

METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of February 22, 2013

Location: Ladera Golf Course, 3401 Ladera NW

Members Present: William Kraemer, Chair; Rebecca L. Tays; Janet Harrington; Kelly Gossett; Carmen Garcia

Members Excused/Absent: Amy Lahti, Vice-Chair; Dan Wilkinson; Jerry Worrall

City Staff Present: Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

Visitors: N/A

Call to Order: Mr. Kraemer called the meeting to order at 11:05 AM

Approval of Today's Agenda: Mr. Kraemer requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Jan Harrington moved approval; Rebecca Tays seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Kraemer requested a motion to approve the November 2012 Minutes. Kelly Gossett moved approval; Jan Harrington seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: N/A

Announcements: Barbara provided information on the GO Bond Program Budget which has been submitted and will be heard at City Council Meeting on March 4, 2013, for approval. She provided additional information on the budget. She mentioned that a Study Session was held last Friday on ABQ the Plan for the river and 50 mile loop. She provided additional information to the Board on this matter. She mentioned that we only have \$300K for new park development. There are 15 undeveloped parks and 23 partially developed parks throughout the city. She express the importance of the Board reaching out to support parks and open space in the GO Bond Program. She requested that Christina send a list of these parks to Board Members. She attended the CAO Hearing on Budget. This is a no growth year and Parks and Recreation put forward 10% reduction in Contractual Services. This is a tough budget year. She discussed the affect of the minimum wage increase on the Parks and Recreation Department. She expressed the importance of funding our programs for our kids and for quality of life. The NMRPA Conference is being held next week at the Embassy Suites. It is a state wide conference. The Mayor and Commissioner O'Malley are speaking at this event. The Mayor is kicking off his new health initiative, Step it Up ABQ! He is encouraging people to get out and walk. He will be holding events in various parks the first Saturday of every month. Prescription Trails and Exerplay are partners in this project. Barbara will forward information to the Board on Step it Up ABQ! There are two ribbon cuttings scheduled. On March 8, 2013, the grand opening for the Esperanza Community Bike Shop and on March 22, 2013, the grand opening for the Jerry Cline Tennis Center. We will send information to the Board.

General Public Testimony: None. Mr. Kraemer asked Board Members if they had anything they would like to share from their Districts. Rebecca Tays, District 8, mentioned that she would like to start more volunteer projects. She is interested in parks in her neighborhood. She sees a need for socialization and wants the city to be beautiful. Kelly mentioned that he has made it a priority to learn about social media. He feels it is an important way to get information out to the public. Mr. Kraemer feels that Parks and Recreation Department is doing a great job. He feels it is the role of the Board to find a way to help by reaching out to the community and getting more involved in the process in an effort to allow Barbara to deal with government.

Discussion Items

- Update Guidelines for Renaming Park – The Board discussed this matter further with everyone providing input. They discussed alternative ways of recognizing someone without having to rename a park. Barbara provided information on the Memorial Tree Program, where people can purchase a tree or bench in memory of someone. Barbara feels it is important to have the Board discuss requests for name change. Changes that have been requested by the Board will be incorporated into the current document and forwarded to them along with an application form for their review. This item will be added to the agenda for the March 26, 2013 meeting as an action item. The public will be notified that the Board is considering a new policy. They are welcome to provide input. The Board will be encouraged to attend the meeting so that there is a quorum.
- Next steps to get Board on track for 2013 – Mr. Kraemer mentioned that he would like to get the Retreat scheduled. Staff will contact the Board to see what date will work for everyone during the month of May 2013.

Adjourn: Mr. Kraemer adjourned the meeting at 1:05 PM.