

**METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Minutes of January 12, 2010**

**Location:** Parks and Recreation Admin Building A, 1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW

**Members Present:** Donald H. Couchman, Chair; Gerald C. Worrall, Vice-Chair; Carolyn Stewart; Richard Rivas; Becky Lee; William Baldwin

**Member Absent/Excused:** Robert W. Day

**City Staff Present:** Barbara Baca, Director; Theresa Baca, DMD; Richard Zita, DMD/CIP; Sherri Brueggeman, CIP/Public Art; Jane Trujillo, Parks and Recreation Department, Board Secretary

**Visitors:** Bill Nordin, Balloon Fiesta Park Policy Board (BFPPB) Representative; Darlene Couchman, Public; Charm Lindblad, Prescription Trails

**Call to Order:** Chair Donald A. Couchman called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

**Approval of Today's Agenda:** Member Richard Rivas moved approval, Member Carol Stewart seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

**Approval of November Minutes:** Chair Donald Couchman moved to forgo approval of November Minutes until the next meeting as no minutes had been submitted.

**Introduction of Visitors and Guests:** Visitors and guests listed above. Charm Lindblad here to discuss Prescription Trails

**Announcements:** Member Robert Day is excused for this meeting. Open Meeting Records Act Seminar being conducted in the City Council Chambers tomorrow, Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 3:00 to 4:00 PM.

**General Public Testimony:** None

**Reports:**

- Charm Lindblad, Prescription Trails, brought in the most updated booklet which is currently being distributed. She discussed how Prescription Trails began in Albuquerque. Many New Mexico cities are using Albuquerque as a model. Prescription Trails information is also located on the COA website. Both healthcare providers and veterinarians are participating by writing prescriptions for their patients, both people and pets. Good nutrition and physical activity is the key to good health and prevention of diseases such as diabetes. Charm also discussed and provided information on "Park Scan". This is a computer program being used in San Francisco where people in parks can report graffiti, trash, safety hazards in parks direction to the maintenance area so actions can be taken more quickly. She mentioned that there have been 10,000 hits on Prescription Trail on the COA website in the last year.

- Parks and Recreation Department Director – Barbara Baca reported that she is placing an effort on filling vacancies on the board. Effective immediately, she will be staffing the board and Jane Trujillo will serve as the Board Secretary. She requested that the board consider changing the meeting time and possibly the day from Tuesday to Wednesday, due to the fact that the Balloon Fiesta Policy Board Meeting is at 6:00

PM on the second Tuesday of each month. She has been busy working with Budget on 3% cost reduction for Parks and Recreation Department budget. This amounts to \$750,000 in operating and salary savings. She mentioned that there may be a \$50M shortfall in FY11. Budget instruction is coming out this week on how to deal with this. Service reductions may be included. There are tough decisions to make in the future. She mentioned that Golf fees have been increased effective January 2010. The indoor track has been assembled at the Convention Center for upcoming events in February. She encouraged the Board to attend. We are moving forward with construction at the Jerry Cline Tennis Center. Currently, they are using a modular building. Mayor Berry has requested that we create a new Mission Statement for Parks and Recreation Department (Provided below).

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2010

The Mission of Albuquerque Parks and Recreation Department

**QUALITY PARKS & RECREATION  
FOR  
A QUALITY LIFE!**

- Protect, plan enhance, and maintain a Parks, Major Public Open Space and Trails System that gives Albuquerque its sense of place.
  - Promote economic development and tourism by continuing to provide quality affordable facilities and programs (e.g. Golf, Recreation, Swimming Pools, Parks, Open Space, Balloon Fiesta Park, Shooting Range and Sporting Events).
  - Assure quality educational programs for youth to encourage positive behavior towards a conservation ethic and therefore combat "Nature Deficit Disorder".
  - Provide quality recreation programs to encourage healthy active lifestyles for all ages.
  - Encourage and develop a healthy and safe work environment, ethical management practices and a spirit of teamwork for all Parks & Recreation Employees.
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Don Couchman inquired if it would be helpful to draft a letter from the Board to Mayor Berry stating that cutting the budget is not good. Barbara thinks a letter expressing support of Parks and Recreation Department would be good.

- BFPPB Representative - Bill Nordin reported Gardunos is out of BFP. El Pinto held events in December. An RFP needs to be completed this spring. He mentioned that PMD has a planning for watering the grass. Family Motor Coach event is scheduled in March. He mentioned the traffic light at Balloon Museum Drive is up and the light at Horizon has been shut down. He also mentioned that volunteers want to build a structure at Eastdale Little League.

Barbara Baca mentioned that DMD and Parks and Recreation Department need to work together and come up with specifications for volunteer groups to provide for safe construction projects. Legal ramifications need to be taken into consideration and guidelines need to be established.

- DMD-Sherri Brueggeman and Richard Zita distributed a report and reviewed current CIP Projects, Median Projects and Public Art Projects. Sherri showed pictures of current MoRo Grove project. DMD is currently considering placement of this artwork at the east end of Tigues Park; however, Sherri will contact Barbara on proposed locations. (Report attached.)
- DMD-Theresa Baca provided a trail projects list by Council District (attached).

**Members Roundtable** - Members Roundtable occurred with no resulting action from the Board or staff.

**Unfinished Business:** District 9, William Baldwin has resigned. New members are needed in Districts 4, 5, 7, 8, 9 and 2 at large. Need renewal for District 3. Mr. Couchman wishes to be replaced soon.

**New Business:**

Donald Couchman nominated Jerry Worrall to be Chairman. Moved and seconded to accept Jerry Worrall by acclamation.

Carolyn Steward nominated Richard Rivas and accepted. Approved by acclamation. Moved by Becky Lee and Seconded by Jerry Worrall.

Resolution of meeting passed on a 6 to 0 vote – (See attached.)

The Chair has the prerogative of changing date and time of meetings.

Jerry Worrall will write a letter of support for the Parks and Recreation Department to the Mayor.

Parks and Recreation will research other locations for the Board to meet.

On February Agenda we need to consider meeting time and place change

Jerry Worrall mentioned that Councilor Ken Sanchez offered to meet with the Board for questioning. Jerry will decide.

Next Meeting February 9, 2010, 3:00 – 5:00 PM, West Mesa Aquatic Center Meeting Room, 6705 Fortuna NW

**Adjourn:** Chair Couchman adjourned the meeting, 6:00pm.