

BALLOON FIESTA PARK COMMISSION

May 14, 2013

Draft Minutes

Meeting Discussion (Not a Quorum called to order 6:02 p.m.)

Ms. Baca took a moment to introduce the new Division Manager for Recreation Alex Kiska. Mr. Smith also announced and congratulated Ms. Rogers on being inducted into New Mexican Tourism Hall of Fame.

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Sandy Cohen, Dave Downey, Mark Haley, Dr. Steve Komadina, Elise Rogers, Barbara Baca, Justin Garcia, Frank Mezzancello

Members Absent: Gov. Victor Montoya, Rick Treadwell, Mark Johnston.

Others Present: Janie Jordan, Billy Gallegos, David Flores, Jeff Willis, Lee Gamelsky, Chris Green, Greg Rullman, Larry Caudill, Pres. Of the Wildflower Neighborhood Association, Chris Meyer, Shannon Jacques, Charles Aragon, and various supporters for event organizers.

6:05 p.m. Full Quorum, meeting called to Order- Mr. Mezzancello and Dr. Komadina arrived.

1. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA- Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve Moving Priority Updates up on the Agenda, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE APRIL MINUTES:

Mr. Wentworth motioned to accept the minutes, Ms. Rogers 2nd, passed unanimously.

3. PRIORITY PLAN UPDATE-Mr. Gamelsky began discussion referencing the summary program that is currently being vetted and reviewed by Parks & Recreation. He is hoping to present at the June commission meeting. He then addressed the receipt of emails and concerns that have been sent out and displayed a diagram to show the board the location and the placement of the pavilion. Parking would begin 600 feet (2 blocks) from the building and the building size would be a maximum of 18,000 square feet. Mr. Nordin asked how many people the building could hold if a show were to be held in facility, and Mr. Gamelsky confirmed it would fit approximately 1,200 people. He reviewed the road improvements to the park which would be constructed in phases. There will be designated parking areas, buses and emergency vehicle access. There was discussion regarding concerns about the parking location. Mr. Wentworth believes the location, in the master plan, is a poor location and parking would not be adequate. He believes the building should be built closer to the parking lot. He also referenced removing the eye, as it has been a hazard and problem and he is concerned about emergency access and just doesn't agree with the location. He feels that it is being put there for AIBF, a festival which is 10 days a year, but the needs of the other 350 days need to be addressed, to serve the public. Ms. Baca commented that feedback is important in working on design, as well as the importance of addressing parking, but one exception is the master plan was vetted,

and went through a lot of discussion, review, visioning first for several months, if location changed drastically there would have to be an amendment to the master plan. Ms. Baca's recommendation is to move forward and to continue to look at all the issues being brought up, but believes this was looked at long and hard by the commission, and was approved through EPC, to include many public meetings. Mr. Wentworth responded that he felt the master plan did not vet the location at all. He felt concepts were discussed rather than details. He stated that during the Master Plan processes, paper blocks used to represent the proposed building were moved around on a diagram of the Park and there was not real discussion about the exact placement of the building or discussion about traffic and public access. Mr. Gamelsky responded that weeks into months have been spent, and it was vetted clearly, and the building always came up in the same location. Ms. Rogers commented that discussing parking is essential, as nothing would be worse than constructing a building with no access to it. Ms. Rogers also stated she has always been in favor of the location of the building in the master plan. Mr. Gamelsky continued: First phase would start with 9000 square feet of heated space because of budget, as there is not enough money to complete the 18,000 square feet. Parking area will be identified in the ultimate build out as well. Mr. Gamelsky said they are in discussion with Parks & Recreation on possibly building the entire roof for the building, and underneath enclose heated space built incrementally as money becomes available. Maximum heated square footage is 18,000 for the pavilion per the master plan. Dr. Komadina pointed out that parking at other venues also have walking distance such as Pope Joy Hall, the Pit, and the Isotopes stadium, and the proposed parking isn't any further than any other venues in Albuquerque. Dr. Komadina also stated he liked the idea of 18,000 square covered feet, and likes where the proposed building is positioned. Mr. Mezzancello stated if the building is moved further north, it would triple the price due to many factors such as upward slope, plumbing lines. Mr. Wentworth feels the notes and information received have been vague and not as comprehensive as he would have liked to have seen. Mr. Wentworth hopes that other venues are looked at, and traffic is addressed, and there is a plan for all contingencies. He re-iterated that the eye has been a problem since it was built, as well as the transit drop off has been deemed too steep for City buses to make it up the hill. Mr. Garcia said he is in favor of location, and logistically it makes sense to him. Mr. Wentworth commented that there are city administrators who have moved these types of improvements as legacy projects, and they waste time as well as tax dollars which result in poor projects. Mr. Nordin agrees where the building is located, and commented that signage should be addressed to lesson confusion. In June Mr. Gamelsky will have a show-and-tell for the commission, if allowed, for an hour at the top of the agenda, in which Mr. Nordin agreed? Mr. Mezzancello inquired on what type of heat was going to be used for the pavilion, and Mr. Gamelsky confirmed that they are looking at Central Heating vs. Unit Heater as they are operational, and down the road and are an efficient heater. A Unit heater is a gas heater hung from ceiling such as a warehouse, and appearance is industrial looking, and sounding. An analogy used was refrigerator vs. evaporative cooling. Mr. Nordin asked if there is going to have card keys on the doors in which he highly recommends, as his building is consistently being re-keyed. Discussion had on type of doors and windows for the pavilion. Mr. Wentworth would like answers to his questions he has previously emailed presented in June as he feels they need to be addressed.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT- None

5. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Past Events–Kite Festival – 150 – no problems – 2014 Ms. Rice not classifying them as a “flying event”

Warrior Dash– 5000 + entries & spectators- Additional fee from parking - \$875.50 Additional fee from alcohol - \$1180.00

The event was a success; Ms. Rice liked the events parking organization, with no back up on to the roads. She will be encouraging future large events to use the same process. Minimal impact on park, repairs to park completed 2 weeks after event. Repairs remaining on pavement on lift off lane; grass – raking, seeding, sod and aeration was done on obstacle areas; D7 “mud pit” restored with an additional 24.2 tons of sand, one bollard broken. Last dumpster was not picked-up until 10 days after the event with no damage to grass. Only one minor injury reported by one of the participants during the event which entailed a cut to the head.

Mr. Nordin said he was impressed as he came by later that evening after event, and they were almost out. Mr. Downey was also pleased with their preparedness for the event of medical emergency. Ms. Rice said opening up San Diego was a big help tremendously, and confirmed that for big events they can open temporary. Ms. Rice will address opening permanently in a future date. Mr. Wentworth said Mr. Caudill, President of the Wildflower Neighborhood Association has concerns about permanently opening San Diego, and how it interfaces with Jefferson, and recommended the City speak with him before moving forward.

Kickball for Kids– 900 – smooth event

Future Events

Aura Music Festival- August 24, 2013- Mr. Meyer discussed details about how this venue is organized. His music genre is new and fast growing, which is electronic dance music. May be moving date to July as August 24, 2013 there is a conflict because of another event/concert the same night that attracts the same age group. He proposed his venue go from 2:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. and discussion had on sound in which Mr. Meyers affirmed that the neighborhood would not hear anything. Mr. Nordin said they hosted this event with over 2000 people, and had no problems. Mr. Wentworth said he couldn't support as it is proposed until 1:00a.m., and the neighborhood wouldn't stand for it, as this would set a terrible precedence for other events. He recommended to Mr. Meyers start earlier and end earlier in order to get approved. Mr. Cohen said there needs to be a uniform rule so this doesn't raise problems in the future. Discussion had on lighting, and the lack of. Mr. Wentworth motioned to denying the event unless time goes to 10pm, Mr. Mezzancello 2nd. Ms. Baca said there are several successful events for young adults that have been held in the park, and asked Mr. Meyers if he was willing to change the close time to 10p.m. Mr. Meyers felt that his event would not have success by shutting down at 10pm. Discussion held on the proposed beer garden being open for the 11 hour event. Mr. Nordin called for a vote to deny the event, and event was denied. Ms. Rogers said she is willing to entertain another alternative. Dr. Komadina motioned to approve event 2p.m -10:00p.m, Ms. Baca 2nd,

passed unanimously thus giving Ms. Rice the ability to work with him if he is willing to accept the time.

Muddy Buddy Dash Run- August 17 & 18, 2013- Shannon Jaquez working to support local organization such as NM Horse Rescue, and APS Athletics. Ms. Jaquez reviewed the various avenues of media to promote her event, and details of each day's events. They will have entertainment for the spectators as well as participants during the entire day. Mr. Willis with AMAFCA said he will need a map with all the obstacles laid out before his approval will be given, and will not approve any excavation along the channel. Mr. Mezzanello motioned to approve, Mark Haley 2nd, passed unanimously. Mr. Wentworth voiced his approval, and liked that it was sponsored by local people supporting local community groups. Discussion held on the discount regarding whether discount is given the 1st or the 2nd year.

Matanza and Chili Cook Off -November 9-10, 2013- Mr. Aragon presented his event. Pigs will be processed at a USDA facility, and brought to the event. He wants to host the first Albuquerque Matanza c & Chili cook off competition. YDI All-Access Foundation to benefit from this event. He will have various events to include pig wrestling, and would like to have a beer garden. Mr. Nordin asked if PETA has given him any issues with this event, and Mr. Aragon said they have not had any problems, and are working with USDA, FDA to make sure this doesn't happen. He will also make sure the pigs being wrestled are checked. Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

Wine Festival-May 25-27, 2013- Comments made that this event previously had issues, but in conclusion Mr. Nordin pointed out the improvements that have been made. Mr. Mezzanello motioned to approve, Ms. Baca 2nd, passed unanimously.

Black Light Run-August 31, 2013- This event brought to the board because of the size of the event which is 5,000 participants, and is another color run. Ms. Rogers motioned to approve, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

Run or Dye 5K-November 16, 2013- Color run, estimating 7,000 people. Mr. Wentworth asked Ms. Rice if her cut off for commission approval is 750, Ms. Rice believed it was 1,500. Mr. Nordin said he believes it is 750 as well. Ms. Hubley with the Balloon Museum is contacted for these types of events so she is aware of what is going on. Mr. Garcia motioned to approve, Mr. Wentworth 2nd, passed unanimously. Mr. Mezzanello asked Ms. Rice to work with AMAFCA as it references their property.

Freedom 4th Event-July 4, 2013- Mr. Caudill, President of the Wildflower Neighborhood Association commented that 3 years ago this Freedom 4th Event, Wildflower Park was a cesspool with defecation, and other variables, and wants the board to address port-a- potties, and would like the presence of fire fighters to address illegal fireworks. He does agree it has been improving over the years. Police and fire fighters presence in the neighborhood is appreciated. Mr. Nordin said there is no vote on this event, it moves forward. But information will be forwarded to appropriate parties. Ms. Baca said she would take the information and present to organizers.

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

• Department of Municipal Development

Opening of San Diego-Decision made to open the street temporarily for large events with 3 stop signs provided by event organizers. Mr. Caudill said there was a handshake agreement when the City was going purchase the Balloon Park to not open the road to San Diego. There is neighborhood concern in regards to heavy truck traffic as well as speeders. He is ok with opening for large events only. Mr. Nordin said if they look to open in a permanent basis he will invite him back, as right now we are just looking at temporarily opening for large events.

• **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**-Mr. Smith hoping to make improvements to gate 12, slope improvement, as well as improve property on Edith by applying for permit to put a bridge across the North Division Channel. He is aware he will need to talk to AMAFCA regarding a footbridge across the North AMAFCA Diversion Channel.

• **Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum**

i. **Past Events**-Classic Car Show-2500 people

Renaissance Fair-2000 people

American Girl book signing-500people which the girl is Sage Copeland of Albuquerque.

All the events above have been heavily attended. Museum is experiencing its “busy season” with group tours, and school tours.

ii. **Upcoming events**

Folk Music Festival

Blues at the “Blueseum” June 1 & 2

Albuquerque Concert Band Series June- August

New Theater in Museum is moving forward

• **Environmental Health Department**

i. Digging on Nazareth Coronado, will be putting in a passive venting system. Mr. Gallegos to talk to Mr. Smith in regards to the transformer offline. Mr. Wentworth inquired if there had been any further break in's, Mr. Gallegos confirmed no more break in's.

• **Parks & Recreation**

i. **Telecommunications Tower update**- No update

ii. **Digital Sign update**-Struggling on getting a price on a cord down the side so Ms. Rice will not have to climb. She is hoping they complete this within the next month. Mr. Wentworth asked what has happened to recognizing Eastdale world champions. Ms. Rice would like to see Fiesta on the Green on the blank panel instead, and this is why she hadn't talked to Eastdale. Mr. Wentworth confirmed that Eastdale already has a section that they could utilize on the sign. Ms. Kiska would like to see a more permanent sign on Alameda referencing the Fiesta on the Green as there is nothing currently. Mr. Komadina said a sign on the fence on the fields like a banner

to recognize would be ideal for the Little League. Hopefully they will not be the only World Champs that ever occur. Mr. Nordin said this was voted last meeting, so there needs to be a motion to not do what was voted last. Mr. Komadina motioned to take blank spot on permanent sign and use it temporary for Fiesta on the Green, and encourage the Little League to put a permanent sign on the fencing of the fields to commemorate the championship, Barbara 2nd, passed unanimously.

iii. Income and expenses since our last meeting- Income from rentals - \$6675.00. Mr. Nordin inquired what the entire amount of monies in the account as of the last six months. Ms. Rice said the numbers reported are for the month, and would have to get back with him on the dollar amount.

iv. Funding update / GO Bond v. Signage for Park- Mr. Nordin stated that there are no really good signs for the park. Ms. Kiska agreed we need better signs at the park.

Events-Mr. Nordin brought up a helicopter event that was previously approved at an earlier meeting. He stated he had been contacted about another helicopter event and was asked to hold a special meeting for expedited approval. He called 3-4 people in the neighborhood and had extensive push back. These helicopters were Black Hawk's, and was informed they make a much louder sound. The Helicopter was to hover over park for 45 minutes. He did not bring this forward as he didn't feel he should pick 3 people, and just denied the event as he didn't feel it was right thing to do. He did invite them to talk to the entire group. (Army guard) Mr. Nordin said they were not happy he denied the event. Ms. Rice understood as it will cost them more money to go out. Mr. Mezzancello and Mr. Wentworth both pointed out that there many other locations that could be used for the training.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- **Annual Report**– Mr. Nordin asked Ms. Rice to provide how much money we have in account.
- **RFI - RFP**– On hold
- **How to recognize past Board / Commission members**
- **Master Plan Update**

8. NEW BUSINESS-None

7:58 p.m. Mr. Mezzancello motioned to adjourn, Ms. Rogers 2nd, passed unanimously

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – June 11, 2013