



**City of Albuquerque
Department of Arts & Culture**

**ABQ BioPark Advisory Group
MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, August 2, 2022
In Person / Zoom**

Members present:

Jeremiah Gwin
Colin Barnett
Angela Alderete
Christina B. Walker
Bruce Hinrichs
Kristina Chongsiriwatana
Karl Horak
Jeanette Temer Baca
Laura Harris
Jon Sanchez

Members not present:

Timothy McBride

Staff present:

Stephanie Stowell
Jourdan Vallejos
Bob Lee

Guests:

Rachel Hawkins – potential future board member
Julie Miller Rugg – Director NMBPS

I. Call to Order – 4:06 PM

II. Approval of Agenda –

1. ROL to Run for the Zoo in the New Business
 - a. Move to approve from J. Baca, Second from K. Chongsiriwatana, All in favor

III. Approval of the Minutes

1. Boomalli (sp) in announcements B2
2. Correct Christina Walker's name in attendance
3. Move to approve from B. Hinrich, Second from K. Horak, All in favor

IV. Public Comments

1. One member of the public, Rachel Hawkins. Will hopefully fill vacant spot in the near future
2. No public comment

V. Current / Old Business

1. Subcommittee Reports and Discussions
 - a. Bylaws Subcommittee
 1. Ordinance update – C. Walker
 2. Discussion for feedback on language to reflect our board
 - a. Need to add NMBPS membership language
 - b. Need to add 'members at large'
 - c. K. Chong is not a city resident – need to confirm if this is a requirement
 - d. Add language with broad terms that reflect the opportunity/purpose of joining the advisory board
 - b. Annual Report Subcommittee – K. Horak
 1. Few more months before we need to start next report
 2. K. Horak term expires around the time the report needs to start
 3. Need to look for replacement
 - c. Public Outreach Subcommittee – L. Harris
 1. Meeting this week, Thursday
 2. Will present at next meeting
 - d. Guest Experience Subcommittee – J. Gwin
 1. Looking for opportunity to generate new ideas
 - a. Wish to review BioPark website for improvements
 - b. Visit BioPark regularly for fresh perspective
 - i. Keeping Strategic Plan in mind
 2. Hope to meet in August/September. Will bring to Allyson Zahm and Stephanie Stowell when confirmed.
 - e. Master Plan GRT Subcommittee – B. Hinrichs
 1. Spoke to BioPark and NMBPS leadership about bulletins for the Master Plan on the website with regular updates.
 - a. Spoke to Stephanie and Julie about a landing page on the websites for Master Plan specific updates (progress reports and stories)

- b. Branding strategy would be available on website and in person on projects
 - c. Hope to launch date for Fall
 - 2. BPMPLG framework for feedback on GRT feedback
 - a. Framework for feedback on GRT allocations
 - b. Updates either quarterly or semiannually report would be distributed to the subcommittee
 - c. Abbreviated form posted to the website
 - d. Not yet established how feedback from public and subcommittee will be integrated into the system
 - e. Stephanie – we have begun using signage related to GRT and assigned projects giving thanks for support
- f. Heritage Farm update – J. Gwin
 - 1. Update on design available?
 - a. S. Stowell – \$29 million for this year for GRT funded projects
 - i. \$12 million for Australia phase 2
 - ii. \$5 million for Heritage Farm – train already encumbered
 - iii. \$1.5 million off exhibit hippo pool
 - iv. \$4 million for differed maintenance
 - v. \$6 million left for FY 24
 - b. B. Lee discussion on Heritage Farm drawings
 - i. These are not quite the final design documents
 - ii. Animal areas is drawn with over 2 acres so we can share spaces. Depending on personalities of animals they could share, adding complexities
 - iii. Staff areas (maintenance presence, break space for Horticulture and Farm staff)
 - c. Discussion about train route
 - i. J. Gwin – wished there had been opportunity for public input about the train.
 - 1. Will send more questions that need answers to be forwarded to Brandon Gibson and Marisa Ortiz.
 - ii. J. Gwin – is there a plan to acquire more animals for the collection.
 - 1. B. Lee – we don't predetermine number of animals for design. Definitely have animal welfare on the forefront of our decisions.
 - d. Hopefully by end of September will start the bid process

VI. Announcements / Staff updates

1. No board chair announcements
2. Thank you for Staff Report

VII. Announcements/Ongoing Project Updates

1. S. Stowell
 - a. Guest Experience update given in hard copy
 - b. Animal Care Excellence update (Journal story)
 - c. NMBPS update will be sent via email (membership updates & staff updates, IUCN)
 - d. Shigella and loss of Thunder the chimpanzee– hard copy of report given out (email version to go out)
 - e. External Communication
 1. With loss of Thunder came scrutiny
 2. ABQ Journal gave us opportunity to provide editorials (conservation stories)
 3. Four supporters spoke at City Council 8.1.22. Thank you to the NMBPS
 4. Taking multi prong approach
 - f. Heritage Farm report
 1. Hard copy given to members and will be emailed to those online
 2. July meeting line of questioning began
 3. We answered all questions the next day and provided reports
 - g. Master Plan
 1. Review process is still going. Mid – end December before we bring it up again.
 2. Met with Mayor Keller about timeline, sequencing, GRT, etc.
 - h. Strategic Plan
 1. Hope to have Dafina to share more updates at future meetings
 - i. AZA conference this year
 1. Six presentations from the BioPark
 2. Sending seven staff
 3. First in person conference for AZA in three years!

VIII. New Business

1. Run for the Zoo – J. Gwin
 - a. Run for the Zoo as a fundraiser – how did that go? General report
 1. Julie Miller Rugg – still in COVID recovery
 - a. 6k participants, usually sell out at 10 - 12 k
 - b. Event is really involved with schools and schools were not back yet
 - c. Looking into reengagement with schools for the future

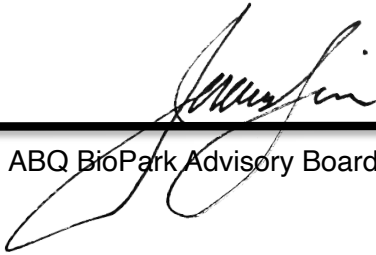
- d. Normally nets \$180-\$210k
- e. This year \$80k
- f. So many t-shirts left!
- g. Sanctioned event for big races (10 km) – elite runners
- 2. ROL planning in the works
 - a. If you are interested, it is worthwhile to check out the beginning stages
 - b. Just auditioned to be on the Big Christmas Light Fight! They heard about us.
- b. Events coming up?
 - 1. There are some BioPark events
 - 2. Determining fundraiser vs educational event
 - 3. Obon Festival – 13th of this month. Japanese lantern event

IX. Next Regular Meeting – October 4, 2022 4 – 530 PM

X. Adjourn

- 1. Move to adjourn L. Harris, Second C. Barnett

Approved:



10/28/2022

Jeremiah Gwin, ABQ BioPark Advisory Board Chair

Date