

METROPOLITIAN PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
Minutes of March 20, 2012

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

Members Present: William Kraemer, Chair; Jerry Worrall; Rebecca L. Tays; Janet Harrington;

Members Excused/Absent: Amy M. Elrod-Lahti; Vice-Chair; Kelly Gossett; Carmen Garcia; Dan Wilkinson;

City Staff Present: Barbara Baca, Director, Parks and Recreation Department; Kristy Diaz-Trahan, Recreation Services Manager; Christina Sandoval, CIP Program Manager; Fred Hultberg and Alyssa Velasquez, Tennis and League Play Section of Recreation Services Division; Jane Trujillo, Board Secretary

Visitors: John Whitson; James Rogers; Dan Mourning

Call to Order: Bill Kraemer called the meeting to order at 11:02 AM.

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

Approval of Minutes: Mr. Kraemer requested a motion to approve the February 2012 Minutes. Jerry Worrall moved approval; Jan Harrington seconded; the board unanimously approved the motion.

Introduction of Visitors and Guests: James Rogers and Dan Mourning

Announcements: None.

General Public Testimony: None

Action Items:

- Montano Property – Matt Schmader was unavailable, so Barbara Baca distributed a handout of Comments and Suggested Conditions Submitted by the Open Space Division concerning the construction of a Walmart at the intersection of Coors and Montano NW (attached). The property in question is west of the Bosque and Pueblo Montano parking area trailhead/Bosque access. Barbara mentioned that this property is not on our list for acquisition and there is currently no money for purchase. Barbara reviewed the comments and the map with Board Members. Mr. Kraemer recommended since the Board does not have a quorum that the comments and map be sent to all Board Members for review and this matter be added to the April agenda as an action item. Barbara will request that Matt Schmader attend the next meeting and provide a better map which includes boundaries.
- Letter to the Mayor and Council – Mr. Kraemer requested, as there is no quorum, this item be added to next months agenda as an action item. He also requested that both versions of the letter be forwarded to Board Members for their review and comments via email. Barbara mentioned that a strong letter of support and representation at Budget meetings is very valuable.

Reports:

- Parks and Recreation Department Director, Barbara Baca, distributed handouts of the proposed budget for Board Member review and discussion (attached). Mr. Kraemer mentioned that we have received comments from the public concerning maintenance of park facilities on both the east and west sides of the river. Barbara mentioned that a Cost of Service Analysis is being completed for the department to determine what it really costs to maintain facilities. We continue to build parks, trails and medians without the addition of funding for maintenance or staffing for the new facilities. The Cost of Services Analysis will not be completed in time for this year's budget, but hopefully we will have a different argument for next budget year. Barbara provided some examples of areas where we are under budgeted (e.g. the water for Park Management is \$3.9M and it is projected to be over-expended at \$4.7M, a difference of \$800K). She feels the Board can help raise awareness of these types of issues in their letter.
- Recreation Services provided information on sports in parks. Fred Hultberg discussed how the request for use of our facilities by organizations has increased by 50% over the last 3 years. He provided a handout on the Procedures for Field Allocation. There are 58 organizations that request use of our facilities. Over 35,000 kids use our facilities in the spring and fall. We also use every elementary and middle school in town for activities. We maintain the grass at these APS facilities. The biggest complaint from users is that there is not enough grass or backstops. Both non-profit and for-profit organizations use our facilities. We charge for-profit organizations a small fee. Three employees handle the coordination of use of facilities. These same three employees also handle tennis activities. Mr. Worrall mentioned concussion training for youth sports. He feels that teams should not be allowed to use our facilities unless they have attended concussion training and had a background check. Fred mentioned that leagues are encouraged to attend concussion training. Many of the leagues are doing background checks, but it is an expensive process. Little Leagues make very little money. Mr. Worrall recommended that they go back to the Blue Ribbon Committed and request concussion training be mandatory. Kristy Diaz-Trahan explained the difficulty of enforcement. Bill Nordin and Dan Mourning provided input on background checks and concussion training. Mr. Worrall feels that the message should be that we agree that self-policing is the most effective to get people to comply. It is the responsibility of the leagues. Police yourselves so we don't have to.
- Balloon Fiesta Commission Representative - Bill Nordin mentioned that the cell tower lease was approved at last night's City Council Meeting. Last month's Balloon Fiesta Commission meeting was held out on the fields. There are lots of teams that schedule to use the fields at Balloon Fiesta Park in the evening. He discussed various events that are held at Balloon Fiesta Park. He mentioned events scheduled for June 2, 2012. AIBF is working on a new lease.
- Sub-Committee Reports – Mr. Kraemer mentioned that the Foundation Committee had a second successful meeting to establish a foundation. Orlie Sedillo attended the last meeting. Mr. Sedillo assisted with establishing the foundation for the State Parks. Another meeting is scheduled for early April. The hope is to set up a foundation to help Parks and Recreation Departments for the City and County.
- Members Roundtable – For District 1, Mr. Worrall mentioned that a national shooting tournament will be held at the Shooting Range. Do we have millings available to improve the parking lot, making it

level and keeping down the dust? Barbara said she would contact Rick Vernon and DMD to check. He also mentioned that the west side stadium project has begun. Christina mentioned that the APS project is moving forward. There is currently no money for development in the 2011 Bond. There may be development money in 2013, but there is none at this time.

Unfinished Business: We have vacancies in Districts 3 and 6. At City Council Meeting last night John Whitson for District 5 was introduced and should be approved at the next City Council Meeting. Barbara mentioned that names have been submitted for Districts 3. We have not received names for District 6.

New Business: None

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 17, 2012, 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, at TBD.

Adjourn: Mr. Kraemer adjourned the meeting at 12:42 PM.