

**CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
METROPOLITAN PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**Tuesday, June 4, 2024, 12:30 pm**

**IN PERSON: 1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW**

**VIA ZOOM:**

<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/82774598659>

Meeting ID: 827 7459 8659

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**At-Large-** Tony Johnson, Valerie Martinez; **District 1-** Vacant; **District 2-** Julie Radoslovich; **District 3-** Anna Nelson, Ph.D.; **District 4-** Vacant; **District 5-** John Ajie; **District 6-** David Duhigg; **District 7-** Cynthia Serna; **District 8-** Vacant; **District 9-** Fredrica “Rickie” Bergquist

**PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

David Simon, Director; David Flores, Deputy Director; Dennis Vasquez, Deputy Director; Emily Moore, Communications and Marketing Coordinator

**SUBCOMMITTEES:** Board Development - Valerie (lead); Park Activation: Julie (lead), Valerie, Cynthia, Anna, Tony; Park Promotion: Valerie (lead), Julie, Cynthia

**AGENDA**

1. **Call to Order** (15 min)
  - a. Welcome to any new board member(s)--Rickie Bergquist (District 9) and John Ajie (District 5) with brief introductions by existing board members
  - b. Introduction of Guests
2. **Business Meeting** (5 min)
  - a. Approval of today’s agenda
  - b. Approval of April 2024 and May 2024 meeting minutes
3. **Public Comment #1** (2 minutes per person) - for those who do not wish to remain for the entire meeting.
4. **Old Business** (10 min)
  - a. The board sent a letter to City Councilors and the mayor’s office reminding them that current language in Ordinance 10-1-2-3, regarding MPRAB board appointments, provides the mayor’s office with an option for appointing new board members even when there are fewer than two applicants for a particular district. We are aware of several applicants who have been waiting up to 15 months for possible appointment, presumably because each is the singular applicant for the board in their particular district. The relevant passage from the ordinance reads as follows:

“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.**”

Thus far, we have received responses from Councilors Bassan and Champine as well as the Mayor’s office, acknowledging our letter and thanking us for bringing the issue to their attention. Since the letter was sent, the MPRAB has welcomed two new members

to the board, Frederika (“Rickie”) Berguist and John Ajie. We believe we are making progress on this board priority.

- b. The board (hosted by PRD) will take another field trip on Friday, June 21 (10 am - 1 pm,) this time focusing on 3-5 underutilized city parks, including Lavaland Park (see New Business, below). The board has identified Lavaland Park as a focus for its first pilot project—to examine one underutilized park (in 2024) through a research and community engagement process that will include: field trip, data gathering, meeting with the relevant neighborhood association(s), door-to-door with residents who live near the park, and other activities.
- c. The annual report to the mayor and city councilors is currently in-progress and will be completed and sent by the end of June. The report, with policy recommendations, will be presented to the public during the July board meeting.

#### 5. **New Business** (10 min)

- a. New board members have received a board orientation and documents that encourage them to become active board members soon after they attend their first meeting. Thanks to Dennis Vasquez for a tour of PRD offices and staff and a very informative slide presentation providing an overview of the department. Valerie also participated in orientation and provided new members with information and documents regarding the work of the board. **Discussion:** invite Dennis to present the same slide show during an upcoming board meeting and encourage attendance by the general public.
- b. New board members are encouraged to join at least one board subcommittee. **Discussion:** new board members.
- c. Per last meeting, the board will develop a “**Park Activation Guide**” that can be accessed by residents, neighborhood associations, and other interested individuals and/or organizations with useful information and recommendations for organizing park events, cultivating partnerships and collaborations, fundraising, and more. **Discussion:** whether this effort should be a project of the board as a whole and/or the Park Activation Subcommittee.

#### 6. **Reports** (20 min)

- Parks and Recreation Department, Directors (5 min)
- Parks and Recreation Department, Staff (5 min)
- Sub-Committee Reports, Committee Chair or designee (5 min)
- Board Members Roundtable (2 minutes each)

#### 7. **Optional Public Comment #2** (for those attending to hear discussion of agenda items)

#### 8. **Review Action Items**

#### 9. **Next Meeting** is scheduled for Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 12:30 pm, and **Adjourn**

The Metropolitan Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was established to keep itself informed of city parks and recreation needs and to serve as a forum for public discussion. The MPRAB encourages the greatest use of parks and recreation programs including cooperation with other agencies and organizations which are involved in providing recreation services for the public good. The MPRAB recommends, to the Mayor, policies for overall development of the park system. The MPRAB represents the community at large and not any specific recreational organization.

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department staff liaison at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible. Public documents, including the agenda and minutes, can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the Committee liaison at the Parks and Recreation Department at (505) 768-5300 (Phone/Relay) if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.