**METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD Minutes of April 2022**

**Location:** Zoom

**Members Present:** Valerie Martinez, Julie Radoslovich, Teri Neville, Talal Saint-Lot, Cynthia Serna, Kristin Abdill, and Tony Johnson

**Members Excused/Absent:** Chris Crum

**City Staff Present:** David Flores, Deputy Director; Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager; Bill Nordin, Representative at Balloon Fiesta Commission

**Visitors:**

* Peter Rice, Downtown Albuquerque News
* Diego Garcia, Together for Brothers
1. Call to Order:
	1. Cynthia Serna called the meeting to order at 12:30 pm.
2. Business Meeting:
	1. Agenda accepted
	2. Meeting notes from March meeting were accepted with some changes.
	3. Introduction of visitors and guests
	4. Announcements: none
3. New Business:
	1. Kristin Abdill created a presentation of important items from our retreat. She began the presentation, and it was finished up by Christina Sandoval. Below are items related to finishing retreat conversations.
		1. Julie asked for clarification on terms for the Board. Christina talked with the CABQ Boards & Commissions and established that the terms for MPRAB is 3 years. If the Board member is also ‘filling in’ for a vacated seat, that fill-in time is added to the term. This is all currently in review by the group in charge of Boards & Commissions. The idea behind the staggered terms is so that there is overlap on the Board with new and established members. Currently, if a member is in a fill-in position, they will have to reapply. Christina will see if the same application can be used in these cases. Christina will inquire about individual members’ status and send this out.
		2. Cynthia asked how many meetings can a Board Member miss in a year? Christina answered 3/year. Nobody is currently tracking this, although we can look back in Meeting Notes. Valerie suggested we track subcommittee presence, as well.
		3. We had a discussion of the responsibilities of the MPRAB officers that presently include Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. These are presently held by Chris Crum, Cynthia Serna, and Teri Neville, respectively.
			1. Chair: Since Chris was not at the meeting, current responsibilities were temporarily adopted from Kristin’s retreat notes and are the following:
				1. Keep meetings running
				2. Help with accountability
				3. Prepare agenda (with VC & Secretary)
				4. Communicate items before the board meeting
				5. Coordinate representation at city events
			2. Vice Chair: Cynthia is fine with the list of responsibilities, below. However, Talal suggested the Vice Chair could help coordinate subcommittees and help with communication.
				1. Prepare agenda (with Chair & Secretary)
				2. Fulfill Chair’s meeting responsibilities when Chair is absent.
			3. Secretary: Teri accepted the responsibilities on Kristin’s list from the retreat that include the items following.
				1. Prepare agenda (with Chair & VC) Review and respond to Teri within 4 days of receiving the Draft Agenda. Additionally, subcommittees should contact Teri if they need time on the Agenda beyond the Report time allotted for Subcommittee Reports.
				2. Distribute agenda
				3. Manage board communications
				4. Record and distribute minutes
		4. Cynthia asked about communication that comes from the Board. If there is a formal letter coming from the Board, it will require the Chair’s signature. However, as a Board Member, you can send off individual letters, as individuals, representing a District.
		5. Valerie mentioned a calendar of Parks & Recreation Events and community meetings would be helpful. In a previous meeting that Drew (new PIO) attended, he said he would investigate this. We haven’t heard back yet.
		6. Subcommittee Assignments. At present we are going to have 3 subcommittees: Board Reactivation, Park Activation, and Promotion. Board members signed up for the subcommittees. It was agreed that the Advocates (Kristin, Julie, and Valerie, respectively, would try to organize a subcommittee meeting in May in lieu of our monthly MPRAB. Christina encourages subcommittees to include others, outside of the MPRAB to become members of the subcommittees. If the subcommittees are not voting on Actionable items, we are not violating the Quorum contingency.
			1. Board Reactivation: Kristin, Teri and Christina Sandoval (505-768-5370, cmsandoval@cabq.gov)
			2. Park Activation: Julie, Valerie, Cynthia, Tony, Kristin, and Roxane Cisneros (505-857-8657, rcisneros@cabq.gov). This subcommittee will also research other ‘Friends’ committees.
			3. Promotion: Valerie, Talal, Cynthia, Tony, and Drew Ayotte (dayotte@**cabq**.gov, 505-768-5303)
			4. Friends of P&R: At present, we are holding off on this subcommittee. However, Julie offered to research other Friends groups. And this work would be included within the Park Activation subcommittee. Christina already has some information/research on this.
		7. District 8 is now vacant. Scott Smith has resigned.
4. Reports
	1. Christina discussed and showed approved Budget items. Many of the requested items for which the Department submitted Issue Papers on were approved. The mayor also added items for improvement of the budget, the Plus category on the spreadsheet. As a whole, they had a 17% increase in the budget, some of which is recurring.
	2. To advocate for the FY 2023 Budget, as an individual Board Member, Christina sent along a document (email 4/5/2022 from Christina) by date on when items are discussed, as well as the “Committee of the Whole” presentations and markups that can be considered deadlines for advocacy.
	3. Christina also sent via email after the meeting the zone change amendment sponsored by Councilors Jones, Bassan, and Benton to modify land use and zoning of outdoor spaces to create “Safe Outdoor Spaces” for the unhoused population. This will allow expedited emergency use of outdoor spaces to be used temporarily by the unhoused and their belongings. See 4/5/22 email from Christina.
	4. Our advocacy can include letters, email, conversations with councilors and/or signing up for testimony as individual before the May 12 markup of the budget. April 28 and May 5 are important dates when presentations by the Administration will occur.
5. Adjourn Meeting
	1. The meeting ran over. There will be no meeting on May 3 so that our subcommittees have a chance to meet in May. We will resume our regular monthly meeting of the whole Board on June 7.

Contacts for making connections for subcommittee meetings:

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