

**Balloon Fiesta Park Commission**  
**September 9, 2014 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**Meeting Location: Banquet Room / Balloon Fiesta Park**

**Draft Minutes**

**Meeting Called to order:** September 9 pm 608 pm

**Members Present:** Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Sandy Cohen, Mark Haley, Mark Johnston, Justin Garcia,

**Members Absent:** Barbara Baca, , Dr. Steve Komadina, Rick Treadwell, Shawna Ballay, Dave Downey, Frank Mezzancello, Elise Rogers

**Others Present:** Janie Jordan, Paul Smith, Peoples Festival Speakers: Ron Casias and Charles Aragon.

**City Staff Present:** Paul Olsen (EHD), Susan Rice (PRD), Lisa Lopez (PRD)

**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None**

**2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 2014 MINUTES:** Mr. Wentworth wanted to confirm that the changes were received from Mr. Wentworth and Mr. Cohen. Unable to approve the draft minutes at this time because the Commission did not have a quorum. Mr. Nordin - Will readdress in the October 2014 meeting.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT –** Mr. Nordin commented that since the last meeting the ribbon cutting for the Sid Cutter Building took place. Mr. Nordin confirmed that AIBF was invited to the event. Mr. Nordin would like to express that he, as well as other Commission members, felt that the lack of invitation to that event was a “slap in the face”. Ms. Rice stated that it must have been an oversight. Mr. Smith stated that the event was planned by the Mayor’s office. The photo shown on the news was not the same as presented to the Commission. Ms. Rice confirmed that the photo also looked different to her. Mr. Haley questioned if approval for the project is in place. Mr. Wentworth stated that the Commission is tasked to oversee any building projects of this nature and these changes and contracts should be presented to the Commission for approval including this building. Mr. Wentworth stated that PRD is bypassing the Commission on these matters, such as the signage project and could be taken to the City Council or the EPC, if the Commission decides to.

**4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Past Events**

F3J Sail Planes – August 16-17 – Remote control planes 9 States on one international D6 and D3. 10 Minute flight and then flying and landing competitions. Mr. Johnston explained the process in more detail. The goal is to find as much lift as possible. Buzz Avril is FAI coordinator of the competition. One plane was hung up on the power lines. PNM responded and took the plane down.

Color in Motion 5K – August 23 – The event was run very well. 1600 in attendance. There were no issues.

Bugaboo Cross Fit Challenge – August 23 – Smooth event on D7  
Elaina's Plight for a Cure – August 24 – Supplemental notes

Teen Foam Dance – August 29 – Incident to report – At the Edith entry to the bike path some kids snuck into the dance. They were picking up golf balls and throwing them at the parked cars. They were chased away by staff and other event renters. Mr. Nordin wanted to know what the security ratio is for events: 400 kids and 20 security, including parents and outside security personal.

Brandon's Cause – August 30 – West of Museum. No issues and clean-up was good.

Rebel Donut Dash – August 30 Event on the park – No issues but not well organized.

Remembrance Run 5K – September 7 – South parking lot. No issues to report. They raise money to send care packages to the troops.

Supplemental notes on events: Ms. Rice reported that the Elaina's Event and the Donut Dash were both hosted by first time organizers. There was no damage to the park and the events were successful, however, both events had a large dependence on Golf and Event Center staff for organization. This was done even after pre-event meetings. Ms. Rice stated that from now on any first timer for a 5 K run will need to hire a coordinator. Mr. Nordin stated that this is a matter to be discussed in the November policy meeting. Ms. Rice stated that policies such as these are a matter for Parks and Recreation to determine. Mr. Nordin stated that it is a matter of how the park is operated and is a reflection of whether or not applications are being accepted with and without race coordinators.

Mr. Wentworth would like to know if the Sickle Cell vendors were ever paid from the month prior event report. Ms. Rice stated that the City of Albuquerque was paid but no update on whether the security company ever received payments.

Mr. Nordin questioned the movie shoot that took place last month. Ms. Rice reported the movie Sicario was filmed here. Filming was completed about 2 weeks ago and spanned over a 7 day period. The only remnant of the shoot is the blacktop. Mr. Nordin would like to know the amount of the revenue made on the movie production. Ms. Rice reported that \$12,400.00 was given to the City of Albuquerque. Mr. Wentworth reported that the area residents reported the gun shots that were heard during the filming. Mr. Wentworth stated that all movie shoots should be reviewed by the Commission. Ms. Rice stated that she didn't report in error. Ms. Rice stated that she was not aware of the shoot-out scenes. Ms. Jordan clarified that only 5 shots were fired over the three scenes. Ms. Jordan asked when AMAFA agrees to movies that are in the area. Mr. Nordin did not consider this to be an event that should be reported on to the Commission.

### **Future Events**

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta – Preparations are underway.

Ms. Rice introduced the two presenters of the Peoples Festival event. Ron Casias and Charles Aragon presenting. The main reason they were presenting today was because the size of the event had grown from 2000-5000 people up to approximately 10,000 people, as well as, they would be serving alcohol.

Ms. Rice reported that the event will have the following:

Two beer gardens

Horse shoe throwing contest

Carnival Rides

Cooking Contests

Jumpers

Motorcycle show

Balloon glow

Craft show

Two day event, November 8 and 9, 2014

Event organizers have consulted with AIBF, as well as Celtic Festival regarding traffic patterns. This is a nonprofit event. The organizers are working with Hero's Walk Among Us. The event will use four grass panels for two days at \$375 per grass panel with a 15% discount for a multi-day event, \$200 for two days of electricity \$2750 rental fee. The alcohol surcharge will be determined after the event is completed.

6 Nonprofits will benefit from the event: Hero's Walk Among Us, New Mexico Veterans Integration Centers, Breast Cancer Resource Center, Rio Grande Food Project, Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Central New Mexico and Special Spaces – Bedroom renovations for sick children.

Events that have been eliminated include: the 5K run, and horse shoe pitching. These events were eliminated because it became too much for such a short period of time. The organizers will try to work these in for future events.

Mr. Nordin wanted to know the pricing for the event. Mr. Casias explained that food bins will be placed at the event to collect food to help the growing hunger issues in the population. The entry fee will be \$5.00 to enter + 3 nonperishable items or \$10.00.

Health programs such as Blue Cross and Medicaid. They want to bring awareness and education to the public. The ultimate goal is that in the next ten years they hope to be donating a majority of the proceeds to the various nonprofits that they assist, as well as add new positions.

Mr. Nordin questioned the hours of the event. Ms. Rice stated that the music will be off by 10pm and the event should be end shortly after. Mr. Casias hoped to end closer to the 8 pm time.

Mr. Nordin asked if anyone has questions. Mr. Smith asks who at AIBF was spoken to about traffic patterns. Mr. Aragon stated that their research was done online. Mr. Smith wanted to know if 10 portable toilets would be enough for the attendance of 10,000 people. Ms. Rice confirmed that the attendance of 10,000 people will be spread out over a two-day period. Ms. Rice will also have two field units open, as well.

Discussion on the proper number of toilets per person: Ms. Jordan said 250 people for each toilet is needed when planning a large event. Ms. Rice stated that if a beer garden is in place she would normally require one toilet per 200 people. Mr. Smith confirmed that toilet companies recommend one toilet per 250 people; however, the general consensus is that there actually could be one toilet per 500 to 1000 people.

Mr. Casias stated that advertising will be done 2 weeks prior to event only. Local stations and local radio stations will be used for advertising; however, because it is an election time the advertising costs are higher.

Mr. Nordin would like to know more information on the lighting. Mr. Casias stated that light towers will be used for lighting for the time from 5 pm to 8 pm. Frank's supply will be used to help determine the number of light towers needed.

Mr. Wentworth went over the importance of protection of the grass. Mr. Aragon confirmed that all autos and mobile cooking units will be done on the asphalt. Mr. Casias confirmed that all military vehicles will also be on the paved areas.

Nordin wanted to know if pig races will take place. Mr. Casias clarified that pig races will not take place. Mr. Aragon stated that that portion is unclear if it will or will not happen. Mr. Cassias stated that it most likely they will not happen.

Mr. Nordin wanted to know details about carnival the rides listed on the event schedule. Mr. Casias stated that the rides will be small rides only. They were planning to have a ferris wheel and small trains for children. The gentleman that is organizing that portion is permitted and licensed by the state of New Mexico. Mr. Nordin reminded Ms. Rice that the expected insurance to meet the carnival standards is \$3,000,000.00. Ms. Rice agreed.

Mr. Wentworth wanted to know about event the experience that Mr. Casias is bringing to the table. Mr. Casias stated that he has done event planning for years but nothing quite as large as this. Mr. Wentworth clarified that the entry will be the North side the park and if there is any concern about grass recovery after Balloon Fiesta. Mr. Nordin stated that the grass should be fine post Fiesta. Mr. Nordin asked for questions from the Commission. Due to lack of quorum a vote was not made. Mr. Nordin states the only change is to confirm the hours to be 8 PM for Saturday and 5 PM for Sunday. Mr. Nordin wished the organization good luck to Mr. Casias and Mr. Aragon. Mr. Wentworth advised they talk to Mr. Smith for traffic details.

Summer Fun Fest. Sunday July 20<sup>th</sup> – See Staff supplement. Location: D4 so they can use the stage. Alcohol will be served. No issues but they want to advertise so it does need Commission approval. Mr. Nordin states he believes it's good.

## 5. REPORTS / UPDATES

- **Department of Municipal Development -**
- **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta –** No big changes on the event schedule. Musical Performers: County Road 5 followed by Sawyer Brown and the headliner is Josh Turner. The expected number of balloons is 550, which is the cap. Mr. Wentworth asked Mr. Smith what the plans would be for the Paseo Del Norte construction and the impact it will have. Mr. Smith will have more information after Thursday September 11, 2014. The last information reported was that all I 25 lanes will be open and all Paseo Del Norte lanes should be open. Items that are not expected to be complete are the northbound I 25 to the westbound Paseo Del Norte flyover. Westbound Paseo Del Norte off-ramp at Jefferson, and the westbound onramp from Jefferson, However, Jefferson under Paseo is to be complete. There are other smaller items that will still be in process until December 2014, but it should be a functioning area. This is an ever changing detail.
- Mr. Olson wanted Mr. Smith to ask NMDOT about the northbound exit to Alameda from I 25 the stripping needs to be corrected. It will take you back onto the interstate.
- **Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum**
  - i. Past Events
  - ii. Upcoming events –
    1. 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Fiesta - dedication of Sky Portal in the tribute area.

2. Dedication of the water feature will also take place. The water feature will be placed directly in front of the building. Work to start on 9/10/2014. The work is expected to be complete by Balloon Fiesta 2014.
3. Other activities taking place during Fiesta:
  - a. Expansion of the Hall of Fame
  - b. Film, "Dawn Patrol," in 360 degree cinema
  - c. LED Light Show
  - d. Furry Friends Fiesta Day
4. Annual "Mini Maker's Faire" on September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Approximately 3,000 people expected to attend.

- **Environmental Health**

- Mr. Wentworth wanted to know if the landfill is open to the volunteers. Mr. Olson said yes it is open. Ms. Jordan reported that electricity and water are being installed. Mr. Olson said it was a pleasure to work with all the volunteers and staff of AIFB.
- Mr. Wentworth inquired about any theft or vandalism issues that are of concern. Ms. Jordan stated that the propane area had several small hoses and aluminum trusses that were recently stolen. There were several cuts in the fences that were recently reported. Mr. Wentworth reported that several fence cuttings have been reported near the railroad track areas and homes are being broken into, as well.

- **Parks & Recreation**

- i. Sid Cutter Pilots Pavilion
  1. Time line to build – Ms. Rice reported that there are no updates available.
- ii. Digital Sign update- Done – approved to remove from future agendas.
  1. Mr. Rice stated that she can change the sign easily from her laptop.
- iii. Verizon Project – Ms. Rice questioned if EHD had looked at the "little house" placement on the East parking lot. Mr. Olson has not seen anything to report. Ms. Rice will check with Pete Saiz and Robert Sanchez on any updates. Mr. Wentworth discussed the warning given about the south east area drainage issues. Reminded Mr. Olson to discuss the placement and that all light towers were to be replaced correctly.
- iv. Ms. Rice discussed the changes for the event report. Ms. Rice explained that we are converting to a new system that is still in progress. Reports should be ready to go by November.
- v. Income since last meeting Event Center - \$2600.00  
Balloon Fiesta Park - \$19,020.00
- vi. Signage and way finding – presentations complete, waiting on quote for phase I – exterior way-finding signs and parking lot signs
- vii. Mr. Rice reported that 5 awards are being received at the New Mexico Parks and Recreation conference in Las Cruces New Mexico. The awards are for the following:
  1. Chuck Malagodi - Outstanding Professional
  2. Matt Schmader - Volunteer Program for Open Space
  3. Esperanza Bike Shop - Community Program
  4. Cristin Chavez-Smith – Outstanding Young Professional
  5. Jerry Cline Rrecreation and Tennis Center: Best New Facility

## 6. OLD BUSINESS:

- FY15 GO Bond goes to election in November. The Commission will readdress at that time. Mr. Nordin wants Ms. Rice to clarify the election time for this, based off of Mr. Cohen's

comments on the election time period. Ms. Rice will inquire and send out an email with the time it will be on the ballot.

- Annual Report -
- Fee Schedule Review for 14-15
- Policy Review

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – Mr. Nordin discussed the next two available dates for Commission meetings. Mr. Cohen suggested that October and November be combined and the date be set up sometime in between the normal meeting dates. November Committee meeting to discuss policies Suggested dates: Nov. 21 or 28. Determined date to be: October 21, 2014 at 6 pm. This will be October and November combined and will be a committee meeting and not a full Commission meeting.

Mr. Nordin adjourned the meeting: 7:13 pm.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department staff liaison at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Committee liaison at Parks and Recreation Department at (505) 768-5300 (Phone/Relay) if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.