

METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of September 13, 2011

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

Members Present: Amy M. Elrod-Lahti; Vice-Chair; William Kraemer; Rebecca L. Tays; Janet Harrington; Kelly Gossett

Members Absent: Gerald C. Worrall, Chair; Margaret Coombs; Dan Wilkinson; Carmen Garcia

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

Visitors: None

Call to Order: Amy Lahti called the meeting to order at 3:05 PM.

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

Approval of August 2011 Minutes: Amy Lahti requested a motion to approve the August 2011 Minutes. Jan Harrington moved approval; Rebecca Tays seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: None.

Announcements: Amy Lahti is chairing today's meeting in the absence of Mr. Worrall.

General Public Testimony:

- None

Action Items:

- Amy inquired if we have to change the Resolution and Bylaws due to the legislation by Trudy Jones. As we do not have a quorum, Resolution and Bylaws will be discussed at next months meeting. Barbara will contact Mr. Kraemer to request he review the Resolution and Bylaws and provide a legal opinion. Amy requested that the Resolution and Bylaws be forwarded to all Board Members. She requested that if they have any issues with these items, they should report them as soon as possible.

Reports:

- Parks and Recreation Department Director, Barbara Baca distributed the October Election Bond Questions to all Board Members for their review. If passed in October, the Parks and Recreation Department would receive \$22,473,000. Barbara reviewed with Board Members each item describing where the money would be utilized within the Parks and Recreation Department. She also distributed the 25-Year Plan Bond Question concerning ABQ the Plan and explained what the money would be used for. Amy Lahti inquired what the Board can do to help. Barbara asked Board Members to share

this information with their friends and family and encourage them to vote for all 18 questions, especially the Parks and Recreation portion of the package.

- Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative - Bill Nordin was unable to attend today's meeting as he had other obligations. Barbara mentioned that the Parks and Recreation Department is preparing for the upcoming Balloon Fiesta. She also discussed the construction that is currently taking place at the Balloon Fiesta Park Golf Training Center. They are remodeling the building by adding a welcoming entryway and offices. She feels this is very positive as the Parks and Recreation Department will have a more visible presence at this Department facility. She discussed how the facility is available for rent for special events. Steps will be taken in the near future to possibly rent the restaurant to another vendor.
- Amy discussed Board Sub-Committees. She feels the sub-committees are not moving forward. She feels that the sub-committees should be meeting on a regular basis. Members discussed how the Resolutions and Bylaws would be a great sub-committee meeting item. Christina Sandoval discussed how progress has been made on some of the items such as media relations and web page. A Facebook page has been created. She encouraged Board Members to look at the Department Facebook page. Barbara mentioned that a Foundation Sub-Committee meeting was scheduled, but was cancelled due to unexpected circumstances. Christina mentioned that she would be happy to discuss the sub-committees and review the notes from the retreat with any new Board Members that are interested. She also introduced our new Senior Planner, Carol Dumont. Carol will be sitting in on the MPRAB meetings when Christina is unavailable.
- Amy opened for Members Roundtable. She inquired about jumpers in parks. Christina stated that she feels overall it went very well. Several jumper companies are in compliance with the new policy. APD has responded to complaints, going out and notifying people and providing information concerning the new policy. The primary violation was jumpers in parks that were not officially designated as jumper parks. The policy will be re-evaluated by staff in October. For the most part, the program is very successful. Rebecca Tays, District 8, mentioned that Councilor Trudy Jones is holding meetings in parks to find out constituent concerns. One issue is the parking at El Oso Grande Park. Christina mentioned that they are working on an agreement with CNM for continued use of the Montoya Campus for parking. This facility is located just south of El Oso Grande Park. Rebecca inquired what needs to be done to have signs installed informing the public about the CNM parking lot. Staff informed her that even if signs are posted, most visitors to the park will still park along the street close to where they will be recreating. Once the agreement with CNM is signed, signs notifying visitors to the park of the CNM Parking Lot will be posted in the park. Amy suggested that the neighborhood association may want to educate visitors to the park by distributing flyers informing them of the parking at CNM. Rebecca also inquired about the natural space east of El Oso Grande Park. Barbara mentioned that there is currently no funding for renovations at this park, but she will discuss this matter with Councilor Jones. If the October Bond Questions are approved, there is a potential for the Councilor to designate a portion of the \$700,000 for this area.

Unfinished Business: Amy mentioned the vacancies in District 3 and 6. She encouraged Board members to recruit individuals to fill the vacancies. Barbara also mentioned that she will contact the City Councilors for these districts and inform them that Board Members are needed. Amy inquired about the bicycle recycling program that the Board previously discussed. Barbara informed the Board that the

Department is moving forward on this project. A meeting was held with Mrs. Rivas and another meeting is scheduled for next week to discuss the vision of the bike shop. Parks and Recreation Department is working with Family and Community Services Department on developing a possible program. It was discussed that an annual event would be held and dedicated to Mr. Rivas. Barbara will provide an update at next month's meeting.

New Business:

- Barbara mentioned that this part of the meeting would be a good time for Board Members to make suggestions for items for the next month's agenda. Resolution and Bylaws will be discussed at the October meeting. Janet inquired about proposing an increase of fees at the Shooting Range. Barbara discussed how this was previously proposed by the Board to Mayor Berry. Mayor Berry put the item forward, but the fee increase was voted down by the City Council. This item will also be added to next months agenda.

The next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, 2011, at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1801 4th Street NW

Adjourn: Amy adjourned the meeting at 4:17 PM.