

METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of November 8, 2011

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

Members Present: William Kraemer; Rebecca L. Tays; Janet Harrington; Kelly Gossett; Carmen Garcia;

Members Excused/Absent: Jerry Worrall, Chair; Amy M. Elrod-Lahti; Vice-Chair; Dan Wilkinson

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

Visitors: None

Call to Order: Due to a work emergency, Amy Lahti was unable to attend the meeting. William Kraemer called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM.

Approval of Today's Agenda: Mr. Kraemer requested a motion to approve the Agenda. Janet Harrington moved approval; Kelly Gossett seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Approval of September 2011 Minutes: Mr. Kraemer requested a motion to approve the October 2011 Minutes. Janet Harrington moved approval; Carmen Garcia seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: None.

Announcements: Barbara Baca mentioned that we received an email from Margaret Coombs, representative on the Board for District 5, resigning from the Board. She also mentioned that we had spoken to Joan Yazze concerning the reappointment of Amy Lahti, Janet Harrington and William Kraemer to the Board. Joan was attempting to get the reappointments on the Council Agenda for November 7, 2011, but apparently was unable to as they were not on the agenda. We are hopeful that they will be on the Council Agenda for November 21, 2011. A potluck sign up sheet was passed around for the December 13, 2011, Board meeting. Members can invite their significant other to attend this meeting. It will be held at "Fiesta on the Green" (the Old Garduno's) at the Balloon Fiesta Park beginning at Noon.

General Public Testimony: None

Action Items:

1. A letter supporting Shooting Range fee increases to Mayor Berry and City Councilors was prepared for Board Member signatures. All Members signed and letter will be forwarded to Mayor and Council.
2. Board Members discussed the District 8 Dog Park at Tramway and Montgomery. The grand opening is scheduled for December 10, 2011. Christina Sandoval provided background information concerning this project. Board Members also discussed a list of names that were suggested by Councilor Jones and the neighborhood for this park. After reviewing the list, Mr. Kraemer requested a motion for the name "Canine Skyline Park". Kelly Gossett motioned and Rebecca Tays seconded the motion. The Board unanimously agreed to submit this name to Councilor Jones.

Reports:

- Parks and Recreation Department Director, Barbara Baca, mentioned that our new Trails Planner, James Lewis met with Charm Lindblad of Prescription Trails. They had a very positive meeting. Mr. Kraemer mentioned that he recently attended the Near North Valley meeting. The neighborhood would like a trail around Garfield Park. Barbara will ask James to contact Charm on this matter.
- Brandon Gibson, Aquatics Division Manager, distributed a handout to Board Members with various options for fee increases. The Board discussed this matter with Brandon and provided suggestions. Barbara suggested that this be added to a future agenda as an action item once Brandon implements the suggestions of the Board and provides a justification for the increase. In general the Board supports moving forward on an increase in Aquatics fees.
- Barbara showed the Board ideas for a T-Shirt for a "Pack It In/ Pack It Out Program" in our parks to reduce the amount of trash. She said that the program is an idea that has not been developed yet. It is a work in progress. We need to put some thought into what the program can become. Mr. Kraemer mentioned that at the Growers Market, they cover the trash cans in an effort to promote recycling. He thought it might be a good idea to incorporate recycling into the program.
- Christina Sandoval mentioned a recent meeting that was held with all staff involved concerning the Jumper Policy. Christina mentioned that 96 permits were approved resulting in revenue of \$3,360. We received fewer complaints this year about jumpers. Police response was positive. Some things that we need to work on are creating an incentive for companies to attend the training. Also, we only have one person making the reservations and collecting fees. We have to develop a better way to process applications and we need to make it easier for constituents to pay the fees; more attendants need to be hired; and, we need to use kiosks more effectively. The overall feeling is that this is a good program that will be continued next year. Staff will meet with Jumper Companies in February to evaluate current sites and possibly add additional sites. It is a successful program, but work still needs to be done.
- Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative - Bill Nordin expressed his appreciation to the Board for allowing his absence during September and October. He mentioned that the Balloon Fiesta Commission had two meetings last month. The first was to discuss projects currently in progress at Balloon Fiesta Park. Since Balloon Fiesta went from a Policy Board to a Commission, the second meeting was to transition items from the Policy Board to the Commission. Bill discussed various events that recently took place at Balloon Fiesta Park. He mentioned that the remodeling has been completed at the old Gardunos Building. He discussed the addition of other buildings at the park. Mr. Kraemer had very positive comments concerning the recent Doggie Dash and Dawdle event. The fact that dog owners were not picking up their dogs poop was discussed. Mr. Nordin mentioned that it needs to be the responsibility of the group that was putting on the event to make sure these types of things are taken care of.
- Christina Sandoval and Carol Dumont provided a briefing concerning Mesa del Sol. They distributed a map of the area. Christina mentioned that they are working on a park dedication and development agreement. They divided the entire development into ten park districts. The idea of districts is to assure equitability of distribution of parks and assist with planning. Barbara feels it is important for the Board to understand the magnitude of this project as this area has been annexed into the City and maintenance of parks, medians and streetscapes in this area will be the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation Department. Carol Dumont mentioned that we will also need a satellite facility in this area so that vehicles will not need to travel long distances.

- Sub-Committee Reports – None.
- Members Roundtable - None

Unfinished Business: We have vacancies in Districts 3, 5 and 6. Barbara mentioned that she has spoken to Councilors Benton and Garduno. Councilor Benton has submitted a name for District 3.

New Business: None

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13, 2011, at Noon at "Fiesta on the Green" (the Old Gardunos Restaurant) at Balloon Fiesta Park. A potluck will be held.

Adjourn: Mr. Kraemer adjourned the meeting at 4:45 PM.