

METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of August 9, 2011

Location: Shooting Range, 16001 Shooting Range Access Road

Members Present: Gerald C. Worrall, Chair; William Kraemer; Rebecca L. Tays; Dan Wilkinson; Janet Harrington; Carmen Garcia; Amy M. Elrod-Lahti

Members Absent: Margaret Coombs; Kelly W. Gossett

City Staff Present: Kristy Diaz-Trahan, Recreation Services Division Manager; Rick Vernon; Rangemaster; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

Visitors: Bill Nordin, BFP Commission

Call to Order: Gerald Worrall called the meeting to order at 4:10 PM.

Prior to Mr. Worrall calling the meeting to order, Rick Vernon, Rangemaster for the Shooting Range, provided information concerning the Shooting Range and a tour of the facility. Mr. Worrall discussed the Board's recent request for an increase in the fees at the Shooting Range which was submitted to Mayor Berry. He feels that the Board should resubmit the request. He would like to add this item to the November Agenda for reconsideration.

Approval of Today's Agenda: Gerald Worrall requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Bill Kraemer moved approval; Amy Lahti seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Approval of July 2011 Minutes: Gerald Worrall requested a motion to approve the July 2011 Minutes. Amy Lahti moved approval; Bill Kraemer seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: Visitors and guests listed above.

Announcements: Mr. Worrall expressed to the Board that he was offended about not being notified about ABQ the Plan.

Mr. Worrall met with Senators Feldman and Rue concerning the firework legislation. The Governor wants to include this in the September special session. We may want to discuss this matter later.

General Public Testimony:

- None

Action Items:

- Mr. Worrall opened for discussion on the Vice-Chairman position. He indicated that the By-Laws state the Vice-Chairman should have been on the Board for a minimum of one year prior to the election. It was also stated that it is recommended, but not mandatory. Mr. Kraemer asked if any members wished to be nominated. Amy Lahti stated that she is interested in the position. Dan Wilkinson motioned that Amy Lahti be nominated for Vice-Chairman. Bill Kraemer seconded; the Board

unanimously approved the motion. Dan Wilkinson moved that Amy Lahti be appointed as Vice-Chairman. Bill Kraemer seconded; the Board unanimously approved the motion.

- Mr. Worrall opened for discussion on Resolution and Bylaws. They were distributed to Mr. Worrall and Mr. Kraemer for review. Mr. Worrall requested that Mr. Kraemer provide a summary on these items. Mr. Kraemer stated that he was not prepared to do so. Mr. Worrall indicated that Councilor Jones legislation concerning the MPRAB should be on the agenda for the August 15, 2011 City Council meeting. He suggested that we wait until the legislation is passed and then modify the Resolution and Bylaws.

Reports:

- Recreation Services Division Manager, Kristy Diaz-Trahan discussed construction projects that are taking place at the Balloon Fiesta Park Golf Training Center and Jerry Cline Tennis Complex. She informed the Board of the New Park Superintendent, Jim Dunn and two new Assistant Park Superintendents, Pete Saiz and Richard Lofstrom. She also informed them that the Head Pool Manager vacancy at West Mesa Aquatic Center that was created when Brandon Gibson was promoted to Aquatics Managers has been filled by Joshua Herbert. Due to retirements in the Golf Management Division, there are several vacancies. The Department is also in the process of filling the Golf Superintendent position.

Mr. Worrall discussed various issues with Ladera Golf Course.

Mr. Wilkinson inquired about the Los Altos Swimming Pool diving board. Kristy informed him Los Altos is mainly used for lap swimming. She also stated that a master plan is being worked on for the entire Los Altos Park. Mr. Worrall stated that we need to put together a recommendation for use of the city swimming pools. Kristy mentioned that the system utilized this past summer with two sessions at West Mesa Aquatics Center worked really well. Mr. Worrall mentioned the swimming passes that are distributed by the Police and Fire Departments. He believes the Board needs to have a say in what they can do. Board Members discussed how they feel more pools should be built in Albuquerque.

- Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative - Bill Nordin mentioned the construction at the Garduno/Golf Training Center facility and the command center. He said the command center is being moved north. A portable building will be added. The restrooms are also being moved toward the entrance. He also mentioned the Los Angeles Landfill and how it is only used two weeks out of the year during the Balloon Fiesta and it is condemned the rest of the year. He mentioned that a road would be built through part of the landfill connecting Alameda Road to Paseo del Norte. He also mentioned that Harley Davidson has expressed an interest in renting part of the landfill for motorcycle training. He mentioned a recent bicyclist accident that occurred at the Park during the Bike Crits. The City was never notified of this accident. If an ambulance is called, the City should receive a report so that they are aware of incidents at the park. He discussed the Balloon Fiesta strategic planning and Charettes at the park. He also informed the Board that the Balloon Fiesta Commission was not aware that the City was considering building a water park at Balloon Fiesta Park. He mentioned that this is all part of ABQ the Plan. He mentioned that the Paseo del Norte flyover and ball fields at Mesa del Sol are now being considered as part of ABQ the Plan and that the water park has been taken out of the plan. Mr. Worrall inquired if asphalt is the type of material that is used over the landfill. Mr. Nordin indicated that they use a clay material. Mr. Worrall inquired if that is what is causing the landfill to

compact. Mr. Nordin stated that there is 50 to 100 feet of garbage at the landfill, depending on where you are. Jan Harrington inquired about reclamation. Mr. Nordin said that there is some reclamation and he described the process.

- Mr. Worrall opened for Members Roundtable. He deferred on information for District 1. Mr. Kraemer had no information for District 2. District 3 is vacant. In his email, Kelly Gossett stated that there is nothing new for District 4. Margaret Coombs was absent for District 5. District 6 is vacant. For District 7, Carmen Garcia stated that the new Jumper Policy is working well at Montgomery Park. She stated she is still attempting to implement a Foundation for the Department. She mentioned that a meeting is scheduled for August 17. Amy Lahti and Mr. Worrall would like to attend the Foundation Meeting on August 17. Mr. Worrall discussed staking versus use of sand bags for jumpers in parks. Sand bags are as good as staking. He feels that small businesses are being targeted. Amy Lahti rejected the idea that sand bags are as good as stakes. She said she has seen the jumpers with sand bags move when there are 10 to 12 children in them. She said she would not allow her children to get in a jumper that is not staked.

Unfinished Business: Mr. Worrall mentioned the vacancy in District 3. He said he had spoken to Klarissa Pena and is trying to come up with a recommendation. He is not aware of anyone to fill the vacancy for District 6.

New Business:

- Mr. Worrall asked if anyone has information concerning the Recycle a Bicycle Program. Kristy Diaz-Trahan mentioned that she and Chuck Malagodi of the Outdoor Recreation Section are working on a proposal to submit to Mayor Berry for consideration. They would like to continue the current program, but add a strong educational element. She reviewed her proposal with the Board and stated they would like to create a fun, safe recreation place and develop a neighborhood recreational facility at the Old Esperanza Library where Mr. Rivas had his shop. They want to continue to serve the community and maintain the strong volunteer base. They will also work with the Family and Community Services Department as the Esperanza Library is their facility. Board Members discussed various issues with Mr. Rivas' program. They also discussed liability issues. Amy Lahti feels there are strong advantages to doing it the way Kristy is suggesting. Mr. Kraemer fears the bureaucracy would damage the program and cause a loss of volunteers that helped build the program. He expressed his fear that City employees may not have the sensitivity to generate volunteerism. Mr. Worrall suggested to the Board that he would contact Klarissa Pena and Councilor Sanchez to see how the program is going. He would like to reach out and get feedback. Mr. Worrall suggested that we may be able to have our next meeting at the Old Esperanza Library. If this is not possible, we would be back at Parks and Recreation Administration.

Mr. Worrall also stated that he would not be available for the next Board Meeting as he would be in California. He mentioned that our new Vice-Chairman Amy Lahti will be leading the meeting.

The next Board Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1801 4th Street NW

Adjourn: Mr. Worrall adjourned the meeting at 5:13 PM.