Irwin have been volunteers at Sunrise Terrace Park since moving into the neighborhood in 1998. They work in this park picking up trash, pulling weeds and whatever needs to be done. Christina mentioned that this park is half developed and does have a play area and tennis court.

**Reports:**

- Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department did not provide a report as she had to leave early to attend the Open Space Advisory Board which is scheduled during the same time period.
- BFP Commission Representative for MPRAB – Bill Nordin – Mr. Nordin was not in attendance at this meeting.
- Sub-Committee reports – Committee Chairmen or their designees – None
- Members' Roundtable – Report on P&R issues in their area (limit 2 min) - None

Mr. Kraemer requested that an email be sent to all Board Members to see if they are available to meet on June 11, 2013, in lieu of the scheduled June meeting date of June 25, 2013.

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