

METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of January 13, 2009

Location: Parks and Recreation Admin Building A, 1801 Fourth Street

Members Present: Sandra P. Richardson, Chair; Donald H. Couchman, Vice Chair; William Baldwin; Becky Lee; Joe M. Montano; Orlando Sedillo; Jerry Worrall

Members Absent/Excused: Robert W. Day; Carolyn Stewart

City Staff Present: Jay Lee Evans, PRD-Acting Director; Colleen K. Frenz, PRD- Acting Deputy Director; Rebecca Wardlaw, Legal; Malia Tafoya—Board Secretary

Visitors: Theresa Baca, DMD; Laura Gottlieb, Public Health Advisor Liaison; Bill Nordin, Balloon Fiesta Park Board Liaison; Cliff Richardson, Cherry Hills

Call to Order: Chair Richardson called the meeting to order at 4:00pm.

Approval of Today's Agenda: Member Worrall moved approval, Member Sedillo seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Approval of December Minutes: Member Montano moved approval, Member Worrall seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: Visitors and guests listed above.

Announcements: Chair: None

General Public Testimony: None

Reports: Colleen Frenz distributed a 30-60-90 day report for Outdoor Recreation, and provided a PRD report with highlights of other events: *ACTION ITEM:* Jerry Worrell requested 30-60-90 day report thru email to all Board Members.

- The Balloon Fiesta Park will host Affinity RV Rally in April. Participants range from 2500 to 4000 RVs.
- Park Management Division will provide the clean-up prior to and after the MLK, Jr. Parade.
- On 29 & 30 Jan., Think Trees Conference, a pro urban foresting program, will take place. *ACTION ITEM:* Board requested information on the location of the Think Trees Conference.
- Winter Median Programs under construction: Broadway; Ladera; Taylor Ranch; Ventura—members asked to have summaries forwarded.

ACTION ITEM: Chair Richardson asked that Ms. Frenz send to Malia for distribution to the Members.

- Soccer Practice will begin 2 Feb.; in order to achieve water savings, watering will take place later.
- Urban Forestry—an Educational-Artistic Poster depicting the best trees for ABQ. Members and visitors had questions:
 - 1) Are these available to landscapers? A) Yes.
 - 2) Will these be made available to APS (Intermediate Elementary & Mid School) as part of the public education & science curriculum? A) APS would be involved.
 - 3) On the West side, as part of a development design plan with SunCal, some trees are “spelled out” so do those selected for the Poster agree? A) Chair-EPC Planners include in their staff reports; Visitor-Council passed an ordinance articulating trees & shrubs that were permitted.
- List of Activities registration are scheduled for Feb. & Mar. Dr. Gottlieb asked for that information to be forwarded to her. *ACTION ITEM:* The Chair requested that this information be provided to Malia for distribution to Dr. Gottlieb as well as all Board members.
- Federal Virginia A. Baker Act involves safety drains for all public pools. The purpose of the Act is to provide safety drains in public pools to prevent small children being sucked to the drain. PRD sent a letter of intent to comply as the actual drains have a manufacturing backlog. In the meantime, the letter allows the city to use pools with the old drains until drains become available. An update and analysis was requested at a subsequent meeting. *ACTION ITEM:* Orlando Sedillo requested bios on Tomas Leclerc and Leonard Berg.

Balloon Fiesta Park Board Report - Bill Nordin: The issue of two large events involving RV's and the impact on the Park was reported. Another item was the AMAFCA Clean Out to filter trash from entering the Rio Grande. Construction will begin in January and, per Theresa Baca, will be coordinated with DMD's Bike Trail project.

Public Health Liaison Report - Dr. Laura Gottlieb: Prescription Trails reported several small (\$5K to \$10K) grants for publishing the much-in-demand booklets. Other parks are being added to the project. The request is that the Board assists in finding potential private sponsors for the different Parks to help with maintaining these Prescription Trails.

DMD - Trails and Bikeways report - Theresa Baca: Distributed a handout regarding 2009 Active Trail Projects, and provided a status update/review of the several trails and bikeway in the East-West alignment. Estimated bids for a project were higher than actual bids received Tuesday 13 Jan. due to significant drop in material prices. Bids were more than \$500,000 lower than expected.

Sub-Committee: Ditches with Trails - Member Sedillo reported that Senator Dede Feldman would be sponsoring a new bill for the Ditches w/Trails to provide funding and to legislation for a MRGCB partnership designating COA Open Space Mgmt. as the agency for maintenance. This report is one year after the Feb. '08 sub-committee meeting recommending that Member Sedillo bring its position to the NM State Parks Board for which he is the Chair. At the time, as a result of the meeting, sub-committee Member Richardson was asked to provide that week the letter outlining these specifics.

Members' Roundtable:

Member Lee - Reported that Tennis Programs would be published. She will make these available to Dr. Gottlieb for distribution.

Member Worrall - Reported that he's been in meetings with several elected state and local officials regarding the extensive (15) ponds through his neighborhood.

Member Baldwin - Reported that a survey has been completed involving a 2 acre park the land of which is to be purchased from 4-Hills Country Club.

Member Sedillo - Reported his involvement with Ditches with Trails.

Unfinished Business: Dist. 3 and 5 are in need of potential board members.

New Business: Quintessence NA Issue: Director Evans provided an overview of the very complex issue with roots more than 10 years ago that involves 5 spot landscaped areas formally maintained by the developer. His report included a summary of the year-long process that is getting closer to resolution. Chair Richardson has kept the Quintessence Officer apprised and per the Director's offer, recommended that Quintessence's officer contact him directly if he has any questions. Chair Richardson has been informed that the clean up was happening.

Election: Jerry Worrall nominated Don Couchman as Chair, Sandra Richardson Seconded; Joe Montano nominated Sandra Richardson as Vice Chair, Jerry Worrall Seconded, the board unanimously approved. As required by ordinance, the annual MPRAB Resolution was passed unanimously, keeping the same meeting day, time and location, allowing the Dec. meeting to be held at Open Space Visitors' Center.

Next meeting February 10th, 2009, 4:00pm to 6:00 pm

Adjourn: Member Sedillo moved to adjourn, Chair Richardson seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.