

**Balloon Fiesta Park Commission**  
**April 14, 2015 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**Meeting Location: Banquet Room / Balloon Fiesta Park**  
**Minutes**

**Meeting called to order 6:01 pm**

**Members Present:** Bill Nordin, Steve Wentworth, Alexandra Kiska, Sandy Cohen, Jackie White, Dr. Steve Komadina, Justin Garcia, Markey Haley, Frank Mezzancello, Elise Rogers,

**Members Absent:** Mark Johnston, Rick Treadwell

**Others Present:** Janie Jordan AIBF, Paul Smith AIBF, Efrin Villa, Tom Valdez, Greg Roland; Edward Montoya for Gov. Isaac Lujan

**City Staff Present:** Susan Rice PRD, Lisa Lopez PRD, Paul Olson EHD

1. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA** – Mr. Wentworth reminded the commission about the need for member recognition. Mr. Nordin – Discussion will be in the old business portion.

2. **REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE MARCH 2014 MINUTES:** Ms. Rogers moved to approve the minutes that included the suggested changes from Mr. Wentworth. Motion passed.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT** – Introduction of Edward Montoya representing the Pueblo of Sandia.

4. **EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS – Ms. Rice reported the following.**

**Past Events –** 3/28-29 Kokopelli Ultimate Frisbee Tournament – Attendance 440.  
8 Teams only 2 were from NM the others were from surrounding states.  
4/04 Great Strides 5K – Attendance 150  
4/10-11 USA Rugby Women’s Championships – Attendance 410  
Location D6, Next year bleachers will be brought in.  
4/11 Ellen Reavis Race for Autism – Attendance 1500 Motorcycle rally for support. Over 100 lined up on the park.  
4/11 The Super Run – Attendance 225 Attendance was lower than expected.  
4/12 Adoption Exchange Criterion Bike Race Attendance 330  
4/13 Lacrosse tournament. Attendance not available to report on.

Mr. Smith brought up the parking and traffic back-up issues that occurred during the weekend. Ms. Kiska agreed that coordination needs to take place to prevent future issues. Ms. Rice explained the alternate exit routes that are used for BFP events. Mr. Nordin asked Mr. Cohen if complaints were received on the event. Mr. Cohen reported that a few parking/long line complaints were received. Mr. Cohen reported the crowd was double the size over what was expected. Attendance was about 8000 but was expected to be around 4000. This event was the biggest event that the Balloon Museum has ever hosted. Mr. Mezzancello wanted to know why an officer wasn’t present to direct traffic. Even a crowd of 4000 would have benefited from an officer directing traffic. Ms. Rice inquired if the event went through the City of Albuquerque’s permitting process, if so it would have required

police officer presence for traffic direction. Ms. Rogers wanted to know the promoter for the event. Mr. Cohen didn't have that information. Ms. Kiska stated that future large events please consider coordination with the BFP to work in conjunction for traffic and parking.

Brief discussion on ideas such as double turn lanes longer traffic light to reduce traffic backup.

- Future Events** –
- 4/18 Blacklight Color 5K – Expected attendance 4000 Ms. Rice reported that the only item left to correct was the sound level monitoring. Mr. Nordin wanted to know details of what went wrong last year, and the event time. Ms. Rice stated the event ends at 10 pm, and the soundstage was placed towards the neighborhood. This is the event that caused us to begin using the decibel meter readings.
  - 4/19 Best Buddies Friendship Walk – Expected attendance 450
  - 4/22 Children's Freedom Festival – Expected attendance 250. Introduction of kids to first responders.
  - 4/24 Teen Foam Dance – Expected attendance 800. Large amount of security and parent involvement. They have hosted several times at the Park
  - 4/25 Alta Mira Kite Festival – Expected attendance 3000 – Larger than the first year which was under 800.
  - 5/2 NAMI 5K – Expected attendance 600
  - 5/2-3 NM Youth Lacrosse Fiesta – Expected attendance 450
  - 5/3 The Running of the Chihuahuas – Expected attendance 500. Repeat event.
  - 5/9 March For Babies – Expected attendance 1500
  - 5/9 High School Lacrosse Championships – Expected attendance 150 Local high Schools.
  - 5/9 ABQ Brew Dash – Expected attendance 1500

**Events For Discussion** – 7/25-26 Slide the City – Expected attendance 4000 – Referenced checked with Boise Idaho. Detailed reference was given and it was very positive. No issues were found with Environmental Health. Tents and Festival will be at the north end of vendor's row. Boise Idaho will partner and have a second event this summer with the same promoter. Pricing was not available at time of report. Mr. Mezzancello requested tickets for the event. Mr. Smith wanted to know where they are planning to park. Ms. Rice stated that is yet to be determined. Mr. Nordin asked if there were any questions and for a motion to approve. Mr. Haley moved to approve. Second submitted by Ms. Rogers. Motion Passed.

6/28 2015 Summer Expo - Expected attendance 2500 Family event, Car show, bands, food vendors, Benefits the Who am I Foundation. Mr. Nordin called for questions and a motion. No questions submitted. Mr. Mezzancello moved to approve. Mr. Garcia second. Motion passed.

**4. FEE SCHEDULE REVIEW** – Ms. Rice reported the following.

- a. There are not many facilities that compare to what we are offering.
- b. Rates are broken down to commercial noncommercial and athletic events. This would be a good facility for Junior League use.
  - i. Ms. Rogers asked if there is room for bleachers – Ms. Rice stated that chairs would be used and tape used to mark the lines. Mr. Mezzancello stated that the price schedule should be approved as submitted and then we review and relook at the prices in a year to determine what should be done. Mr. Mezzancello motioned to approve. Ms. Rogers second motion. Ms. Kiska suggested an additional committee

be formed to do additional research. Dr. Komadina wanted to know if a deposit will be obtained for the AV equipment. Deposits will be charged for both facility and AV equipment. Mr. Nordin clarified what is included in the rental fee. Motion passed.

- c. Dr. Komadina wanted to know how the event would be set up for State of NM or government events how the fee schedule would be charged Ms. Kiska will look into and report back.
- d. Various inquiries were made regarding space usage to bathroom usage and whether or not multiple renters can use the AV equipment independently as well as have access to bathrooms independently. Ms. Kiska will do follow-up inquiries from her initial knowledge they should operate independently.
- e. Ms. White clarified that the new Sid Cutter building will have AED machines. Ms. Kiska clarified that all City buildings are required to be equipped.
- f.

Area of facility	Commercial Rate	Non Commercial Rate	Athletic Events
Entire Facility 12,000 sq ft	\$2,000.00	\$1,000.00	\$500.00
Small Area of Facility – 4,000 sq ft	\$1,000.00	\$500.00	TBD
Large Area of Facility – 8,000 sq ft	\$1,600.00	\$800.00	TBD
Audio Visual Equipment	\$600.00	\$300.00	TBD

## 6. REPORTS / UPDATES

- Department of Municipal Development – No report
- Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta
  - i. On ramp to I-25 - Mr. Smith stated no updates it is ok to remove from the agenda until further notice. Mr. Smith stated that the Department of Transportation and the City of Albuquerque DMD department will not provide any updates.
  - ii. Are there any events or changes before Balloon Fiesta 2016 Mr. Smith reported that next month a more detailed report will be available. The canopy and pergola are expected to be replaced and new location of the music festival will be at the north end of the park.
- Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum – Mr. Cohen reported
  - i. Past Events – Food and Beer event has already been discussed.
  - ii. Window tints will be starting installation soon since the capital funds have been received.
  - iii. New HVAC system is still hoped for, if a special session occurs. –If it does, it really helps with the possibility of accreditation.
  - iv. Upcoming events- 5/2/15 Renaissance Fair.
- Environmental Health Department – Mr. Olson reported that some small holes in the president’s landfill are being repaired. Fall construction plans are underway. They are trying to get some additional weed removal. Mr. Nordin asked about a road that was proposed a couple of years ago. Mr. Olson said that the channel road up to the east side up to Paseo. Mr. Olson will research and report back. Mr. Wentworth stated that information had been provided at a District 4 Coalition of Neighborhood meeting (Councilor Brad Winters’s District 4) planning has been completed up to El Pueblo. The Vista Del Norte neighborhood groups and the Alameda North Valley Association are opposed to the

project. The District 4 Coalition of Neighborhoods passed a unanimous vote that the project is a waste of tax dollars and not needed.

- Parks & Recreation – Ms. Kiska reported the following.
  - i. Sid Cutter Pilots Pavilion
    - 1. Building Progress Update - Construction is on schedule and is progressing rapidly. A tour can be scheduled if decided by the Commission. The building is very impressive. The roof is several angles and is very appealing. HVAC and Electricity will be installed next week. Ms. Rogers inquired if the separated sections will have separate controls. Ms. Kiska confirmed they are independent. Mr. Nordin requested to meet at the building and a tour will be scheduled at 6 pm and then proceed to complete the meeting in the event center. Mr. Smith stated this post referenced earlier is not where it was expected and doesn't look visually appealing but is not dangerous. Various discussions regarding future structures, what this post is used for, storage unit placement. Ms. Kiska stated that the storage unit will be placed where the future kitchen is scheduled to be. Dr. Komadina inquired where the statue is scheduled to be placed.
  - ii. Verizon Project – The contract is still at Real Property with no updates to report. Realistically it will not happen until after Balloon Fiesta 2015 because it still needs Council approval. Mr. Wentworth provided the suggestion that because the poles are being replaced but not the light fixtures that the City of Albuquerque should look into newer, more energy efficient fixtures. Mr. Olson reported that whoever is maintaining the lights will only stock one or two types due to expense.
  - iii. Income last month Last Month / FYTD
    - 1. BFP: \$9,605.00 / \$58,664.50
    - 2. EC: \$10,250.00 / \$48,513.00
    - 3. During the week we could increase usage. We are going to start advertising to the community that this is a good place for daytime business meetings.
    - 4. Mr. Mezzancello inquired where we are compared to last year's revenues. Ms. Rice responded that the amounts should be very similar as we can only book so many events per weekend.
  - iv. Signage and way finding – Phase one is complete. Banners still waiting to be completed. No funds are available for phase II. Mr. Smith inquired if a clockwise system has been decided because his plan is opposite. He wanted to know if adjustments need to be made, it would be best to know sooner rather than later. Ms. Kiska stated that PRD and AIBF work together to make decisions on some signs and get some ordered. Mr. Wentworth suggested that Ms. Kiska, Mr. Smith and Ms. Jetwalker meet and decide signage priorities before the next meeting.
  - v. BFP daily users guidelines Ms. Rice reported
    - 1. Hang gliders would like Saturday and Sunday allowances. Mr. Roland wanted to push for the 3 pm time frame because they have been pushed back on the time frame more and more over the years. Mr. Nordin stated that he felt that turf use for sports, such as soccer, rugby, lacrosse etc. should take precedence and that 3 pm is too late of a time, 12 noon has worked for several years. Mr. Roland reported that in 2010 the time was 3pm and year after year they get time decreased from their time. There are increased needs but fewer time frames to use. Mr. Roland stated that only 2 of the seven panels are used. If the soccer users were more efficient with field placements they would all fit. Mr. Roland and Mr. Nordin continue to discuss the plans that were made back in 2010 and no written policies were ever documented. Mr. Roland quoted city ordinance that one group should not interfere with another group that was already engaged. Mr. Valdez had video

that ground users don't respect the aeronautic above them and agree that it could be very dangerous to the people beneath them.

- a. Mr. Wentworth wanted to know number of users' vs number of users to serve the greater good.
  - i. Mr. Nordin reported facts other than numbers the difficult times of the year are January February and May. As many as 30 to 40 teams are out there with 15 to 20 people per team. Based on the drop off location as well as walk to the fields the kids often walk under the aeronautic users.
  - ii. Mr. Roland stated that signs will help with the enforcement of who uses the park at what times.
- b. Ms. Rice stated that during the weekends D3 and D4 normally do not have events. There are two walking exits that should not interfere with D6-7.
- c. Mr. Roland stated that weekday numbers 20 people per day down from 50 just two years ago. These numbers have been reduced because of Soccer.
- d. Mr. Nordin would like to table and discuss next month. Mr. Wentworth wanted to discuss the idea of various signs and made a motion to approve the concept of the suggested sign. The details of what would be on the sign can be worked out later. This should happen as soon as possible. Ms. Jordan asked about the location of suggested signs. Mr. Garcia second motion. Motion passed.

## **7. OLD BUSINESS:**

- Annual Report – to City Council - No date available to report.
- Mr. Garcia wrote a letter regarding recognition of past commission members. Mr. Garcia wanted to reiterate the importance of the issue. A committee and deadline should be formed and decided on. Mr. Wentworth brought to the attention of an email sent to Ms. Kiska from Mr. Garcia regarding the issue. That many of those have worked on the park have been recognized but not all. Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Mezzancello and Mr. Garcia volunteered for the committee.
- Clarification of how boards and commission positions are processed. Mr. Wentworth provided information that some terms expire and you have to renew and some commission positions do not have term limits. The difference with this Commission and other boards is there are not term limits for some positions. Some appointments are made by various groups noted in the Ordinance and not the Mayor. It was suggested that the Ordinance for the Commission should be read by all. Mr. Wentworth stated that he probably will not sign another back ground check form. He said he provided updated information from the group he represents several times and signed the background waver form once and feels that it is adequate. He also stated the waver is intrusive; a security risk for the signer and the signer waves all rights for legal recourse if the City misuses the information. He serves as appointed by the group he represents. Mr. Nordin will research and report back in May.
- Mr. Haley motion to adjourn meeting 8:02 pm – Motion passed

## **8. NEW BUSINESS**

### **NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – 05/12/2015**

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.