

CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE  
OLD TOWN PORTAL MARKET ADVISORY BOARD

June 12, 2024 Minutes

Board Members: Marilyn Moquino, Dagney Townsend, Sylvia Ramos Cruz, Charlene Kalbfell

City Representatives: Bree Ortiz, Steven Pettingill

City Guest: Director Shelle Sanchez, Deputy Director Diego Lucero

Public: To many to list.

A quorum was established. The meeting started at 4:04

The Agenda was approved.

Minutes were not approved. Ramona is working on February minutes. The last meetings minute were done. However, staff did an extreme job of editing the minutes compared to what Ramona had done. Copies of the minutes Ramona did were passed out to board members showing what was removed and what was changed from the original. There was discussion about the changes. It is decided that approval will occur at the next meeting along with February. The meeting is adjourned and restarted.

Director Shelle Sanchez wants to give a speech. She is introduced by the Chair, Marilyn, who welcomes her to the meeting. Director Sanchez states she is concerned about the program and her workers doing the portal managers job. They have had discussions. There is no longer a position with the title Portal Manager. There is a community events team. They will oversee the program. There won't be one person to do the job. They will not be hiring a portal manager. They will do as they do with other programs. They have moved away from the portal manager to special events. There will be a number of people who can step in to make sure the program moves forward. They are not reducing staff, just spacing out the duties. By ordinance the portal manager is staff assigned to the board. There will continue to be staff at the board meetings. This is a great program. People love it. It is important to Old Town. But they need to go to self manage. It is not a full time position for one person. After much discussion about it they have figured a path forward and figured out how to make a good program. They have other programs with vendors. Vendors self manager in other places. This move is to make the program better and stronger. She will be making the decisions. They are going to clean up the regulations. Rules and regulations are managed by the department. So she has the authority to make changes. The basic problem is self management. They are looking at what vendors can do for themselves. They will do reminders and come out to enforce if they have to. But they are looking at the big picture. They manage 36 arts and crafts events and have a budget of 52 million.

The latest update on the shade shift and security shift rules is discussed . The Director supports both. She thought about the pros and cons. They care about our health and safety. Vendors voted on the shade shift rule. The heat has been significant. So they will reinstate both rules. Shade shift was used at one time. It was a problem. It was originally put in place on a trial basis. Vendors were taking advantage of switching spaces. It's not in the ordinance and the board voted to remove it when James was still there. The decision the city is making to reinstate this rule by passes the boards decision. When asked about the role of the board in this decision making process, the Director states that they can send her information if they want.

The director announces that the portal ownership has changed. It use to be museum property. Now it is private property. So this is now a city program on private property. That is the issue. They are negotiating with the owner of the property and doing research. They will give updates.

There is a question about enforcement of the rules. There have been a number of fights and many vendors don't know how to act professionally. Where do they go now since there is no portal manager. The Director says they are trying to figure that out since there are no clear consequences or guidance in the ordinance. They have heard about arguing but they can't go off of hearsay. With abuses, they are training staff to deal with issues in those areas.

Other comments include: Steve did a studio visit. We need to have a doctors excuse for help with setting up and packing.

Marilyn thanks the Director for speaking to us. But we need to move on. We didn't get to slabs and it is 4:47. We still need to talk about new permits. Lottery is on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month. Vendors need to email to put their numbers in.

The next meeting is June 12, 2024. Meeting dates are:

August 21, 2024

October 16, 2024

December 18, 2024

The meeting is adjourned at 4:56. Marilyn says thank you everybody.