

Balloon Fiesta Park Commission
September 10, 2013 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Meeting Location: Fiesta on the Green
Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:06 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Barbara Baca, Sandy Cohen, Dave Downey, Mark Haley, Elise Rogers, Frank Mezzancello, Justin Garcia, Mark Johnston

Members Absent: Gov. Victor Montoya, Dr. Steve Komadina, Rick Treadwell.

Others Present: Janie Jordan, Paul Smith, and various supporters for event organizers.

City Staff Present: Suzanne Busch, David Flores, Alexandra Kiska, Susan Rice, Daphany Martin

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE JULY MINUTES: Frank motioned to accept the minutes, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Past Events –

Mud & Bud 5K– Aug 17 & 18 – 1820 attending~ Was not as large as anticipated.

Apocalyptic Volleyball Tournament– Aug 24 – 230 attending~ Successful for organizers.

Bugaboo Cross Fit Competition– Aug 24 – 125 attending~ successful turnout

Hoof It 2 Happy Hour 5K– Aug 30 –150 attending~ Happy with results, booked for next year.

Black Light Run– Aug 31– 3010 attending~ Successful, but event had issues with cleanup.

National Preparedness & Safety Fair– Sept 7 – 80 attending ~ Not a large turn -out, but happy.

Remembrance Run 5K– Sept 8 – 150 attending ~Successful event, Blue star mothers were able to raise monies to send over 250 care packages overseas, and were very thankful.

Future Events –

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta 2013- October 5 -13, 2013

Events applying for use of the Balloon Fiesta Park in 2014 being presented for Commission advise –

Wine Festival– May 24-26, 2014 Ms. Rogers motioned to approve, Mr. Mezzancello 2nd, passed unanimously.

Rock N Glow- 5k– June 7, 2014 Mr. Mezzancello motioned to approve, Ms. Baca 2nd, passed unanimously. Large cost difference between Rock and Glow and the Heart Walk. Ms. Rice confirmed the Heart Walk is actually renting panel's in-between walking path, whereas Rock N Glow is only using the path, but Ms. Rice has the panels closed for safety reasons. Several members of the Commission pointed out that the cost difference between the two events is substantial since both events are still closing the panels in between. Discussion on how we can charge runs and walks. Mr. Nordin suggested approving these events according to the new fee schedule. Ms. Baca suggested that when looking at the fee schedule making a separate column for fee schedules in reference to runs. Mr. Mezzancello motioned to amend the motion to approve to include the new fee schedule, Ms. Baca 2nd, passed unanimously.

Heart Walk/Run– June 7, 2014-Hoping for 1500 participants, no liquor. Permits will be required before they can proceed with walk/run. This event will use panels of grass. Mr. Nordin suggested all events being approved be approved according to new fee schedule. Ms. Rogers motioned to approve according to new fee schedule, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

Kickball 4 Kids– June 21, 2014-anticipating 1,000 participants, will have a beer garden. Mezzancello motioned to approve with stipulation of new fee schedule, Mr. Haley 2nd, passed unanimously.

Color Dash 5K– Aug 9, 2014-Anticipating 2500 participants, fee will be based on whether not-for profit paperwork is received. . Ms. Rogers motioned to approve with the stipulation of the new fee schedule, Mr. Johnston 2nd, passed unanimously.

Color In Motion– Aug 23, 2014- Return Event, no alcohol. Mr. Mezzancello motioned to approve with the stipulation of new fee schedule, Ms. Rogers 2nd, passed unanimously.

5. 2013 – 2014 FEE SCHEDULE

Ms. Rice proposed and reviewed “Balloon Fiesta Park 2013 Fiesta on the Green User Event Application.” Mr. Wentworth raised the concern on the application should require a license number for the company serving alcohol be listed as liability protection for the City. Discussion had on the new fee schedule proposed by Ms. Rice within the “Balloon Fiesta Park 2013 Fiesta on the Green User Event Application” which included rules for the client to abide by so it is clear on what is expected for the rental. Ms. Rogers commended Ms. Rice on doing a great job with application as it was very thorough. Mr. Wentworth asked how security is being handled in regards to access to the facility as it closes at 12:00am and there is access to the park throughout the night for various events. Ms. Rice confirmed Security does a sweep of the facility as they exit. Mr. Wentworth is concerned that due to the access throughout the night there could be vandalism or various unwanted activities at the Park. Discussion on rate increase and what is appropriate for the market, and what we are offer in services in comparison to others with the same sort of venue. Mr. Wentworth feels the price is expensive, especially in regards to community non-profit groups. Ms. Baca referenced that there have been comparisons with other facilities, and that the facility is booked well into next year, and in regards to community groups, they are accommodated in many ways in other facilities. Ms. Baca and Mr. Wentworth both agreed that when the facility is not otherwise being rented, non-profit organizations can utilize the facility at no charge. Discussion on prime hours of facility being rented, and the non-busy hours can be utilized for nonprofit community meetings.

Mr. Wentworth asked to have language added for these community associations to utilize facility for community non-profit meetings on non-prime hours.

Ms. Baca proposed to approve the fee schedule as presented by Ms. Rice, and to have language added to the document that there is intent to provide the facility for community groups on a case by case basis. Ms. Kiska also commented that these meetings would need to be held during regular business hours, and not require additional staff. Ms. Rogers motioned to approve, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

Balloon Fiesta Park Usage Fee Schedule Discussion on the fee schedule and rules for the Park. Verbiage and other items to be removed such as the restaurant, and rules pertaining to the restaurant, as the Fiesta on the Green User Event Application cover items in reference to the Fiesta on the Green. Reviewed page by page and made various modifications to the document. Mr. Haley motioned to approve changes, Ms. Baca 2nd passed unanimously.

Balloon Fiesta Park Fee Schedule-Ms. Baca stated that the Parks and Recreation staff does not want to make any changes to the fee schedule in regards to the Parks fee schedule. Ms. Baca proposed to approve the fee schedule as is, and staff will look at bringing a proposal on runs/walks, and how they compare to other venues. Mr. Garcia motioned to approve with info forthcoming on runs, and approve fees” as is.” Mr. Nordin requested to make additional changes to strike items on Page two referencing restaurant. Mr. Haley 2nd, Mr. Nordin requested one additional change to strike referencing restaurant, Mr. Garcia motioned to include changes, Mr. Haley 2nd, passed unanimously.

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

• Department of Municipal Development

• Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

ii. Event Report-Mr. Smith reported on AIBF's land west of the field across the AMAFCA channel, as they are applying for a Bernalillo County Special Use Permit (modifies existing zoning) to put RV's in this location, but was denied by the Bernalillo County Planning Commission due in large part to opposition by the neighborhood. The neighborhood's two major complaints are noise and traffic. At the North Edith Corridor Neighborhood Association meeting, the Bernalillo County Sheriff's Department announced they are no longer enforcing Balloon Fiesta or Neighborhood passes on Edith, as they were sued previously. AIBF looking at steps to protect them from future lawsuits and hopefully get that enforcement reinstated.

AIBF has learned that there are fireworks primarily made for noise, rather for light and for show. AIBF has already purchased the fireworks for this year's Balloon Fiesta but they will remove those fireworks that are primarily function is made for noise in one of this year's shows. Mr. Smith indicated he would try to find out how this change is received by neighbors who voiced concerns about the fireworks.

Mr. Smith offered the idea of the park looking into hiring an Acoustic Engineer. A sound barrier wall around the park could help lower sound levels. The cost for standard 2000 ft. X 6ft is well over 200 thousand. AIBF will be doing sound readings in the area during Balloon Fiesta. It was pointed out by several that the changing characteristics of the area impact sound as well as the weather – barometric pressure, temperature, wind and other factors.

iii. Status of Park preparations-Flagpole location is being decided on in order for installation to proceed. Ms. Jordan will provide specifications of the flagpole to Ms. Rice. The Presidents Compound has a new walkway. North Berm has been corrected by the city with a temporary bar across for safety. In regards to the Park & Ride AIBF will be moving the fence to allow for better queuing. AIBF has a 40X40 Tent that Mr. Smith offered to the city to purchase if they would like. Replacement of panels for the tent would cost approximately 4k. AIBF will be looking at renting a tent for that location in the future as it is less expensive. If the City doesn't want to purchase the tent, it will be gone after Balloon Fiesta. The grass on the field does not look very good from overhead. There are significant yellow spots that need care. AIBF confirmed with Ms. Baca that the AMAFCA license has been signed by the City and is now with AMAFCA. Mr. Wentworth thanked Mr. Smith for looking into the sound issues. He stated that sound problems have been constant problems for the surrounding communities not only during the Balloon Fiesta but during the other events at the Park. He said this had been pointed out at almost every meeting of the Commission.

• Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

i. Past Events- Recent loss of their foundation Director Jen Taylor. The Foundation and the Museum are working hard in preparation for Fiesta. **ii. Upcoming events-**The Department of Cultural Services is now interviewing for a Community and Special Events Manager. Nancy Abruzzo is commissioning a piece of art for the Tribute Area through her Foundation.

• Environmental Health Department

Former LA Landfill was ready to go in the proper time. Currently working on adding additional water lines to the RV area, and extra power will be added by generators in the Landfill on the south side of Alameda.

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Parks & Recreation

i. Telecommunications Tower update-Ms. Jordan confirmed that the tower is up and on line.

ii. Priority Plan Update- The Mayor is reviewing the current design concepts on the Pilots Pavilion, and will provide direction in the near future regarding design, cost estimates, and funding. Staff indicated that they would provide the Mayor's comments to the Commission when they had them.

iii. Digital Sign update- waiting on approval from City Budgeting.

iv. Income since last meeting & Balance in the account

Balloon Fiesta Park – \$4092.50

Fiesta on the Green – \$2460.00

Mr. Nordin asked for confirmation from Ms. Baca if monies generated from the Parks Rental come back to an account for the Park itself, and the monies generated from the Fiesta on the Green goes back to the General Budget? Ms. Baca confirmed that he is correct.

v. Signage for park- Judith Wong, Mark Haley, Susan Rice and Stephen Madrid in attendance. Priority signs to correct:

1) Exit signs at all pedestrian exits, 2) uniform Gate number signs at all exit gates. Both signs need to be visible from the grass area of the park. 12” lettering for signs (smaller letters for “Gate”). Will try and have exit signs in place for AIBF.

vi. Tribute Park-Parks and Recreation will be providing recreational activities during the down time during the Balloon Fiesta.

7. OLD BUSINESS:

- Annual Report – continue discussion at next meeting
- Park Policies & Park Funding Priorities –
- How to recognize past Board / Commission members

8. NEW BUSINESS

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – November 12, 2013

Mr. Mezzancello motioned to adjourn, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously 8:06 p.m.