

BALLOON FIESTA PARK COMMISSION

June 11, 2013

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:04 p.m.

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

Members Absent: Gov. Victor Montoya

Others Present: Janie Jordan-AIBF, Don Edwards-AIBF, Suzanne Busch-EHD, Jeff Willis-AMAFCA, Lee Gamelsky-LGA, Jared Winchester-LGA, Chris Green, and Larry Caudill, Pres. Of the Wildflower Neighborhood Association.

1. CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA- Mr. Johnston motioned to accept changes to the agenda, Mr. Mezzancello 2nd, passed unanimously.

2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE MAY MINUTES: Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve the minutes with his changes, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT –

Discussion on sound issues in the neighborhood. It was noted that an event at the Balloon Museum, (Blueseum) had generated complaints from the north valley community about extreme sound from the event. It was pointed out by Mr. Wentworth that the event stopped at 9 PM. City staff had stated that loud music was coming from the Gardunos building past 11 PM. It was pointed out that the park closes at 10 PM and there should have been no sound emitting from the Gardunos building. Mr. Caudill, President of the Wildflower Neighborhood Association suggested that the Park purchase a noise level meter to make sure events are in compliance. Mr. Treadwell stated that there were sound problems from the “Warrior event” that also impacted the Wildflower Neighborhood. Mr. Wentworth would like sound measured at different areas of the park during events that use amplified sound systems, as he feels the noise level is the worst it been for the past decades. Mr. Cohen didn’t realize there was a noise problem until he had been notified via emails from the community. He is taking steps such as re-positioning the sound stage to aim the speakers where there is no residence. He has informed his staff to be aware of sound levels. Mr. Haley said he contacted the nursing home he represents that is located west of the park and asked if they had any concerns. The nursing home requested Mr. Haley to inform them of the events so they can sit out on their porch and enjoy the music, and had no complaints.

4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS-Event Calendar

Past Events–

Celtic Festival, May 18 & 19 – Good – went well, good attendance, set 9 world records, ended up with beer gardens instead of ability to walk around with beer.

Challenges – fences sand bagged with only 1 bag and blew over. 1 Goat was killed.

Fence Company and the Celtic Fest were responsible.

They had too many vehicles on the park – no extra damage, but not necessary

Wine Festival, May 25 – 27 –Good – event is well run and ran smooth
Challenges – They assumed that they could run the event the way they had in the past and there was resistance changing to new policies. Mr. Nordin inquired on policies, and Ms. Kiska clarified the policies that are within the agreement. The resistance was that staff asked the event organizers to guide traffic in through the north end of the park, but they continued with traffic being guided through the south end of the park, thus creating back up and traffic. The north end could handle much more traffic than the south. They will use the north entrance for public access to parking in 2014.

The organizers inquired if they are allowed to stake the tents on the pavement, the tent company will fill the holes the day they take the tents down. Mr. Nordin commented that this had been discussed last year, and the commission is against the idea because over time the integrity of the asphalt disappears. Ms. Kiska said attendance increased by over 5,000 people, and anticipate attendance to increase next year. Ms. Kiska referenced that we host several large events and hope the Wine Festival follows recommendations that are made next year. The grass took a beating as the event was 3 days and could only be watered once during event, next year looking at watering by hand.

Hoop It Up! Let It Fly!, June 8 & 9 –Good – the participants had a good time, there was no disruptive behavior that we are aware of, once again, the opening of San Diego extension was instrumental in a good traffic pattern

Challenges – The person in charge was not very organized; dumpsters were set in the east parking lot, volunteers were late at their posts, security was 2 hours late Saturday, port-a-potties were delivered late on Saturday

Future Events–

NM Motorcycle Rights Car & Bike Show – June 15

Fight with Flight for Cancer Awareness – June 21 & 22

NM National Guard 7 on 7 Passing Tournaments – June 28 & 29

Freedom 4th Event – July 4

Asking for approval – Color in Motion 5K; August 3, 2013 –Ms. Kiska confirmed the Event has 2800 participants. Mr. Nordin felt we could have been provided more detail. Ms. Rogers motioned to approve the event, Mr. Johnston 2nd, passed unanimously.

5. PRIORITY PLAN UPDATE–Handout Provided

Mr. Gamelsky presented 6 designs (Option 1, Option 2, Option 2A, Option 3, Option 4, and Option 4A). He presented the options, as well as the conceptual cost estimates to the commission. He reviewed various details of each section of the building. Mr. Gamelsky is meeting with Jewel Cutter to better understand what the family's thoughts and ideas are in regards to the memorial and understand the family's thoughts and ideas.

Mr. Gamelsky opened for questions.

Mr. Haley inquired on the high cost difference from what he sees in the private sector. Mr. Gamelsky confirmed that government has to do the bid process, and go with the lowest bid, but usually is higher than a private job. Mr. Gamelsky used Jerry Cline as an example coming in at roughly \$300 SF. Discussion followed on what may be the cost differences from the public and government jobs as there is a huge disparity between the two. Mr. Haley asks these questions as a tax payer would like to further understand what drives the costs to better understand as a community and to save money, and still have

functional facilities. Mr. Komadina wanted to make sure the price does not jump after the job completed. He has experienced bids that have been awarded in past with the price increasing by the end of the project. Mr. Gamelsky said he doesn't believe this would be the case, as he feels the prices are in line. He has made sure not to under-estimate costs, as he has several years of experience in cost estimating. Mr. Wentworth said he agrees with Mr. Haley on his view regarding the high costs and referenced the Fiesta on the Green costing substantially more than what was originally estimated. Mr. Wentworth is concerned the project is being done in phases, and with inflation price increases can be anticipated. Discussion on sound, administrative offices not being located in proposed facility, as well as confirming that there would be fire sprinklers. Mr. Komadina was concerned the starting square ft. of 12,000 square feet may be too small to even utilize. Mr. Gamelsky pointed out the covered area of approximately 1,760 ft. will also be utilized in addition the square footage, including bathrooms, warming kitchen, and storage areas. Mr. Wentworth asked why on the design is limited to an 18000 ft. building if there is a need for larger building. Mrs. Rogers answered that in a previous discussion it was agreed any bigger would be over kill. Mr. Nordin asked if utilities are included in cost estimate, and Mr. Gamelsky confirmed he allotted a line item of \$100,000 towards utilities. It was pointed out that the cost did not provide for the utility expansion past the building that had been prioritized by the Commission at previous meetings. Mr. Gamelsky confirmed that there will be covered space overlooking park. He is projecting 14,000 square feet of surrounding patio in the estimate. Ms. Baca said this is important for Balloon Fiesta it is also seating space for pilots landing. Mr. Wentworth brought up some events require electrical outlets and asked how electrical will be placed with in the building? Mr. Gamelsky confirmed the floor duct, and in the walls. Mr. Haley asked if impact fees are included in the cost estimate, Mr. Gamelsky could not say for sure as it is not broken down separately in his estimate. Mr. Nordin asked the costs to maintain the facility for building once it was built, as it costs to maintain. Mr. Gamelsky said he does not have the numbers. Ms. Baca said Parks would need to develop, and put in a request for the operating budget, and agreed it is a good question. Ms. Baca asked the board for feedback in regards to the proposed building. Ms. Rogers commented that she loved the design; Mr. Komadina asked if the building would be built without heat? Mr. Gamelsky confirmed that there would be a hvac system in the final build out of the facility, including several of the options. Comparison of other options and cost differences were discussed. Mr. Mezzancello agrees the building is beautiful, but doesn't feel the need for another large kitchen. Mr. Gamelsky responded that the kitchen is very basic, and not a full blown out kitchen. Ms. Rogers commented that there are a lot of windows and may want to think about darkening, Mr. Gamelsky agrees it's a good point as room darkening is important. Mr. Komadina said he is willing to make a recommendation as there are really only two options. He suggests, and supports the building with the beams (Option 2) and believes this would make an architectural statement, and hopes to move forward. Ms. Baca said there are other viable options but agrees with option 2, as it includes bathrooms and accomplishes what has been intended. Mr. Cohen said maybe illuminating three of the options to narrow selection as a point of discussion. Discussion ensued on the various options and differences between them. Option 2 could eventually be phased into Option 2A over time. Mr. Garcia supports option 2. Ms. Rogers moved that the board recommend option 2, Justin Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously. Mr. Wentworth asked how the roof will hold up with wind and elements. Mr. Gamelsky said it is a concern but the design will be looked at by structural engineers.

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

Department of Municipal Development-San Diego Road Status

The road is being opened for every large event using temporary stop signs. Ms. Jordan mentioned that AIBF is looking into installing swing gates for the road to eliminate the requirement for her staff to move the jersey barriers each weekend. (There would be a total 3 gates) Mr. Wentworth asked who would be paying for this, as he feels city should pay for improvements. Ms. Baca said the City will work together with AIBF. City has approved, but Ms. Jordan looking for board's approval. Mr. Wentworth motioned to approve the installation of the gates by AIBF, Ms. Rogers 2nd, passed unanimously.

Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta

ii. Update on this year's Fiesta- nothing to report. Mr. Don Edwards was introduced as the AIBF Event Director.

Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum

Past Events-

Huge weekend on June 1 & 2 - Albuquerque Folk Fest (4,100 in attendance), and the Blueseum (a little over 1,000 in attendance). Sound issues generated problems for the surrounding communities. Overall attendance and special revenues have increased at the Balloon Museum for this fiscal year. Recent attendance for "Stories in the Sky" has been outstanding!

Upcoming events-

Albuquerque Concert Series to kick off tomorrow night, June 12. There will be a total of 5 concerts- All at the Balloon Museum-Through early August.

Our ability to get the tethered Balloon Ride has been affected by the helium shortage. Plans are still in place for it to eventually happen, but not until the helium problem improves. Discussion on the placement of the Balloon, and the height that it will rise from the ground. Mr. Cohen confirmed the Balloon Ride would definitely be seasonal.

Plan for the new theater in the museum is moving forward. Collections have been moved to Annex Building. Theater will be in place by Fiesta.

Initial ideas are being discussed for a Balloon-Theme Playground to be placed in the "Children's Entertainment" portion of the new Tribute Area.

Environmental Health Department

i. Ms. Bush said last year Environmental Health came out to Balloon Fiesta with a surface monitor and found a huge crack with high methane content. They sealed and tested and everything was fine, but will keep coming back. They would like to install passive venting which would evacuate the methane and they would not have to worry about further cracks, settling, measuring. They have hired SCS; the system install would start by August, and be done by September. They are currently measuring amounts as high as 50 methane level. The venting pipes would be located along the perimeter of the property.

Parks & Recreation

i. Telecommunications Tower update- Multiple contracts have been presented to Ms. Baca for signature, and then would be routed for to the CAO for signature. Ms. Jordan would like to be notified when they start the schedule on construction; Barbara will look into it, and let Ms. Jordan know.

Master Plan Update

Digital Sign update-

New sign faces for Fiesta on the Green (2) - \$1498.00

Repair of electronic sign, ground level access, and new software- \$866.07

EPNM Inc. /Zeon Signs is in progress of working on sign

Suggested verbiage for sign: Fiesta on the Green Banquet Facility

Income and disbursements since last meeting-

Balance of the account

Income for May - \$23,594.50 – Balloon Fiesta Park

\$ 4,425.00 – Fiesta on the Green

v. Signage for Park - Bill Nordin

7. OLD BUSINESS:

Annual Report – continue discussion

RFI-RFP – On hold

How to recognize past Board / Commission members– Update

Park Policies-

Park Funding Priorities–

8. NEW BUSINESS

2013-2014 Fee Schedule – Bill Nordin Would like to begin discussion regarding increasing the fee's as they are low at this point. He would like to go into detail next meeting as Ms. Rice will be present for discussion. He asked the board to think about this for next month's meeting for further discussion. Mr. Madrid introduced himself to the board as he works under Ms. Rice and oversees the events, and looks forward to working with everyone.

Mr. Wentworth motioned to adjourn, Mr. Garcia 2nd, passed unanimously
Meeting adjourned 7:55 p.m.