

METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of March 3, 2015

Location: Parks and Recreation Department, 1801 4th Street NW

Members Present: Dan Wilkinson, Chair; John Myers, Vice-Chair; Lou Romero; Roxanne Turley; Ted O. Humphreys; Susan Michie-Maitlen; Janet Harrington

Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative for the MPRAB: Bill Nordin

Members Excused/Absent: Carmen Garcia

City Staff Present: Garry Wolfe, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager; Joran Viers, City Forester; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

Visitors: N/A

Call to Order: Mr. Wilkinson called the meeting to order at 12:33 PM

Approval of Today's Agenda: Mr. Wilkinson amended today's agenda with the approval of the Board to allow Mr. Nordin to make his presentation after the approval of the Minutes.

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Wilkinson inquired if there were any objections to the Agendas as written for December 2014 and February 2015. Jan Harrington made a motion to approve the minutes as written; John Myers seconded the motion; the Board unanimously approved the minutes.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: N/A

Announcements: N/A

General Public Testimony: N/A

Reports:

- Bill Nordin, BFP Commission Representative for MPRAB, mentioned that furniture was being purchased by Parks and Recreation Department for the new Sid Cutter Pilots Pavilion at a cost of \$300K. The Balloon Fiesta Park Commission is looking at the fee schedule for the Pilots Pavilion. Mr. Nordin discussed the Golf and Event Center and how this facility is rented out for events at a very reasonable cost. The facility is approximately 95% booked for weekends during 2015. He distributed a report entitled "BFP Report for 2013 & 2014, The Jewel of the COA". This report will be presented to City Council within the next 30 days. The report contains information about Balloon Fiesta Park and events that are held at the facility. He discussed how the facility is used for flying planes.

Items for Discussion:

- Presentation by Joran Viers, City Forester – Joran made a presentation and discussed the state of the tree canopy in Albuquerque with the Board. He divided Albuquerque's parks into three categories: Oldest parks having over-mature canopies dominated by Siberian elm trees; middle-aged parks having a much more diverse canopy; and, newer parks having a more diverse canopy than the oldest parks. He provided additional detail on each category. He also provided information on grants that he has applied for and how this funding is utilized to train staff. He provided information on events that will be held for Arbor Day. On Friday, April 24, 2015, three trees will be planted at Taylor Park. Students from Inez Elementary School have been invited to the event. A tree seedling give away will be held at three parks on Saturday, April 25, 2015. Joran attends various neighborhood association meetings, etc., to discuss trees and infrastructure.

Reports:

- Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager, mentioned that the GO Bond had been approved by City Council at last night's meeting. City Council will be having a study session to review the Open Space Trust Fund. They will be looking at land holdings to see if there are any that can be sold. She provided information on land acquisition. We received \$700K for the redesign of the Los Altos Pool. Christina shared a draft of a mine craft flyer that will be used to educate children on bike safety. The indoor track season is over and the track will be removed from the Convention Center this weekend and put into storage. The Mountain West Conference was held this past weekend with 400 athletes participating in events each day. Staff will be working in cooperation with NMX Sports on creating shade at the Shooting Range Park for shooters. She mentioned a YouTube video prepared by our Marketing person showing visitors to our parks having fun in the snow this past weekend. She will forward the link to the Board.
- Sub-Committee reports – The Vision Sub-Committee made up of Susan, Dan and Roxanne recently met to discuss ideas and how they fit in with the City goals. Some ideas included: clean parks; tree canopy; public awareness about Parks and Recreation – amenities, events, volunteer programs; parks master plan; nature deficit disorder. They felt an information guide in the newspaper might be useful. Christina provided information on a Summer Resource Guide that we have prepared in the past. Christina mentioned that she can have our Marketing person attend the April meeting to discuss ideas for the web.
- John Myers inquired about having someone attend the May meeting to discuss the bicycle loop. Christina indicated that she would invite Linda Rumpf to attend the May meeting to provide information on this matter.
- Members' Roundtable – N/A
- Unfinished Business – There are currently vacancies in Districts 1, 2 and 8.
- New Business – N/A

Adjourn: Mr. Wilkinson adjourned the meeting at 1:55 PM.