



**City of Albuquerque
Department of Arts and Culture**

**ABQ BioPark Advisory Group
MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 4:00 - 5:30 pm

ABQ BioPark Zoo – Zoo Library

Members Present:

Colin Barnett

Jeremiah Gwin

Laura Harris

Rachel Hawkins

Angela Alderete

Bruce Hinrichs

Kristina Chong

Fred Whiteman - Jennings

Jon Sanchez

Karl Horak

Tim McBride

Staff Present:

Brandon Gibson

Marina Tafoya

I. Call to Order –

II. Approval of Agenda – approved

III. Approval of the Minutes from August, 2023 meeting - approved

IV. Public Comment

- Brandon: working on facility plan, working on graphics waiting for GLRD.
Exciting stuff to come! Will have dedicating landing event for public.

V. Discussions and Presentations

- Angela: Will online option always be available? Yes.

A. Quarterly Advisory Board meeting schedule?

VI. Push back Jan 2nd meeting to a week after due to Holiday. All voted yes.

VII. Current/Old Business

A. Subcommittee Reports and Discussion

a. Bylaws Subcommittee

- Tim had correspondence to change verbiage for advisory board members. Do not only have to be a zoologist, botanist, etc.

b. Annual Report Subcommittee

- Karl will update after getting this meetings minutes. Add ~cutesy~ graphics.

c. Public Outreach Subcommittee

- Jon & Laura: will need to develop new chair, Jon on way out. Need updates on facility plan, some ideas were already included in plan. Want to take a look and offer support. Possibly want Canopy Data Info. Combine with guest experience.

d. Guest Experience Subcommittee – combined w/ Public Outreach

e. *Facility*/GRT Subcommittee

- Bruce: Asia opening, yay!

VIII. Announcements/Staff Updates

A. Board Chair Announcements – District 2 seat filled (Fred), along with District

7. District 6 is vacant.

- B. Board Announcements - none
- C. Project Updates (BioPark staff) – Asia opening, largest 4.5 acre increase at BioPark in 25 years. Largest expansion of zoos since 1927. Launched Tessitura, technologically advanced, helping reporting. Shout out Allyson. Heritage farm opening (hopefully) in March 2024, along with Australia phase
 - 1. Feedback and funds for Tingley.
- IX. New Business – Old orangutan area will be used for Africa renovation. Siamang will come back to old exhibit.
- X. Next Regular Meeting – January 9th, 2024
- XI. Adjourn – moved to adjourn Karl, 2nd by Laura.