

METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of October 12, 2010

Location: North Domingo Baca Park, Fire Station #20, 7520 Corona NE

Members Present: Gerald C. Worrall, Chair; Richard Rivas, Vice-Chair; Amy Lahti

Members Absent: Becky Lee; Robert Day

City Staff Present: Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Christina Sandoval, Senior Planner, Parks and Recreation Department; David Flores, Principal Project Coordinator, Parks and Recreation Department; Rick Vernon, Range Master, Park and Recreation Department; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

Visitors: Diana Trujeque, Policy Analyst for Council District 4; Carmen Garcia, Nominee for Appointment to District 7; Rex Foutz, Public

Call to Order: Chair Gerald Worrall called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM.

Approval of Today's Agenda: Chair Gerald Worrall requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Member Amy Lahti moved approval; Vice-Chair Richard Rivas seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Approval of September 2010 Minutes: Vice-Chair Richard Rivas moved approval; Member Amy Lahti seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

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

Announcements: Chair Worrall welcomed new Board Member, Amy Lahti. He stated that he had received an email from Becky Lee notifying the Board of her intent to resign. He inquired on the status of appointments to the Board. Barbara stated that she has been in close contact with the Mayor's Office and they are in the process of submitting some recommendations to Council. She will keep Mr. Worrall posted on the status.

General Public Testimony:

- Mr. Foutz inquired about the cost for developing a park and the process for getting a park developed. Christina explained the process and indicated that it costs approximately \$300,000-\$350,000 per acre to develop a new park. Due to the economy, we are not receiving as much money for park development as we have in the past. Mr. Worrall also discussed how parks have been developed in his area with many entities coming together.

Reports:

- Shooting Range Park Range Master, Rick Vernon provided a brief history of the park which opened in October 1982. They train local law enforcement and provide a safe affordable place for public recreational shooting. There were approximately 62,000 participants at the park last year. Rick distributed copies of a letter from the Citizens Advisory Board recommending a small fee increase. This letter was prepared in June 2010, but has not been submitted to the Administration. Board member Amy Lahti moved and Mr. Rivas seconded her motion to prepare a letter of support from the Board to be submitted to the Administration along with the letter from the Citizens Advisory Board

recommending the fee increase. This fee increase would result in approximately \$40,000 additional revenue annually if participation remains the same as last year. Mr. Worrall mentioned that the City of Albuquerque also owns the impact area around the park so there is no nuisance to the surrounding neighbors. This is one of 3 or 4 publicly owned shooting ranges in the nation.

- Diana Trujeque, City Council District 4 Policy Analyst for Brad Winter was in attendance. She expressed her appreciation to the Parks and Recreation Department for assistance with issues as they arise in District 4. She indicated that repairs are being made to the playground equipment at Sister Cities and Heritage Hills Parks. She also mentioned that North Domingo Baca is an ongoing project. She will inform Councilor Winter that we would like his recommendation for an appointment to the Board for District 4.
- Parks and Recreation Department Principal Project Coordinator, David Flores, provided a master plan handout (attached) for North Domingo Baca Park and a presentation on the progress that is being made in phases at the park. He stated that the grass fields should be seeded by next summer 2011. The fields will require one full growing season before teams can play on the grass.
- Parks and Recreation Department Director, Barbara Baca announced that the Balloon Fiesta event was very successful. Parks Management Division staff is doing recovery work at the park. The Cooperage was on contract to run the restaurant at the park during the event. A Recreation Manager has been hired. Kristy Diaz-Trahan will begin her position on October 25, 2010. Barbara feels this is a very important position within the department. Mr. Rivas mentioned the impressive article in today's Journal concerning the bike parking service offered during the Balloon Fiesta.
- Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative - Bill Nordin was excused from this months meeting.

Sub-Committee Reports – None.

Members Roundtable – Mr. Worrall discussed the Route 66 Map and Guide and also mentioned his attendance at district coalition and SWAN meetings. Mr. Rivas mentioned that he has also attended SWAN meetings, as well as West Central Redevelopment Group meetings. Amy Lahti, our newest member, provided a quick introduction of herself to all in attendance. Carmen Garcia, nominee for District 7, mentioned that she is waiting to be officially appointed, although she has been attending meetings since April. She inquired about an AMAFCA project at Montgomery Park. Barbara provided information on what is being done in this area.

Unfinished Business: Positions for Districts 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and one At-large position remain vacant.

New Business: None.

The next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, November 9, 2010, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, at the Balloon Museum.

Adjourn: Chair Worrall adjourned the meeting at 4:40 PM.