

METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of May 6, 2014

Location: Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1801 4th Street NW

Members Present: Dan Wilkinson, Chair; John Myers, Vice-Chair; Roxanne Turley, Susan Michie-Maitlen; Carmen Garcia; Janet Harrington

Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative for the MPRAB: Bill Nordin

Members Excused/Absent: Lou Romero

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. Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 12:40 PM

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

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Wilkinson requested a motion to approve the April 2014 Minutes. Jan Harrington moved approval; Carmen Garcia seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: Mr. Wilkinson introduced our new Board Members, Roxanne Turley representing District 4 and Susan Michie-Maitlen representing District 6. All Board Members introduced themselves.

Announcements: Mr. Wilkinson mentioned that we have lost Rebecca Tays. Jan Harrington attended the services and passed around a memorial card. She mentioned the possibility of a memorial for Rebecca at El Oso Grande Park. Christina will contact the neighborhood association about the request. It may be on the June Agenda for discussion. Jan also mentioned other interests that Rebecca had and the possibility of donations. Mr. Wilkinson also mentioned the wonderful job that representatives of the Park Board, Jan Harrington and John Myers, did as speakers at the recent Committee of the Whole meeting.

General Public Testimony: None

Items for Discussion:

- Budget – Barbara provided a summary of the budget being considered by City Council. Jan Harrington and John Myers did a great job speaking on behalf of the Parks and Recreation Department. There was a very good response. Many City Councilors asked questions of the Administration and spoke strongly in favor of the department. The focus was on the move of the capital program to DMD. Councilors questioned the wisdom of the move. Budget Mark Up will be on May 15th. There will be no public testimony during this meeting. City Councilors will address the budget bill at this time. Final budget approval is scheduled for May 19th. A second Committee of the Whole meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 8th from 5:00 to 8:00 PM and the reschedule May 5th City Council meeting will begin at 8:00 PM. The Board also inquired about the move of median maintenance to the Solid Waste

Department and maintenance of the airport going to a private contractor. The biggest impact to the department is the capital program move to DMD. This will result in a loss of 41 positions, \$2.9M transfer to DMD and the loss of control of the Parks and Recreation capital program. The Board discussed this further and inquired if it would be beneficial to submit a letter to the Mayor. Barbara stated that a letter to the Mayor was not necessary. The budget is in the hands of City Council now.

- Update on Highland Park - Barbara provided the Board with an update of what has been done at Highland Park and what is planned for the future. She spoke about the plans for the park renovation (attached).

Reports:

- Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department, mentioned that the third Bosque Educational Forum meeting in a series of four is scheduled for this evening. It will be held at the Natural History Museum beginning at 6:00 PM. The topic will be Restoration, Land Management and Recreation in the Rio Grande Valley State Park. Barbara provided additional information on the forums. She also answered questions about the Albuquerque Vision.
- Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager, spoke to the Board about the proposed 2015 GO Bond Package that has been submitted. Bike to Work Day is scheduled for May 16th. The Department will have ten stations throughout the city, providing snacks and drinks to bicycle riders. There will be a celebration at the Esperanza Community Bike Shop at approximately 5:00 PM that evening. The next Brown Bag Session is scheduled for May 22nd, 11:30 AM, in our lunch room. They will be discussing Public Art in Parks and Open Space.
- Bill Nordin, BFP Commission Representative for MPRAB, discussed activities that are taking place at Balloon Fiesta Park. He discussed the new building that is being planned for the facility. Plans are currently at EPC. He compared this new building to being similar to the Lujan Building at the State Fair Grounds. They are planning to have activities schedule all the time. He mentioned that over 5,000 kids practice at the Balloon Fiesta Park on a weekly basis. He discussed how Verizon Wireless would like to remove light poles at the park and replace them with poles that have antennas. This would make the park a hotspot, allowing Verizon to sell bandwidth.
- Sub-Committee reports – N/A.
- Members' Roundtable – N/A.
- Unfinished Business – There are currently vacancies in Districts 1, 2, 5 and 8.
- New Business – N/A

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 3, 2014, 12:30 PM, at the Parks and Recreation Administration Building, 1801 4th Street NW.

Adjourn: Mr. Wilkinson requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Myers moved approval; the board unanimously approved the motion. Mr. Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 1:52 PM.