

BALLOON FIESTA PARK COMMISSION

April 9, 2013

Minutes

Meeting Discussion (Not a Quorum) called to order 6:04 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Sandy Cohen, Dave Downey, Mark Haley, Mark Johnston, Dr. Steve Komadina, Elise Rogers.

Members Absent: Barbara Baca, Justin Garcia, Frank Mezzancello, Gov. Victor Montoya, Rick Treadwell.

Others Present: Janie Jordan, Billy Gallegos, David Flores, Jeff Willis, Lee Gamelsky, Chris Green, Slade Bogle, Nikki Burdenschaw, Larry Koren, and others from Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department.

1. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA-None

3. PUBLIC COMMENT-

4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS-Event Calendar

Past Events—Color Mob- March 30- Ms. Rice explained that after this event the bathrooms were pretty dirty because of the dye that rubbed off people. Future color runs, she will not open field bathrooms, and the event organizers will have to provide the additional port-a-potties. Color on the ground in a few areas was difficult to take off. They had to power wash those sections. The event had monies taken from the damage deposit as our staff had to go out and remove further as those spots still had remnants. Wedding that was held last weekend had issues with the t-boxes, so they had to move t-boxes 20 yards to accommodate. Ms Rice will add to application that this is a golf course, golf training center, and will be open during their events so it is clear to those that are renting the facility.

6:08 p.m. Full Quorum, meeting called to order- Dr. Komadina arrived

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE MARCH MINUTES:

Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve minutes with his changes, Mr. Johnston 2nd, passed unanimously.

Future Events— Mr. Nordin in previous conversation recommended to Ms. Rice that a standard form be created with the standard information about each of the future events that she is presenting to the board so each board member could review and ask questions if necessary as she presents. Ms. Rice provided board an Event Summary Sheet with the information of the upcoming events as Mr. Nordin recommended.

Mr. Nordin reminded the board about the Open Meetings Act Training Sessions taking place Tuesday, May 21 and Thursday, June 20, 2013. He recommended this training to those that would like to attend. He attended last years meeting, and found it informative, approximately one hour long. Mr. Wentworth offered an additional resource, NMFOG (New Mexico Foundation for Open Government) to the commissioners, www.nmfog.org. The governor signed, and approved a change to the Open Meetings Act last week. Currently there is 24 hour notice for meeting and the agenda, starting in July there will be a 72 hour required notice.

Celtic Festival Beer Garden- (re-occurring event) Ms. Rice presented this event to the board because there will be over 2000 people in attendance, and they would like to expand their beer garden. She reviewed how they will conduct the event with the board. The event would separate children from adults by wrist bands. Ms. Rice would like to give this event a try, and gave this her support. Mr. Nordin inquired about the 3 year agreement of \$3,217.00 in fees, and expressed concerned that the board was looking into increasing fees in future. Mr. Wentworth voiced his concern that we would be locked into these prices, as these type events change things and terms from the original agreement and he would not endorse. Mr. Wentworth would like to not accept any multi year agreements. Ms. Rice acknowledged that this is only locking in the price for the 3 years. Mr. Wentworth pointed out that we could loose good money by locking this price as bigger events may come. Discussion had by the board on multi year contracts. Mr. Wentworth motion to approve the one year with the expanded parameters after goes through all the City requirements. Mark Haley 2nd, motion passed with Mr. Wentworth apposing. Ms. Rogers would like to discuss and make a decision on whether multi year agreements will work for the Park. Mr. Downey thinks we may need to have multi year agreements to attract bigger venues. Ms. Rogers would be ok with multi year based on the event, or maybe do one year, and use as a barometer. Mr. Wentworth felt that multi years should be handled case by case basis and brought to the board. Mr. Nordin feels that the board should give this some thought, and discuss again next month. Mr. Gallegos brought up soccer and asked how that is handled, if was a multi-year contract? Mr. Nordin said that City does yearly contract for them as it is tied to the insurance.

Hoop It Up- Ms Rice presented to the board because the event will have the following: Flag football, beer garden, music, and is expanded to have fireworks, and of course basketball. Ms. Burdenschaw with Hoop it Up presented to board how the event is to be set up, and reviewed details of the event. Western Enterprises will handle the fireworks. Landmark will handle security and 2 Bernalillo County Sheriff Officers will be provided for the event as well. Ms. Burdenschaw expressed that they have never had a problem, and their event has grown over the years and would like to have at the Balloon Fiesta as it would accommodate the amount of people they are anticipating. Mr. Wentworth said biggest problem the neighborhood has is the fireworks, and he thinks this will be a wonderful event and suggest killing the fireworks. He thinks it would be stupid to have fireworks at the park as there are various fire restrictions throughout Bernalillo County. Ms. Burdenschaw said the fireworks would last approximately 5 minutes. Mr. Wentworth said the problem is it is accumulative for different events, and it is frustrating the neighborhood.

Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve without fireworks. There was no motion to 2nd. Ms. Rogers motioned to approve as presented, Mr. Haley 2nd, passed, with Mr. Wentworth opposing. Ms. Rogers would like to be consistent with what we do and have done with other events.

Fight with Flight for Cancer Awareness- Mr. Slade Bogle came to present his event to the board, and answer questions regarding the event which is to hold a balloon rally along with car show. Mr. Bogle said he is no longer looking at having a beer garden, as it doesn't fit the concept of the event. Music to consist of one individual (contestant from "The Voice,") and is going to sing the American Anthem, and possibly a few more songs. Mr. Komadina inquired about the balloons. Mr. Bogle said Friday's event will begin with a balloon glow. He will have several media agencies at this event to advertise and promote in getting the word out. Saturday morning will consist of balloon rides, and a car show. Weather permitting tethered rides, event rides for those interested. Event will finish up at 4pm and they will be out by Sat. Evening. Ms. Jordan asked how many balloons are anticipated to attend, Mr. Bogle is hopeful to have around 100 balloons. Mr. Bogle re-iterated that he was able to obtain 48 balloons for his Sandy Hook Memorial Event in less than 5 days. Ms. Rice is only charging \$700.00 fee for the car show, and not charging for the North launch field, as she is treating it as a ballooning event as all monies from the pilots' entry fee are going to the American Cancer Society. Mr. Wentworth asked Ms. Rice what is normally charged for a non-profit. Ms. Rice said \$2,500.00 a day. Mr. Nordin thinks this may violate the anti-donation clause. Discussion on fees and discounts regarding non-profit events. Mr. Wentworth asked Mr. Bogle how much of what he will be making is to be donated to the Cancer Society after administrative costs. Mr. Bogle stated that 25% of his net profit will be going to the American Cancer Society. Mr. Wentworth feels we should postpone till we find out about the anti donation clause as it is a grey area. Discussion on what price should be charged regarding discount for non-profit rather than current pricing of \$700. Mr. Nordin offered him to pay the regular cost of \$1200 – 15% for first time discount \$1020.00 and event would get approved immediately verses waiting a month to find out about the discount and if will be approved. Mr. Komadina motioned to approve with fee of \$1020, Mr. Johnston 2nd, passed unanimously.

Sheriffs Department Helicopter Training-Deputy Koren presented in behalf of the Bernalillo Sheriff department. He reviewed their training process for the board. Reason why the Sheriff's Department like the Balloon Fiesta is the location on the outskirts of Albuquerque, elevation, open airspace, lack of power lines, and is located by the Rio Grande. The point of this training is communication between the pilot and those on the ground. They clarified they do not fly over any occupied buildings. The Bosque is an uncontrolled environment as people walk within its vicinity so they do not conduct training there. Having their training at the park would minimize cost to Bernalillo County. Mr. Wentworth asked if they can move to cement area so wouldn't disrupt soccer players or noise to community. Mr. Koren said they would use 4 hour blocks of time, with only 2 hour flight time. Bernalillo Sheriff's Department wants to make this training as safe as possible. Mr. Nordin addressed the concern of damage to the grass. Mr. Koren explained it would shoot out as a mist, and they would not drop in the same spot. They can avoid the drops on grass if requested. The Rio Grande does not have too

much water, so they may bring water in through a pumpkin (water tank). Mr. Wentworth said he voted against this the 1st time, and would like the noise problem to be addressed as the neighborhood associations around the park are concerned with this. Mr. Koren would be willing to discuss concern, and discussion was held with the board. Mr. Koren said training would be mid day, as most are at work; this is to minimize disruption as much as possible. He also said they would work with the community to accommodate them as much as possible. Ms Rogers said if neighborhood is notified of training and what is taking place it may put the neighborhood at ease, knowing what is going on in their area. Mr. Wentworth asked them to not fly over certain areas and he will endorse as he believes in their training. Mr. Koren stated these trainings help them to be more efficient and ready for fire season. Bernalillo County is the only agency with a helicopter in the area, as others are contracted. Dr. Komadina motioned to approve the use of the field. Mr. Haley 2nd passed unanimously. Ms. Rogers said she has observed training in another location, and did not find annoying as she witnessed the families coming out to see them do drops with their kids. Mr. Wentworth asked for a gentleman agreement to be notified when they will be doing training, so there is clear communication with the neighborhoods.

Warrior Dash– Update

Mr. Nordin reviewed what areas of the field will be used. Pricing went up as they will be using more of the field. They also expanded days of the setup, and they will be charged for these changes.

Kickball for Kids-May 4-Repeat event- 600-900 participants, this year they are adding a beer garden and that is why Ms. Rice is presenting before board. Mr. Wentworth asked who it was benefiting, Ms. Rice confirmed; ABQ 2030 Club, Play works, and Shop for Kids which are all non-profit. Mr. Haley motioned to approve, Mr. Downey 2nd, passed unanimously.

5. OPEN MEETING ACT– Changes and updates

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

·**Department of Municipal Development**-Ms. Jordan expressed the need of getting San Diego road opened as it is blocked. With all of the events coming through, need more stop signs, and the road opened up. Mr. Wentworth said board voted to open the road previously. Ms. Rice said she called DMD and is looking into it. Mr. Nordin requested DMD come in next month and discuss and the members all agreed.

·**Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**

·**Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum**

i.**Past Events**-The museum had a huge turnout during “Spring Break Family Day” in mid-March. Approximately 1,000 people in attendance. Crowds were reminiscent of Fiesta.

ii. **Upcoming events**-The new orientation theater will be going into the space in the building where the museum collections are now held. The collections will be going to the museum annex storage facility. It was determined that the storage area within the museum is the best space to put a theater.

Tether Balloon Ride-The City of Albuquerque has now decided that a contract—rather than a RFP— is appropriate to do the long-planned tethered balloon ride. Mr. Cohen said they are now pursuing this, via contract (a less cumbersome procedure than the RFP). Mr. Cohen is hoping to be done by Balloon Fiesta. Mr. Wentworth asked to describe ride as if it is helium, who is the vendor. Mr. Cohen said it is Balloons over the Rainbow, a Subsidiary of World Balloon, and thinks it will be helium, but is uncertain at this time. Mr. Cohen described it as an amusement park Ride that would go up and down, and geared for children. Land will be leased to proprietor. People would have to by a ticket to museum \$3.00 and \$20 for ride. Mr. Cohen said not making a whole lot of money but will bring more people out to the museum. The museum education department is trying to conceive of ideas for a balloon-themed playground to be placed in the “children’s entertainment” section of the tribute area. Staff is looking at options including possible grants for the project. Concert Band will be performing at the Balloon Museum this summer. In addition Lauren McGovern “stories in the night sky” educational program will generate big crowds. Mr. Wentworth commented that these events previously have been handled very well, as there were no complaints by the neighborhoods, and that they were very good events.

•**Environmental Health Department**- No Updates

•**Parks & Recreation**-

i. **Telecommunications Tower update**

ii. **Digital Sign update**—Ms. Rice said cost for repair and new software for the sign ranges from \$866, \$17,548.00. To get sign running again minimum cost \$866.07. The radio control is what would make the price jump dramatically. Mr. Wentworth feels they can do this repair with a retrofit with usb. Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve \$1,500 to fix sign, Ms. Rogers 2nd passed unanimously. Ms. Jordan asked when the Eastdale World champions going to be recognized on the sign. Mr. Nordin suggested if there is an open panel, why not give the little league dimensions and allow them to put up their sign. Mr. Wentworth motioned to pass, Mr. Johnston 2nd, passed unanimously.

iii. **Income since last meeting**- \$8026.00

iv. **Funding update / GO Bond**-Meeting held regarding “Programming” phase on April 5, 2013. Mr. Green with Consensus Planning reviewed items that were discussed at the Program meeting regarding the Pilots’ Landing/Welcome Center Building. They are looking to submit the site plan for building permit for approximately 2-3 acre area, per master plan that was just approved. Looking to submit site plan in July for EPC a September hearing. They are scheduling this project to be completed for Balloon Fiesta

2014. Handout was provided as well as emailed to the board. Mr. Nordin asked how many people in attendance for the “Programming Phase” meeting, other than City employees. Mr. Green said there were 15. Mr. Wentworth wanted to point out that there were only 2 private entities. Mr. Green said that the purpose of the meeting is to find out the functions, and the activities to be held at the pavilion. He welcomed any thoughts or ideas, and has reached out by email requesting this information. Ms. Rogers stated it would look nice to have a New Mexican look vs. metal building. Mr. Green reviewed more of the ideas that were brought up at the meeting. Mr. Nordin asked when Consensus would have the finished product for boards vote in order to keep their timeline for the project. Mr. Green confirmed that June they would be able to provide to this to the board. Mr. Nordin said the commission can hear them in June right after minutes. Mr. Nordin asked Mr. Green if they could review minutes from a few months ago regarding discussion of the building. Mr. Wentworth brought up that there are vendors that specialize in these types of buildings throughout the U.S., and that communication with these companies might benefit. Maybe talking to Expo, or Manuel Lujan and see how these places function and handle their events or any other facet that might help us in the development. Mr. Wentworth asked if they had done these things, and Mr. Green said they are working on that currently. Mr. Cook described this building as a signature not a shack. Mr. Nordin said that he was shocked with he learned about Manuel Lujan Building, regarding vendors requiring as much as 30 to 50 amps of power, and was blown away by that need.

v. Signage for park

vi. Gate key email list cleanup– new system is well accepted

7. PRIORITY PLAN UPDATE–Phase 7 programming discussion

8. MASTER PLAN UPDATE-Approved!! Copies provided to the commission and staff.

9. OLD BUSINESS:

- Annual Report**– continue discussion
- Copies of the 2004-07 Operations and Management Report
- RFI - RFP**– On hold
- How to recognize past Board / Commission members**

10. NEW BUSINESS

Ms Rogers motioned to adjourn, Dr. Komadina 2nd, passed unanimously.