

Balloon Fiesta Park Commission
January 12, 2016 – 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Meeting Location: Golf and Event Center at Balloon Fiesta
Park / Balloon Fiesta Park
Minutes

Meeting called to order 6:00 pm

Members Present: Bill Nordin (Chair), Steve Wentworth (VC), Mark Johnston, Dr. Steve Komadina, Elise Rogers, Alexandra Kiska (PRD) Mark Haley, Frank Mezzancello

Members Absent: Justin Garcia, Jackie White, Paul Garver, Chamisa Radford

Others Present: Janie Jordan (AIBF), Paul Smith (AIBF),

City Staff Present: Paul Olsen (EHD), Susan Rice (PRD), Lisa Lopez (PRD), Asia Stuart (PRD), Rebekka Burt (City Council), Chris Melendrez (City Council), Garry Wolfe (PRD)

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA - None

- 1. REVIEW / APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER MINUTES (w/ Paul Smith's and Steve Wentworth's Changes), No December meeting.** Motion to approve the minutes by Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Haley second the motion – Motion Passed.
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT – None.** Introduction of City Council Staff present and Commission Members.
- 3. EVENTS & PRESENTATIONS – Presented by Ms. Rice**
 - a. Past Events**
 - i. November 15 – Stop the Violence 5K – Attendance - 138
 - ii. November 21 – USATF Regional Cross Country Junior Olympics – Attendance 3000 - Half were from out of town.
 - iii. November 26 – Turkey Trek at the Balloon Museum – Attendance not reported
 - iv. December 5 – Jingle Bell 5K – Attendance 100
 - v. December 12 – USATF National Cross Country Junior Olympics Championships – Attendance 9000 Great exposure and lots of positive media. They cleaned up after the event well. 6000 of the attendance were out of town visitors (approximately).
 - vi. December 12-20 – Jingle Bell Rally – Attendance 600
 - vii. January 10 – AAAA Launch – Attendance 100
 - b. Future Events**
 - i. February 6-7 – New Mexico Rush Spring Cup – estimated attendance- 2000 Attendance up from approximately 800 last year. Entire complex is rented for the event.
 - ii. Mr. Nordin inquired about the various runs at the park: Ms. Rice reported that color runs have been reduced by a small percentage but themed runs have replaced them.
 - iii. Mr. Nordin inquired about the number of events booked at Sid Cutter Pilot Pavilion. Ms. Rice stated that PRD is doing an evaluation of the cleaning turnaround time after Sid Cutter Pilot Pavilion events. PRD will determine if it can be done in a timely manner to have back to back events. Mr. Mezzancello

inquired if the event center has had a reduction of events now that Sid Cutter Pilot Pavilion is available. Ms. Rice responded, No, both facilities are being booked. Mr. Mezzancello then inquired if the staff can be increased to assist the increased need. Ms. Kiska and Ms. Rice responded - If a substantial need is shown over a 2 year period we can attempt to get more staff.

- iv. Mr. Nordin inquired if there is any other issues with Sid Cutter Pilot Pavilion that need to be reported. Ms. Rice reported – The Microphones need to be addressed. Overhead doors need to be secured to avoid leaks. The sound system works well. Floor staining issues are being addressed but have been kept under control. Mr. Nordin complimented the storage buildings next to Sid Cutter Pilot Pavilion on the overall appearance. Ms. Rice added that all events that last until 7pm or later are now required to hire licensed security.
- v. Mr. Wentworth questioned the use and functionality of the security cameras at the facilities. Ms. Rice states that they are used as a basis for charging the security deposits. Ms. Kiska added that they are very high quality cameras. Wentworth asked if the camera feeds were monitored and recorded.

c. Events for Discussion – Ms. Rice reported.

- i. April 15-24 – Carnival and Music Festival - References have been checked and have been positive. This is conceptual idea at this point. Do we want to have carnival and music festivals at the park?
 - 1. Rides will be on vendor's row.
 - 2. Foot traffic listening to music will be on the grass.
 - 3. Mr. Nordin suggested that damage deposit be increased for carnival type events due to damage to the pavement. Regular inspections are also suggested. Ms. Rogers and Mr. Wentworth agreed with the increased deposit suggestion.
 - 4. Dr. Komadina inquired if the specific event will be brought back to the Commission next month. Ms. Rice stated she is looking for advice from the Commission at this point.
 - 5. Mr. Mezzancello motion to approve, Mr. Komadina seconds the motion – Motion Passed.
- ii. May 28-30 – Wine Festival – Blue River Production is contracted to manage it in 2016 – No changes except Blue River Productions. Dean Strober will be overseeing for 2016.
- iii. August 1 – Vans Warp Tour Concert – This will be a large event. Stage at the North end of the park. Event will follow the same rules as Freedom 4th. Expected attendance 10,000 and no fireworks. Multiple musical performances.
 - 1. Mr. Mezzancello motion to approve, Ms. Rogers second the motion Motion passed with one objection from Mr. Wentworth. Mr. Wentworth would like a presentation prior to approval.
 - 2. Paragliders at BFP – Why are they not allowed here? Ms. Zuchlag said that they were banned by the Commission. Mr. Wentworth states that they were allowed in the past, but within set parameters. Those parameters were not adhered to by many of the participants of that time.
 - 3. Mr. Wentworth suggested that they not be allowed due to gasoline damage and noise complaints. Ms. Rogers states that she also recalls noise complaints.
 - 4. Ms. Rice has 3 pilots that want to use the park. Thus far Ms. Rice has not allowed them to use the park for paragliders activity.
 - 5. Ms. Rice inquired to locate past information on the parameters given at that time. Mr. Wentworth will make an attempt to locate old documents.
 - 6. FAA site needs to be checked for any new guidelines.

- iv. One rental price for BFP facilities- Profit vs no profit organizations. Mr. Nordin suggested that we bring pricing structure of all areas to the committee for review.
 - 1. Legal Department has concerns that we have the tiered pricing. Mr. Wentworth would like to have Legal provide a more detailed reasoning.
 - 2. Mr. Johnston also suggested that the pricing structures be revisited. With comments and advisement from legal.
 - 3. Dr. Komadina stated that as a public facility it should not be an inexpensive place to do business if the event is a for profit event vs a true not for profit event.
 - 4. Next month's agenda item.

4. Update on the O-15-2 amending the Balloon Fiesta Park Ordinance - Rebekka Burt (City Council), Chris Melendrez (City Council) are present to listen to and report back to the City Council on suggested changes and notes on the proposed ordinance change.

- a. Council has deferred the ordinance so that the Commission can discuss the item. Summary of the changes are:
 - i. 13 members but only 11 are voting. Staff liaisons are to listen and address items.
 - ii. Term limits
 - iii. Language amendment with duties and powers.
- b. Councilor Jones is sponsoring the amendment.
- c. Discussion to Council representatives from the Commission. Q&A
 - i. Ms. Rogers wants to know what triggered the change. Councilor Jones asked the ordinance be reviewed.
 - ii. Mr. Mezzancello wants to know why the City Council didn't advise the Commission of the change. Councilor Winter notified the Alameda North Valley Association and the Wildflower Neighborhood Association. That notification was then forwarded to the Commission. With the proposed changes the Commission will be even more watered down.
- d. Discussion to Council representatives from the Commission – Comments and Statements.
 - i. Mr. Wentworth discussed a few of the last set of changes that took place when the Council passed the last ordinance. Included – Staff participation, at large positions and what positions go directly to Council and what positions is Mayor approved. Currently they all are going through the Mayor's office and being held up in the boards and commission office – not following the ordinance criteria.
 - ii. Mr. Wentworth disagreed with term limits because institutional knowledge is needed. The various organizations should be able to appoint the person they feel most comfortable with and reaffirm as the organization feels needed.
 - iii. Dr. Komadina stated that projects are very slow moving so longevity is needed to keep projects moving within the park. Various projects have taken up to 7 years to complete. Term limits would slow the progress even more.
 - iv. Mr. Nordin demonstrated that historical knowledge has been demonstrated within this current meeting as an example of why term limits are not a good idea for the BFP Commission.
 - v. Ms. Rogers only objects to the term limits of the proposal and is in support of the other proposed changes. Ms. Rogers also stated that willingness to serve on the Commission is a challenge so positions are hard to fill with alternate representatives of the various categories.
 - vi. Ms. Burt questioned how the institutional knowledge and eventual turnover of Commission members take place if the knowledge is never passes on to new members. – Examples were given that new members such as public safety-

Jackie White, Wildflower-Vacant, Museum and Sandia Pueblo members are all new.

- vii. Mr. Nordin questioned the Museum representative is also a City Employee. Should that be a staff non-voting member or should a foundation member.
- viii. Mr. Johnston and Mr. Wentworth suggested that the positions be changed to: One at large and one member of the aeronautics representative to better serve the needs of the park.
- ix. Mr. Johnston disagreed with the proposed wording "advice" and recommends maintaining the term: oversight board. An oversight board will be taken seriously. Mr. Mezzancello and Mr. Wentworth all concur with Mr. Johnston.
- x. Mr. Wentworth questioned the word "terminate" vs "serve until they are replaced". The language conflicts with the Boards and Commission Ordinance; legal staff attending the meeting agreed. 4 Commission Meetings were lost due to the City staff misinterpretation of the Boards and Commission Ordinance.
- xi. Ordinance has been deferred to February 1, 2016.

5. Zone Change Proposal to build a 40 lot gated residential area by the Balloon Museum to be heard at the EPC Meeting on January 14, at 8:30 am. - 40 home subdivision.

- a. Mark Haley is involved with the project and is indifferent to the project.
- b. Disclosure and acknowledgement of potential home owners to advise where they are moving and what it entail's.
- c. PRD is against it and is asking it not be approved. The masterplan reflects the need to have it stay commercial.
- d. Mr. Nordin requested to know how the Commission feels about the issue. Steve Wentworth stated- spot zoning is a valid concern, expectation of a pedestrian access point can be denied. Year round usage is a concern not just during Balloon Fiesta.
- e. Mr. Wentworth as his neighborhoods' representative he feels that additional stakeholders monitoring the park will give validity to the concerns already expressed.
- f. Dr. Komadina commented that the City or the State of NM should take ownership of the property vs residential area. A fair market value should be offered to the owner of the property.
- g. Mr. Smith AIBF has no position on the matter.
- h. Mr. Wentworth stated that a message be sent to the EPC that it would be in the best interest of the park for the City of Albuquerque go purchase the property.
- i. Dr. Komadina motioned that the official position of the Balloon Fiesta Commission as a whole is that we recommend that the City of Albuquerque purchase the property. Additionally, the BFP Commission suggested that \$3 Million be used to buy the property vs using \$3 Million to add on the Sid Cutter Pilots Pavilion. Motion second by Wentworth. Motion passed.

6. REPORTS / UPDATES

- a. **Department of Municipal Development - None**
- b. **Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta**
 - i. 2016 Fiesta
- c. **Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum - None**
 - i. Past Events
 - ii. Future events
- d. **Environmental Health Department - Monitoring Wells at Nazareth.**
 - i. Testing and extraction will take place over the next 2 months.
 - ii. Various water sources are causing increased methane gas.
- e. **Parks & Recreation – Moved to next meeting.**

- i. Verizon Project - Status of project and lighting fixture status. Information was copied on back page of the agenda of the meeting
- ii. Income since last meeting (November 11, 2015 – January 11, 2016) YTD/since last meeting.
 1. BFP: \$44,912.00 / \$8,070.00
 2. EC: \$62,650.00 / \$27,600.
 3. SCPP: \$70,100.00 / \$39,100.00
- iii. Signage and way finding – CIP money will be used for new gate signs.

7. OLD BUSINESS: Moved to next meeting.

- a. Annual Report
- b. Past member recognition – Committee Mr. Wentworth, Mr. Mezzancello and Mr. Garcia
- c. BFP daily guidelines

8. NEW BUSINESS - Moved to next meeting.

- 9. Meeting Adjourned:** Ms. Rogers motion to adjourn meeting, Mr. Johnston Second the motion – Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm

NEXT COMMISSION MEETING – February 9, 2016

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