

Balloon Fiesta Park Commission
March 8, 2016 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Meeting Location: Golf and Event Center at Balloon Fiesta
Park
Draft Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:00 pm

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Dr. Steve Komadina, Elise Rogers, Alexandra Kiska (PRD), Mark Haley, Ed Montoya on behalf of Chamisa Radford

Members Absent: Justin Garcia, Mark Johnston, Frank Mezzancello, Paul Garver, Jackie White

Others Present: Paul Smith (AIBF), Paul Petrehn (AIBF), Cheryl Lete (AIBF), Mr. Rullman (flyer group)

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

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY MINUTES – Dr. Komadina motion to approve with the changes submitted. Mr. Rogers second the motion – Motion Passed.

1. **PUBLIC COMMENT –** Mr. Rullman stated that he would like to discuss the possibility of setting up a drone college and various UAV/Drone training academy. Mr. Nordin offered a 10 minute time period for discussion at the April meeting.

2. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

a. Past Events

- i. Feb 13-14 – Friends & Lovers Balloon Rally – Attendance 2,700
- ii. Feb 13 – Cupids Chase 5K – Attendance 168
- iii. Feb 27 – High Desert HS Rugby Tournament.- Attendance 1,550
- iv. March 5-6 – Kokopelli Frisbee Tournament – Attendance 400
- v. March 5 – Rugby Saturday – Attendance 300

b. Future Events

- i. March 12 – Rugby Saturday – Expected attendance each Saturday will be 300. Events will run through May on Panel D6.
- ii. March 13 – AAAA Flying Event and Crew Training – Expected attendance 550
- iii. March 19 – Rugby Saturday – Expected attendance 300
- iv. March 26 – NM Xtreme AIR 5K – Expected attendance 3000 – Mr. Watts is currently in negotiations with the Mayor's office for some park improvements. Mr. Wentworth requested those details be brought before the Commission for review. Mr. Wentworth stated that attention should be paid to the other park users when scheduling the park activities to ensure that the aeronautical fliers still have use of the park.
 1. Mr. Wentworth requested that in future reports to list the panel / area of park for better reference.
- v. March 26 – Inflatable Obstacle Run – Information Only - 5K run with carnival insurance will be given week of March 18. Event will feature 12 inflatable

obstacles. Approximate attendance will be 3000. No alcohol – Event times are: 7am and could last until as late as 7 pm.

- vi. April 2 – Autism Walk – Expected attendance 1500
- vii. Rugby Saturday – Expected attendance 300
- viii. April 9 – Super Run 5K – Expected attendance 500 this is a national event but has had a small turnout in the past.
- ix. Rugby Saturday – Expected attendance 300
- x. April 10 – ABQ Youth Lacrosse Games – Expected attendance 300 Location of the field - D1 and D4

c. Events for Discussion

- i. April 15-24 – Carnival and Music - 10,000, Subcommittee met with the organizers.
 - 1. Trick horse, Pig races, Food vendors- No longer on D4 – Moved to the millings.
 - 2. 42 carnival rides, 12-14 concession stands, 30+ games of chance / 80+ employees living on the grounds
 - 3. Cooperage will be running the Beer Garden
 - 4. RV's will be parked on Presidents lot – Possible several bunk houses for the various employees. Utilities would be needed for the carnival workers living at the Park.
 - 5. Tractors will be parked in the Pig Pen w/ security on site
 - 6. Fire / APD will dictate security requirements
 - 7. Noise permits will be required.
 - 8. Time has been shortened to a 10 day event
 - 9. Parking lot will have attendants and lights
 - 10. Background checks on all employees.
 - 11. Hours – 4 pm to 10 pm Weekdays / 10 am to 10 pm Saturday / 12 pm to 10 pm on Sunday.
 - 12. Lawsuit- About 18 months ago a female claimed that a ride operator touched her when assisting her on the ride. The claim is that the State of NM should keep their participants safe. Discussion that special care should be paid to the vendors that are subcontracted. These vendors should be subject to background checks as well.
 - a. Dr. Komadina responded that we are only the landlords of the space and that ultimately it is a private event.
 - b. 3 Subcontractors will be providing the rides
 - 13. Mr. Nordin requested to see the footprint of the exact placement of each ride will need to be obtained. – Not until those rides have been secured and decided upon.
 - a. Power will be brought in to the park to run the rides.
 - b. Generator use is common.
 - c. Use of generators will sometimes create trip hazards – something to watch out for and monitor.
 - 14. Ms. Rogers inquired if the light / noise pollution will be an issue for the neighborhoods. – Light pollution not a large issue as much as screaming people on the rides.
 - 15. Advice - APD contact State Police for various advices on how to handle the situation.

16. Mr. Nordin expressed his concerns that the event details have not been decided. Mr. Haley agrees that a footprint and better layout plan is needed.
17. Ms. Rice stated that Special Event Permitting is treating the event as a potential very large event. However, past events that are very large in other cities/states come here and are a fraction of the attendance. Mr. Nordin expects 500,000 to 1,000,000 people to attend based off the size of event they are proposing.
18. Fire department Mr. Ross will be looking out for trip hazards and doing spot checks by both Fire and EHD.
19. Dr. Komadina stated that the vendor could be very well behaved so that they will be welcomed back in future years. Vendor has expressed that if successful he would like to make it an annual event.
20. Mr. Montoya inquired if the space used is enough to accommodate the number of rides they are bringing in. – Mr. Nordin responded that they are very good at ride placement to use the space wisely and that some of the rides only take up a small space and can be set up within 12-18 hours. Mr. Nordin stated that Mr. Reed is very good at this and has been doing it a long time.
21. Unknown person inquired when there will be more details. Ms. Rice stated that at this point the event is almost complete. Footprint of rides and insurance and permits are about to be finalized.
22. Mr. Nordin confirmed that the contract being used is the normal contract used for other events with the exception of an increased damage deposit – based off the commission recommendation. Dumpsters and restrooms will be brought in by the vendor and will be at the vendor's expense, with the recommendation of Environmental Health.
23. Mr. Wentworth expressed his concerns on the sound and light pollution that could affect the neighborhood.
24. Mr. Wentworth inquired about who will pay for the power and other utilities used during the event and how much those fees would be. Ms. Rice responded that the fees are as follows: \$100 per day for event and \$35 per RV per day. Mr. Wentworth questioned if that amount was sufficient. Ms. Rice based her amounts off of past events and power usage.
25. Mr. Wentworth expressed that he still opposes the event due to the lack of information. Mr. Wentworth wants the fees for similar future events to be reviewed and possibility charged a higher price.
26. Mr. Wentworth doesn't feel the event is a good use of the park. It should be used for recreation not financial gain of private vendors. Mr. Nordin responded that other panels of the park are still available for the daily users of the parks.
27. Mr. Nordin recommended that City Legal review the contract prior to finalization.
28. Mr. Haley stated that his impression that the event was approved. The vendor should not have an issue with providing the requested information.
29. Ms. Rogers inquired what is stopping Ms. Rice from moving forward then clarified that some of the Commission would like additional information. Mr. Smith inquired why an approval or rejection is not on the table now.
30. Mr. Nordin confirmed that a concept was approved in January. Ms. Rogers disagreed that the concept is the same. Mr. Nordin stated it seems to have grown.

31. Ms. Rice verified that trash / sewer will be removed once a day on Saturday, Sunday and Monday then during the week as needed.
 32. Standard Carnival insurance applies with the City of Albuquerque listed as additional insured.
 33. Mr. Nordin – Do they fit? This is why the layout is so important. Mr. Nordin would like to know what rides and what the performance records are for the rides.
 34. Mr. Smith suggested that the amount of toilets be reevaluated.
 35. Mr. Wentworth inquired on similar events held at Expo NM with similar 1 week before the event advertisements – Mr. Nordin responded that the events went very well and had about 6000 people. Mr. Wentworth stated that the additional resources should be on standby and ready to go. Especially if the crowds are as big as expected. Ms. Rice will follow up.
 36. Additional items requested – Layout and contract review by Legal.
 37. Dr. Komadina stated that the event is so advanced that it seemed pointless to attempt to pull the plug.
 38. Mr. Wentworth stated that he expected to have the City of Albuquerque respond if the event begins to get out of hand and complaints start to happen.
 39. Mr. Haley suggested that the commission approve the event with the understanding that if Mr. Nordin and Ms. Rice approve the event that it move forward with Mr. Nordin's review. Mr. Nordin declined having the liability on his shoulders and stated he is not an expert. No response to motion - Withdrawn
 40. Mr. Nordin stated that at this point in time the event cannot be disapproved. Ms. Rogers confirms that the event was already approved. Ms. Rice stated that she has a list of items to take action on based off the Commission's recommendations.
- ii. August 1 – Van's Warped Tour Concert –
1. Expected attendance is 5,000-10,000 people with 2 stages at the north end of the park.
 2. Parking East lot with overflow to the North lot.
 3. Public entrance and production buses by gate 1, 3 and 4.
 4. Mr. Nordin inquired the hours. Set up starts at 9 am. Event time is 10:30 am start and goes until 10 pm
 5. Ms. Rice confirmed that a beer garden will be part of the event. Similar event with no advertisement was 4800 at Expo NM. The City of Albuquerque determines how much security is required.
 6. Date confirmation: Contract has 8/1 advertisement has 8/3. Needs to be clarified.
 7. Mr. Nordin confirmed the event was approved once the footprint was received.
 8. Mr. Wentworth wants maps, information about events and other items emailed prior to the meeting. Problems with the staff presentation – computer power failure – reinforced the need for information to be sent to the Commission before meetings to allow for adequate review.
- iii. Mr. Nordin stated that the in the future conceptual approvals should not be done in the future. Ms. Rogers disagreed that failure to give these approvals will prevent staff from booking and proceeding with events.
1. Ms. Rice questioned what events are allowed to be booked without approvals. Mr. Nordin stated that the policies are in place, examples 750 more people and alcohol. – Would it be possible to have a

subcommittee? The policies were done 4 years ago when there was not full time staff and staff was not present at every event.

- iv. Ms. Rogers stated that she is comfortable with Susan's overall judgement. Event is presented and the Commission asks a few simple questions to determine that all aspects have been reviewed and are addressed. Small details should not be looked at by the Commission. Mr. Wentworth disagreed, reminds the commission that the questions asked are important to the stakeholders of the park and pointed out that valuable information was shared. Ms. Rogers stated that some of the details requested by the Commission are not needed. The Van's Warped event is an example. The layout is unimportant. Susan's judgement should be good enough. Mr. Wentworth pointed out that 3 years ago beer trucks were allowed to park on the grass damaging the field. Staff oversight has improved, but what happens if the Park Manager is not around and unable to do the job – as happened in the past? Ms. Rice followed with another manager and other part time staffs are being trained. Dr. Komadina indicated he agreed with the policy and suggested a consent calendar. Items like fun runs – They are normally standard and should not require too much approval. Mr. Nordin would be happy to revisit the policies.
- v. Dr. Komadina inquired if the Commission is covered by any sort of liability insurance for the various events that happen on the park. Ms. Rice stated that advisory boards would be covered. Mr. Wentworth stated that the City of Albuquerque will be the Commissions representation because they are working on behalf of the City of Albuquerque. Comments by others - the issue should be reviewed by City Legal.

3. REPORTS / UPDATES

a. Department of Municipal Development – None

b. Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

- i. 2016 Fiesta – Improvement meeting next week to discuss possible improvements. Improvements to the park need to have City of Albuquerque approval.
- ii. Oct 1-9 – Desert Kaleidoscope.
- iii. Woman's National Championship in hot air ballooning will be a 2016 event
- iv. Sound quality improvements are needed. AIBF, Homeland Security, Public Safety and events are all requesting it.
- v. Mr. Smith inquired if landscaping will be done prior to Balloon Fiesta – Ms. Kiska responded that no other projects such as the Regional Ball Field will be utilizing the funds. Approximate cost is \$450,000

c. Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

- i. Past Events
- ii. Future events – Shamrock Festival was discussed last month.

d. Environmental Health Department – Mr. Olson reported.

- i. Nazareth mitigations still in process.
- ii. Please share proposals of the improvements (Electric/Sewer) on Nazareth with EHD for review.

e. Parks & Recreation

- i. Income since last meeting (damage deposits are removed from totals)
 - 1. Park Rental - \$2,300/\$41,658 (Feb/YTD)
 - 2. Event Center - \$4,140/\$51,600
 - 3. Sid Cutter - \$4,200/\$48,433
 - a. The middle bar on the door keeps getting removed. It has been stripped but is now repaired and we use the garage doors now to

prevent more damage. Request for removable bollards on the breezeway.

4. Mr. Smith inquired if landscaping will be completed prior to 2016 Fiesta. Ms. Kiska stated that at this time it is not expected due to funding. All projects are on hold until funding is determined. – Mr. Smith was referred to David Flores for more information.
- ii. Next GEO Bond P & R priorities- Ms. Kiska reported that the process is very preliminary at this time. Ms. Kiska reported the following:
 1. 2 meetings have taken place.
 2. Ms. Kiska is requesting \$1,000,000 but we don't know what we will actually get.
 3. There needs to be a study to determine what the infrastructure needs are for the park before projects are planned. The assessment will identify the needs first. Mr. Wentworth stated the Commission had wanted utility stub-outs included in the Sid Cutter project for future Park needs but the City did not do that. Some work was done before the project was started to determine those utility requirements, that information should be available.
 4. Fiber optics is a critical need for communication reasons.
 5. Electrical outlets at the North end of the park are needed.
 6. More security cameras are needed – 4 cameras.
 7. \$50-60K for the infrastructure study. \$250,000.00- \$300,000.00 in construction.
 8. Other PRD projects are reviewed.
 9. Mr. Nordin confirmed that Phase II of Sid Cutter is not included. Ms. Kiska confirmed. Mr. Wentworth pointed out that infrastructure needs for the Park have always been a high priority of the Commission and the Sid Cutter Pavilion was never a priority item.
 10. The light study \$126,000.00 to replace all lights around the park. The 3% energy program has not been decided yet. It could have to come out of the GO Bond funds.
- f. **Update on the O-15-2 amending the Balloon Fiesta Park Ordinance** – If any comments or suggestions can be sent to Rebecca Burt. March 23 is the expected date to be heard.
- g. **Update on the RPC - Zone Change Proposal to build a 40 lot gated residential area by the Balloon Museum** – Meeting on Thursday March 10, 2016, 8 am, 3rd agenda item. PRD will have Christina Sandoval in opposition of the zone change.
 - i. Mr. Wentworth reviewed the appeal process that is in place if needed.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Pricing / Fee schedule – presentation – Current fee schedules for event center, Sid Cutter PP and BFP. The chart shows various items of comparisons. Due to lack of time it will be the major focus of April Meeting. Ms. Rogers will send a list of possible comparisons.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Paragliders at BFP – Not discussed.
- b. Verizon Project - Status of project and lighting fixture status. - Not discussed
- c. Past member recognition – Committee Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Mezzancello and Mr. Garcia - Not discussed
- d. BFP daily guidelines -Not discussed
- e. Annual Report -Not discussed

6. Motion to adjourn: Ms. Rogers Second Mr. Haley. Motion Passed.

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – April 12, 2016

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