

**METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes of November 5, 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; John Myers; Lou Romero

**Members Excused/Absent:** Carmen Garcia

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

**Visitors:** Teresa Harner

**Call to Order:** Mr. Myers called the meeting to order at 12:43 PM

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

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** Mr. Myers requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Jan Harrington moved approval; Lou Romero seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

**Approval of Minutes:** Mr. Myers requested a motion to approve the October 2013 Minutes. Jan Harrington moved approval; the board unanimously approved the motion.

**Visitors:** Teresa Harner is a landscape designer that lives in District 5. She was invited to attend the meeting by Jan Harrington. Barbara provided information on the Board such as time commitment and various subcommittees. Board Members also provided additional input.

**Announcements:** None

**General Public Testimony:** None

**Reports:**

- Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, spoke about the Park Naming Policy that was created by the Board. She mentioned how the gazebo at Belair-Miramontes Park was named after Lee Julian at the request of the neighborhood. The permanent plaque has been installed. Although the Board recommended against renaming two other parks, Resolutions were initiated by City Councilors to change the name of The Trails Park after Hailey Ratliff and Carlos Rey Park after Benny Aragon. These Resolutions have been adopted to rename the parks. New signs have been ordered and we will update our park inventory information. Barbara distributed a Draft Resolution on the Rio Grande Valley State Park (RGVSP). She provided the Board with information on the Rio Grande Vision and how this plan would provide more of a connection to what is outside of the Bosque. No restaurants will be built inside of the RGVSP. There is \$2.9M available to develop improvements to the RGVSP between Central and I-40. Any work that is completed will comply with the Bosque Action Plan which was adopted in 1993. They are working on a plan for public outreach. The Resolution which was initiated by Councilor Sanchez will be heard on November 18, 2013. Barbara thought it might be advantageous for a Board Member to attend and speak about the project. Barbara has worked with City Council and

the Administration in redrafting the Resolution so that it will not prohibit the Open Space Division from conducting their daily work in the Bosque such as fuel reduction and maintenance. An environmental consultant, SWCA, has been hired to conduct testing prior to any construction taking place. The Rio Grande Vision would provide better parking, access, signage and a consolidated trail. Barbara believes that there was misconception due to the fact that it was a political season and the plan has been sensationalized by the media. Barbara believes that constituents truly care about the Bosque and keeping the natural beauty. We are trying to create a fine balance between use and preservation.

- BFP Commission Representative for MPRAB – Bill Nordin – Mr. Nordin was not in attendance as the Balloon Fiesta Commission has not had a meeting due to the Balloon Fiesta event. He will provide a report at the December 2013 meeting. Barbara provided information on the Balloon Fiesta event and issues that occurred at the park as a result of the event. Balloon Fiesta was very successful. Barbara and Board Members discussed various issues pertaining to the Balloon Fiesta event and the Balloon Fiesta Park.
- Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager, provided an updated on the ADA Access Audit. Staff is currently completing audits in the northeast heights. Reports are due to her on Friday. Once information is gathered, it will be shared with the Board for their assistance in developing standards, etc. It is a long project, but we are making progress. Christina distributed a drawing of the Los Altos Skate Park and informed the Board about how we are working with Warehouse 508 on renovating the park. Warehouse 508 was able obtain a YCC grant For \$150K for this project. They are working with youth 16-24 years old and teaching them construction skills. This project is being completed with the hope of preventing vandalism and graffiti. Christina also provided information on other skate parks within Albuquerque.
- Sub-Committee reports – Rebecca Tays discussed how the Volunteer Subcommittee would like for the Board to adopt a median. They would also like to recruit businesses to adopt medians. The Board discussed the benefits of adopting medians. Dan Wilkinson mentioned that he will be attending the next Youth Sports Committee Meeting as he is very interested in concussion training, background checks and field acquisition.
- Members' Roundtable – Rebecca Tays inquired who she would contact for trees in medians along Spain and who would be responsible for maintenance. Rebecca provided pictures. As the trees are located adjacent to homes, Christina mentioned that the adjacent property owner would be responsible. Christina will provide the Board with a copy of the Street Tree and Sidewalk Ordinance. Zoning Division is responsible for checking into these types of issues. Zoning can be reached at 924-3850. They will inspect and notify the adjacent property owner if work needs to be completed.

Unfinished Business – There are currently vacancies in Districts 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6.

New Business – None

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

**Adjourn:** Mr. Myers adjourned the meeting at 2:15 PM.