

**Balloon Fiesta Park Commission**  
**Minutes for April 8, 2014 6:00 – 8:00 PM**  
**Meeting Location: Banquet Room / Balloon Fiesta Park**

**Meeting called to order 6:00 pm**

**Members Present:** Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Chief Dave Downey, Mark Haley, Mark Johnston, Dr. Steve Komadina, Frank Mezzancello, Elise Rogers, Janie Jordan, Paul Smith, Barbara Baca

**Members Absent:** Sandy Cohen, Justin Garcia, Gov. Stuart Paisano, Rick Treadwell, Billy Galleogs, Gov. Montoya

**Others Present:** Chris Green (Presenter), Jackie Fishman (Presenter), Lee Gamelsy

**City Staff Present:** David Flores (PRD), Paul Olsen (EHD), Alexandria Kiska (PRD), Susan Rice (PRD), Lisa Lopez (PRD)

**1. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:** None

**2. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 2014 MINUTES & DISCUSSION OF THE MARCH MEETING:** Mr. Wentworth motion to approve minutes as discussed with additional information. Mr. Johnson seconded the motion. – All in favor.

At the last meeting the commission was one person short of having a quorum at the March meeting.

Introduction: Lisa Lopez – Administrative Assistant for PRD/ Recreation. Responsible for taking minutes. – Introduction of each person present.

No meeting but comments made. Question posed by Mr. Nordin does the commission want to vote on the comments of a “non-meeting”?

Mr. Wentworth – They need to be voted on if we want them to be official. We had a good discussion and should be part of the record. Motion to approve the draft minutes  
Ms. Rogers question? Is the motion to approve the conversation or the draft minutes or notes?

Clarification that the commission is approving the notes taken.

Ms. Rogers seconds the motion to approve the notes taken at the March meeting.

Mr. Nordin provides clarification the motion is to approve the amended notes taken at the March Meeting. – Mr. Wentworth agreed and verified that Ms. Rogers has seconded the motion.

All in favor.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT-** None - We have a presentation this evening. Paul Olson with Environmental Health was introduced.

#### 4. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS

Past Events –

3/22/2014 Great Strides 5K Walk – It was a small walk about 150 people has been here a couple of years before and there were no problems to report

4/5-7/2014 Borzio Club of America. National Breed competition. Very interesting event. The dogs can reach up to 32 mph. There was a total 3 competitions. Three breeders from California stopped to thank Ms. Rice and say what a great field it was for this type of event. Ms. Rice did say that in the early spring the grass is much taller. This was a good national reflection for the Balloon Fiesta Park. – No issues to report.

4/5/2014 Ellen Reavis Run for Autism Almost 1100 participants this year. Really good event. This year the run was supported by a local motorcycle group. The bikes parked on park. This was not a problem until they were leaving. When participants were leaving two motorcyclists got into an accident and had to be taken to the hospital. The accident happened on the corner of San Mateo and Balloon Fiesta Parkway. No fault of the Park. It was just an accident. – No issues with the event itself.

3/15/2014 Black Light Run – 4000 participants with laser lights. The problems with this event were:

1. The sound level. The sound level got up to 68 decibels near the southwest corner of the field. Ms. Rice reports it was bass reverberation.

Mr. Wentworth stated that actual sound could be heard. Music and lyrics could be heard 2 miles away.

Ms. Rice reports that the citizen she spoke with reported house shaking and bass reverberation. Ms. Rice reports a 30-40 minute turnaround time to resolve. By this time the event was almost over. Ms. Rice reports that for future events a solution is to have a sound check with the decibel meters on hand 2 hours before an event or when the sound system is set up. Once the event has started it is much harder to control. By doing a sound check beforehand the sound level can be controlled.

2. Problem with clean up. The organizers tried to do it with undersized equipment that did not work. 1 day of labor was charged for completion of clean up. A local vendor was brought in to power wash and complete the clean up the remaining color.

Mr. Mezzanello posed question: Was Ms. Rice satisfied with the solution and outcome of the clean-up.

Ms. Rice: Yes. The event organizers were penalized for not fulfilling their part of the rental agreement and staff has learned a more effective way to monitor/control the sound level of future events.

3. D-4 had deep color starch. But the grass recovered.

Mr. Mezzanello makes note that depending on wind conditions of any given night this could affect how the sound carries. Everything possible could be done and it might not have made a difference.

Ms. Rice there was wind that night and it was blowing in the Southwest direction.

Mr. Nordin: There were satellite speakers set up and they were turned outward and more than one area had to be adjusted. The individual satellite had to be adjusted and this increased the response time.

Ms. Rice this would be caught with a sound check.

Mr. Wentworth it took over 30 minutes.

Mr. Wentworth requests implementation of an emergency phone number system to be posted on our website in the event that he or others are not available for some reason, in the event of need.

Mr. Wentworth requests that after initial sound check that a staff member double check that organizers have not made changes to the sound system.

Ms. Rice confirms that a note has been made to provide emergency phone numbers in neighborhood publications

Mr. Wentworth wants it on our website.

Ms. Rice acknowledges website addition to emergency phone number idea.

Future Events – See staff report supplement dated 4/8/2014  
7/19/2014 Car Show and Concert. Estimated 2000 people but that is an optimistic guess. This is the first time to use our park.

Mr. Mezzancello wants to know the recommendation of the event.

Ms. Rice. The vendor is well experienced and is very cooperative with sound control. It has been stressed that sound is the number one issue. We should allow.

Ms. Jordan poses question: There are only 5 days between this event and concert on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Will this cause damage to the grass?

Ms. Rice: Attendance will only be 2000. There could be an issue if the attendance was larger.

Mr. Wentworth wants to know and confirm facilities used: existing stage and cars on the asphalt only. No cars on grass.

Mr. Nordin requests a motion to approve: Mr. Mezzancello: Motion to approve:

Seconds motion

All in favor – None opposed.

Mr. Nordin – upon review of the calendar. The park is hosting and upcoming Wine Festival. Are there any changes that need to be reported from last year to this year?

Ms. Rice: Any changes have already been presented. Entrance of the vehicles to use the North Entrance.

## **5. SID CUTTER PILOTS PAVILLION – Presentation Consensus Planning**

Side note before presentation Mr. Nordin would like to make note possible deferment of Thursday's meeting. Will make decisions once presentation has been completed and we know where the project is headed

Mr. Mezzancello motions to approve plan as presented.

Mr. Nordin would like to hear the presentation prior to any motions.

Mr. Mezzancello agreed to wait. This presentation is concept.

Mr. Nordin and Mr. Mezzancello discuss plan vs concept of the Sid Cutter Project.

Mr. Mezzancello would like to get the project done and moving.

Mr. Nordin asks for the presentation to begin.

Mr. Green begins presentation

First Item: Update.

See document titled Environmental Planning Commission, Staff Report, Agenda Number 08 Project Number 100-0363 Case Number 14DPC – 40018, 40017 dated April 10, 2014

The project is scheduled to be heard at the EPC hearings on Thursday 12/12/2014. This project is number eight on the agenda should be heard late morning or early afternoon. The site plan and pavilion building was submitted to the commission and approved in June of last year. Graph shows identification of what is being built on phase 1. If questions please feel free to ask. Drawing shows shape and size that mimics the master development plan. Based on funding, what parts of buildings will be built in phase 1. Master development shows increased 26 feet to 34 feet currently 33 feet an IBF and FAA have provided letters that this will work sector development plan shows approval for up to 39 feet phase 1. Multipurpose building approximately 12,000 ft.<sup>2</sup>. Start structure shows restroom facilities since Sid Cutter sculpture. The vendor concourse area needs to be vetted via this committee and EPC so that approval is not needed each time.

Mr. Gamelsy: Elevations: materials are stucco, curved roof, roof panels and does fit into the master development plan. Changes include deck on the north side of the building, elevated tower. Phase 1 includes restrooms. Clarification that restrooms are included in phase 1. There is a covered roof that connects the multipurpose building in the restrooms.

Mr. Wentworth: Phasing of the interior of the building question on funding: Regarding electrical and other components, would like to know if additional information is available at this point.

Mr. Gamelsy: Clarification on what was said: items on projects in the budget would be listed as additive alternates. When we bid out the project we would get base bid and within budget depending on how the bids come in additive alternates could be added at that point. No other pricing have been done since then. Construction to begin after the next balloon fiesta.

Mr. Wentworth is it conceivable that we will have a shell of a building without electrical and floor another items are needed.

Mr. Gamelsy there will be electrical in the building.

Mr. Green: Ideas to have electrical outlets in the floor; however more discussion is needed before a decision is made.

Elevations: Front and rear sides are metal structures this will eliminate potential vandalism

Mr. Mezzancello wants clarification that this presentation at this point is concept only and that it is not set in stone. Mr. Mezzancello wants to make sure that changes can be made if needed as the project proceeds.

Mr. Green: Nothing is in stone until it is actually built however what you are seeing here is what we will be building. Changes would have to be done via an administrative amendment.

Mrs. Fishman clarifies that the city of Albuquerque does have a process for administrative amendments. As long as certain thresholds are maintained small changes can be made and do fit into the administrative amendment process.

Mr. Mezzancello is OK with Ms. Fishman's response.

Mr. Wentworth: would like to clarify that an administrative amendment would only include the planning director and DRB – Development Review Board when plans are submitted. DRB is a public hearing but is made up of city staff. Neighborhood

associations will not support administrative amendments. Neighborhood associations will appeal the matter to the City Council if needed..

Mr. Mezzancello would like to clarify the neighborhood associations are concerned with concession row at the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta Park.

Mr. Wentworth: Yes. We are concerned with any administrative amendment that includes approval of any significant item without complete the Commission and public review processes. .

Mr. Nordin would like presentation to continue

Mrs. Fishman wants to clarify that certain changes would be allowed via administrative amendments. Would be agreeable to go to the DRB this would allow the neighborhoods to obtain drawings for small changes. This is the planning approval process that we are talking about. Would like a delegation to the DRB regarding an extension of Main St.,

Mr. Green: putting aside the process are you okay with the design.

Mr. Wentworth: This is the first time the design is being presented to the Commission and there has not been time to review the design. I have concerns about the process, and the fact that the DRB is composed of City of Albuquerque staff. Mr. Wentworth does not have trust in the City of Albuquerque to make decisions about items in Balloon Fiesta Park based on past experiences. Rather, Mr. Wentworth has more trust in the EPC that is made up of citizens without set agendas.

Mr. Wentworth would like the items submitted to EPC and would like to see the Administrative Approval element of the plan dropped. Mr. Wentworth is prepared to appeal to the City Council if necessary, which would then cause a delay of several months for the project.

Mr. Mezzancello: clarification this is an advisory board, why are the neighborhood associations concerned. Would like to proceed, it would not like a delay.

Mrs. Fishman makes statement that the DRB is not an easy process to complete.

Mr. Wentworth reiterates that it is made up of City of Albuquerque staff. Mr. Wentworth restates previous statement he would like this element dropped and he pointed out it would not delay the project. It is not known how infrastructure will be put in the building.

Mr. Mezzancello: We do not need to know it is for the planning people to know how the infrastructure will be put into the building. We are here to advise.

Mr. Wentworth would like to say that the process is flawed.

Mrs. Fishman would like clarification on what process Mr. Wentworth is speaking of.

Mr. Wentworth feels that this should have been presented months ago. This needs more time to be vetted.

Mr. Flores: The process will allow changes if needed. This diagram only at this point.??

Mr. Wentworth indicated that Administrative Approvals have been tried in the past and created problems,. He stated he could not understand the objection to utilizing the EPC process.

Mrs. Fishman makes statement that several items are presented at one time to the EPC in order to save time. Several areas of the park do not have to go through EPC. They are not the gate holder on everything that goes on in the park. Before items are submitted to DRB they would still be submitted to this commission prior to going in front of the DRB.

Mr. Wentworth reiterates statement that he would like it vetted via the EPC.

Mr. Flores: Would like to ask if this commission agrees with approval, would Mr. Wentworth consider changing his position.

Mr. Wentworth: I doubt it.

Mr. Mezzancello: Would like to make a motion to approve the plans as presented.  
Request for a second.

Dr. Komadina seconds the motion

Mr. Nordin: we have a motion to approve as presented and the second.

Ms. Fishman: How does the Albuquerque balloon fiesta see permanency and moving forward vendor's row. Would like to know from Mr. Olson these are more vendor cubicles what do you think about permanency on vendors row.??

Ms. Fishman: Clarification of your question has AIBF reviewed and approved then the answer is yes we have. Roads and flows have been adjusted.

Mr. Nordin: I have a question if we move forward with the entire presentation today have we decided that that is where our funding priority will be. Can the various projects within the master plan be changed around and given priorities? What happens at the end of seven years if we choose not to build this right now?

Mrs. Fishman if not built within seven years is possible that this portion of the plan could be voided.

Mr. Nordin: I'm in favor of building the building however unsure of whether or not he wants this as a priority.

Mr. Green priorities can be moved up and down the list as the commission changes.

Mrs. Fishman: This in no way locks in a priority system.

Mr. Wentworth: I will take the building off my list of objections once my neighborhood Association board has had a chance to discuss the issue and the new design that has been presented - as long as the EPC is involved with the process.

Mr. Nordin: Does anyone else have any comments?

Mr. Haley: I do not have a problem with the EPC or DRB review process. I'm comfortable with the process of the city uses that the facility will be built right.

Dr. Komadina: presentation as submitted will not prevent changes by any group from happening in the future. This project will not weaken any of the associated groups. I support as being submitted.

Mr. Johnston: I do not have a problem with the plan. However I do think what is submitted is horrid. No other comments.

Mr. Nordin: We have a question on the floor by Mr. Mezzancello, all in favor of calling the question?

Confirmation, two thirds in favor.

Next item, motion to approve the plan as presented in full? Six people in favor, Three people opposed. Item is passed.

Mr. Wentworth: Motion to approve the plans for the building, eliminate vendors concourse from the process.

Mr. Johnston: I will second the motion.

Mr. Nordin: Any discussion?

We have a new motion on the floor. . The new motion on the floor is to approve plans for building and eliminating Administrative Approval for the vendor's concourse from the process.

Mr. Johnston stated the motion should be reconsidered since he didn't think it could be made according to Roberts' Rules unless the motion had been made by [someone who voted for the original motion. He explained he had been through the same process with a motion of similar type at an AMA Executive Council meeting. Anyone voting against it cannot make motion to resind](#)

The motion was withdrawn by the maker.

Mr. Nordin: Since there is no motion at this time I would like to move on to the next topic.

## 6. REPORTS / UPDATES

- **Department of Municipal Development:**  
No reports to give at this time.
  
- **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**  
Mr. Olson, Responds but audio is unclear to the details of the response.  
A minimum of two weeks is needed.  
At the bottom of gate 11:  
Need to clarify with AMAFCA to see that their position is the same in regards to parking. Would like to lower the gates at three and four.  
Ms. Rice  
Mrs. Jordan  
Mr. Smith - Fire pit: Discussion temporary vs permanent: Mr. Nordin feels that it would be better as a permanent structure.  
Dr. Komandina: this is fire pit have bolts and can be put together in sections?  
This would allow portability?  
Original person: could I hear  
Mr. Nordin: It does not have to be permanent.
  
- **Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum**
  - i. Past Events: No Report
  - ii. Upcoming events No Report
- **Environmental Health Department**  
Mr. Olson do you have any questions of the environment health department?
- **Parks & Recreation**
  - i. WRI / Verizon update: trouble with cables laid on the east parking lot with fiber optic cable. Will re-measure on 4/10/2014 and resubmit drawing for next month. Alternate solution possible tower next to the cow approximately 30 feet tall. This would be a temporary tower.  
Mr. Johnston: How tall is the command center? Could the cell towers surround the parapet of the command center building?  
Ms. Rice: Suggestion will be mentioned.  
Ms. Jordan: Filler on the asphalt could be affected, should we wait to fill the asphalt until after this project is done?  
Mr. Nordin: More detailed update available next month.
  - ii. Digital Sign update – Parts have been received, Will install this with the GTC staff.
  - iii. Park Annual Report progress:  
Ms. Kiska: Report has been delivered digitally. The only response to the report was provided by Mr. Wentworth. Could a subcommittee be created with 2 to 3 people to provide feedback on the report?  
Clarification that this is for fiscal year 13.

Mr. Mezzancello: I agree that a subcommittee is a good idea. Mr. Mezzancello would not mind sitting on subcommittee with Mr. Wentworth to complete the report.

Mr. Nordin requests volunteers to form a committee for the annual report

Volunteers are: Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Mezzancello, Mr. Johnston as well as Ms. Kiska.

Ms. Kiska: Mr. Wentworth provided a copy of the operations and management report. Ms. Kiska thought it was to be used as a guide however Mr. Wentworth wanted it copied and distributed to the committee. The report was copied and distributed to all committee members.

Mr. Mezzancello: Attendance needs to be included up to and including July 4 celebrations. Once to make park usage to be clear to the City of Albuquerque City Council.

Ms. Kiska: July 2012 to June 30 2013, that was a building year. When we compare those numbers to 2014 a large increase in participation will be reflected.

Mr. Nordin: based on the dates on the report the report will be close to one year old by the time the City Council reviews it. Question: should we include current data to show fiscal year 14 possibly do it as a two year report at once?

Mr. Mezzancello would like the first page of the report to have a bullet summary of attendance, activity, events.

Mr. Nordin does not want to report old data to the City Council.

Ms. Rogers clarifies that oftentimes reports are old because information is still being gathered by the time the fiscal year ends and reports are due.

Mr. Wentworth suggests that report be compiled and whatever dates are included for added at the bottom of the report. Do not limit the report to a fiscal year.

Ms. Rogers: Question when will this report actually be submitted?

Answer given: Approximately June.

Ms. Kiska: Two years at once to show growth.

Dr. Komadina: there should be a summary page showing number of visitors, dollar amount of revenue, etc. It should be in large font and in the front of the report. Most counselors will not read the entire report.

iv. Signage for park – update

Ms. Rice: A request for proposal will be done.

Ms. Kiska: A package deal of signs will be created it will be branded to the park.

Ms Baca: Cost will be included in proposal.

Mr. Wentworth would like to know cost of the proposed signage.

Ms. Kiska: That is the purpose of the proposal to determine cost.

Mr. Wentworth signs that are needed for liability and safety are needed on an immediate basis.

Ms. Kiska many of those signs are either are already up or in the process of being put up.



Ms. Rice: Crucial signs will be put up first less crucial later on as funding becomes available.

Mr. Haley: What is the cost of study for the signs. ???

## 7. OLD BUSINESS:

- Capital Improvements to the Park -

- FY15 GO Bond update

Ms. Baca: It has just been initiated \$7.7 million is what is allotted to the Parks and Recreation department this is a 30% decrease.

Mr. Mezzacello: Should Santa Fe be lobbied to try to increase funding?

Mr. Nordin to Miss Baca, of the \$7.7 million how much will be allotted to Balloon Fiesta Park?

Ms. Baca: Less than \$1 million for Balloon Fiesta Park. Each council member will have comments and suggestions as to how the money will be split among the various departments and projects.

Mr. Nordin: How fast do we need to move on lobbying for the amount of money we want?

Clarification that Brad Winter is the Council representative for this area.

Ms. Baca suggestions are due by May 1.

Mr. Nordin: Due to decreased funding we need to be concerned: Could we over the next four years have enough funding to do the next phase of our buildings? These are things we need to consider when lobbying for our funding.

Dr. Komadina: This needs to be done in coordination with the City of Albuquerque for best results. City leaders in this commission need to work together.

- Park Policies & Park Funding Priorities

Mr. Nordin: It is difficult to determine priorities when we do not know what kind of funding we will have. Once funding is determined priorities need to be set.

- How to recognize past Board / Commission members

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

**Ms. Rogers motioned to adjourn 7:55pm, Mr. Messacello 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.**

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – May 13, 2014

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.