

# METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

## Minutes of April 2, 2024 Meeting

**Location:** Parks and Recreation Department Office and Zoom

**Members Present:** Valerie Martinez, Julie Radoslovich, Cynthia Serna, Tony Johnson, Anna Walker

**Members Absent:** David Duhigg

**City Staff Present:** Deputy Director David Flores, Deputy Director Dennis Vasquez, CIP Program Manager Cheryl Somerfeldt

### Call to Order

- Meeting was called to order at 12:38 pm.
- Introduction of Board Members
- Introduction of Guests
  - Wes Duplantier, District 8 resident
  - Peter Rice, Downtown ABQ News

### Business Meeting

- Meeting agenda approved
- Approval of March 2024 meeting minutes with change to add "Members Not Present"

### Public Comment

- Mr. Duplantier spoke of attempt to contact District 8 Councilor and will attend April 15 City Council meeting regarding MPRAB member appointment process.

### Old Business

- Update on legal review of Ordinance 10-1-2-3 confirming that the Mayor may appoint a person who has applied to serve on the MPRAB but lies in wait because two persons from a district have not submitted applications to fill a vacant board position under the following conditions:

"When a vacancy occurs on the Board or no more than 30 days prior to the expiration of a member's term, the Mayor may notify the Councilor representing the District in which that member of the Board resides of the vacancy or term expiration. If that Councilor fails to nominate two members to the Board or to reappoint a member to the Board within 30 days of receiving such notification, the Mayor may appoint a member to the Board to represent that Councilor's District, subject to the advice and consent of the City Council."

- The Board identified Lavaland Park as an underutilized park for board attention this year.

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### New Business

- ACTION ITEM: Board Chair will draft a letter with concerns about MPRAB member appointment process and submit the letter to the City Council and Mayor's Office.

### Reports

- Deputy Director Flores reported:
  - Kent Vigil selected as New Aquatics Division manager.
  - Eric Singman hired as new Project Coordinator.
  - Cricket Tournament this weekend on new cricket pitches at Balloon Fiesta Park and another, larger tournament on Memorial Day weekend.
  - Highest volume of park projects in the history of the Department.
  - Stadium proposal at Balloon Fiesta Park will be presented before the Environmental Planning Commission next week.
  - New pickleball courts at Pat Hurley Park are very busy.
  - Los Altos Park Phase II groundbreaking is coming up.
- Deputy Director Vasquez reported:
  - Memorial Day Weekend, the Department will be coordinating or hosting major events: Pickleball Tournament with the Pros, BMX Nationals, Cricket Tournament, New Mexico Wine Festival
  - The Department has been awarded a matching grant from the State Outdoor Recreation Division to expand and improve disc golf facilities in the city. The Albuquerque Disc Golf Association has been involved in discussions that led to the grant application submission.

### Questions:

- Julie Radoslovich asked about park lighting for safety purposes and considerations for birds. Cheryl Somerfeldt responded that there is a city dark sky ordinance and that the IDO is revising a chapter on city lighting for more regulatory tools to monitor and enforce lighting regulations.

### Sub-Committee Reports

- Julie asked for assistance with Park Activation Sub-committee. Valerie suggested combining the efforts of the Park Activation and Park Promotion Sub-committees.

### Board Members Round Table

- Julie Radoslovich reported on a planned park activation event at Pat Hurley Park, a Community Mandala Project, that will involve Lavaland School, Holy Rosary Church, Rio Grande Food Project, and the Pat Hurley Neighborhood Association. The event is scheduled for April 27.

# **METROPOLITAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD**

## **Minutes of April 2, 2024 Meeting**

### Optional Public Comment

- Wes Duplantier stated that he would be interested in participating as a citizen on board sub-committees.

### Review Action items

- The Board will send a letter to Mayor and City Council about the process for appointment to the MPRAB.

Next meeting is May 2, 2024 at 12:30 pm.

Adjourned was adjourned at 1:58 pm.