City of Albuquerque  
Department of Arts and Culture  

ABQ BioPark Advisory Group  
MEETING MINUTES  

Tuesday, July 13th, 2021 4:00 - 5:00 pm  
ABQ BioPark Zoo Library and Zoom Video Conference

**MEMBERS present**

Adam Silverman, Chair, Dist. 2  
Colin Barnett, Dist. 8  
Christina Walker, Dist. 6  
Kristina Chongsirirwatana, Member-at-large  
Bruce Hinrichs, NM BioPark Society  
Jeanette Baca (zoom), Dist. 3  
Angela Alderete (zoom), Dist. 5  
Karl Horak, Member-at-large  
Jon Sanchez, Dist. 1  
Jeremiah Gwin, Dist. 7  
Timothy McBride, Dist. 9  
Laura Harris, Dist. 2  
Alexis Mena (zoom), Dist. 4

**STAFF present**

Stephanie Stowell, BioPark Director  
Bob Lee, BioPark Associate Director  
Shelle Sanchez, Director, CABQ Dept of Arts & Culture  
Brandon Gibson, Deputy Director, CABQ Dept of Arts & Culture  
Jourdan Vallejos, BioPark Office Manager

I. **Call to Order:**  Chair, A. Silverman called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

II. **Approval of Agenda:**  There were no comments, questions or additions. A. Silverman moved to accept. C. Barnett seconded. Motion passed.
III. Approval of the Minutes from March 2nd, 2021 meeting: A. Silverman moved to accept the March 2, 2021 minutes and K. Chongsirirwatana seconded. Motion approved.

IV. Public Comment – none

V. Introductions and Reports - Welcome to the group!
   - Member introductions
   - Intro to BioPark employees (Associate Director – B. Lee)
   - No reports

VI. Reviews & Approvals
   - Quick review of duties of Board Chair
     - Annual report is required as well as leading meetings.
     - One year term – every January Chair/Vice Chair should be elected

   A. Board Chair Nominations / Vote
      (Open nominations – open call )
      J. Gwin nominates A. Silverman

      K. Horak motioned to close nomination
      J. Gwin seconded the motion

      **All in favor for A. Silverman to serve as Board Chair.**

   B. Vice Chair Nominations / Vote
      (Open nominations – open call )
      A. Silverman to nominate J. Gwin

      Motioned to close nomination
      B. Hinrichs to seconded the motion

      **All in favor for J. Gwin to serve as Vice Chair.**

   C. Bylaws Sub-Committee / Vote
      Sub-Committee does not need to be noticed and can meet to discuss
      (Open nominations – open call )
      2-3 maximum members for committee

      C. Barnett, T. McBride, C. Walker
      **T. McBride accepted as Chair of Bylaws Sub Committee**
- This subcommittee will establish better tone and metric for meeting.
- S. Stowell and J. Vallejos to send examples for by laws. This subcommittee and give us feedback on how long they need to put something together.

VII. Announcements/Ongoing Project Updates
A. Board Chair Announcements –

1. The Mayor’s office has updated guidance regarding Open Meetings and how Public Boards, Commissions and Committees conduct meetings. The updated guidance is in the Mayor’s 20th Declaration of Local Emergency Due to Novel Coronavirus COVID-19. Stephanie has a few copies of the updated memos from the Mayor’s office if anyone would like one. The key takeaways are:
   - Unlike previous Declarations, the Twentieth Declaration does NOT include the provision which allowed Boards & Commissions to meet virtually.
     - The City’s Boards & Commission’s Ordinance is now back to being in full effect. This means:
       a. Boards, Commissions, and Committees are required to hold their meetings “insofar as possible,” “at a city-owned facility.”
       b. Appointed members of a public board, commission, or committee may only attend remotely when it is “difficult or impossible.”
       c. A quorum of the board must be physically present at meetings.
   - We continue to encourage boards, commissions, and committee to provide an option for remote attendance by members of the public, whenever possible.

   - Please save the date for a morning balloon launch at the Balloon Fiesta on Tuesday 10/5. More details to come. For now Dr. Sanchez, Director the Department of Arts & Culture, would like to invite you and a plus-one to join the board and commission members of other Dept of Arts & Culture facilities and programs on the 5th. We’ll have a private viewing area in the Balloon Museum, access to the field and parking passes.

B. Board Announcements
- Nothing to share

C. Project Updates
   - GRT & Master Plan
     o Asia exhibit picture update
     o Lots of foundation work / infrastructure
     o Phase 1 – elephant overlook to open in September
     o Elephant team working with construction team to maintain protocol and knowing the staff schedule
Side by side participation to ensure plans are followed (architects, contractors, city planners, inspectors, OSHA, SWIP)
Will keep posted about ribbon cutting for overlook
Americas exhibit – next big GRT project. The first for this group from inception. A good opportunity for this group to be involved.
Architectural bid for Americas to come
RFP for architect for Australia project to be in the next week.
60 million worth of active GRT projects
Plus small projects
BPMPLG – meeting in the next four weeks. Discussing budgets and timelines. Will bring that to the group when possible.

- AZA inspection

- Strategic Planning
  - Zoo Advisors is the firm
  - Second go around (first with the society)
  - Stakeholder engagement (met with subset of this group)
  - Recently did a staff survey, 150 staff participated
  - Put together list of trends
  - Data from surveys and new revised list will be discussed soon to move into next phases of the strategic plan
  - This group will be brought in soon
  - NMBPS is funding this
  - Update from the NMBPS will be a standing meeting agenda item, starting next meeting

VIII. New Business
- K. Horak – received email from county about Camino Real. Public input on Thursday night. Central bridge and Barelas and Valle del Oro. The BioPark is a good place to intersect community outreach and education. Are we reaching out to that group to see the details of this project?
- Dr. Sanchez - County led effort. The most intersection is with the history. B. Gibson has been working Councilor Sanchez – Open Space MRGCD - $25,000 group and effort to celebrate the history of the Rio Grande. Do plan to expand message.
- Annual report for next meeting
- K. Horak to dig out report from 2019
- J. Gwin – suggests next meeting to be longer. For more discussion. GRT topics to be discussed. For the interest of the board not to feel cramped for time.
- Next meeting will be 90 minutes.

IX. Next Regular Meeting – September 7th - 4:00 – 5:30 pm
X. Adjourn
   B. Hinrichs moved to adjourn.
   K. Horak seconded the motion.
   5:03 PM

Approved: September 7th, 2021
Adam Silverman, Chair Date