

MARCH 17, 2016 MEETING MINUTES OF THE PARKS, RECREATION, & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Commission (PRCA) of the City of Farmington met in a regular session on Thursday, March 17, 2016, at 6:15 p.m. in the Executive Conference Room at City Hall, 800 Municipal Drive, Farmington, NM. Roll call was taken with attendance as follows:

Members Present: Tyson Snyder, Chair; Leslie Thompson, Vice Chair; Patricia Baca; Jane Banes; Sherry Galloway; Peter Holzem; Corey Freeman; Kent Mobley

Members Absent: Larry Hilliard; Ellyn Dimond

Also present were: Cory Styron, PRCA Director; Homer Post, Adults Program Manager, Stephen Dick, Assistant Adult Program Manager; Stan Blair, Bonnie Dallas Senior Center Advisory Board; Aaron Newman, Program Coordinator; Members of the Bonnie Dallas Senior Center Advisory Board: Barbara Goodsky, Anthony Wero, Fleipe Velasquez

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tyson Snyder asked the Commissioners if they had reviewed the February 18, 2016 minutes and if there were any questions or changes. There were none so Mr. Snyder called for a motion. Sherry Galloway moved to accept the February 18, 2016 minutes as presented. Peter Holzem seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

Bonnie Dallas Advisory Group Presentation

Cory Styron introduced Homer Post, Adults Program Manager for the Bonnie Dallas Senior Center and Stan Blair of the Bonnie Dallas Senior Center Advisory Board (BDSC Advisory Board). Mr. Styron stated that during Mr. Post's first few months at the Senior Center he determined that the facility is under-utilized by the community. The BDSC Advisory Board was formed and they are here to present their findings from the last six months. Mr. Styron said that three separate surveys were performed in regards to the Senior Center. The surveys were through the State, PRCA, and an Internal survey. Mr. Blair stated that the internal survey was compiled by the BDSC Advisory Board. The survey was provided to patrons and visitors to the Senior Center to help determine what improvements or ideas could be implemented. Mr. Blair began a power point presentation of the survey findings.

The primary survey findings were as follows:

1. The Senior Center is only serving 18.5% of targeted population.
2. Very small percentage of residents age 50 – 59 utilize the center.
3. In 2015 approximately 81,000 meals were served either at the Senior Center or through the Meals on Wheels Program.
4. Majority of existing Senior Patrons using the center are happy with the programs and services.

The Advisory Board had the following recommendations:

1. More advertising about the facilities and what is provided.
2. More effort needs to be made to reach 50 - 59 age group to use the center.
3. Extend Senior Center hours of operation to 8 am to 8 pm Monday thru Saturday.
4. Upgrade kitchen equipment and facilities.
5. Add other activities or programs, such as pickle ball, tennis, grief/retirement counseling etc..
6. Increased Staffing needed for additional programs and extended hours.

After the conclusion of the presentation a period of discussion began. Questions from the commission were asked such as how does the local Senior Center issues compare to National Senior Center issues? Mr. Post replied that the

issues are the same nationwide. Another question presented was why don't more people age 50-59 go to the Senior Center? Mr. Styron replied that the perception of Senior Center is for "elderly" people and you become labelled. Mr. Post stated that the term Senior Center is a stigma globally. More discussion ensued regarding the presentation and expectations the BDSC Advisory Board had from the PRCA Commission. The discussion ended with the BDSC Advisory Board and Senior Center Staff requesting continued support and allow them to report back to the PRCA Commission periodically. The Commission thanked the Advisory Board for the presentation and ideas that were put forth.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

FY17 BUDGET & CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE – DISCUSSION

Mr. Styron advised the Commission that the FY17 Budget is still proceeding as a flat budget from FY16.

LAKE FARMINGTON UPDATE – DISCUSSION

Opening date is April 16th. Nothing else to report at this time.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Regarding the possibility of closing Brookside Pool, Mr. Styron advised commission members that there will be a Public meeting on Monday March 21, 2016 at 7:00 pm in the Civic Center. He encouraged the commissioners to attend this meeting. Mr. Styron further stated that this issue is on the City Council Agenda for Tuesday, March 22, 2016.

Mr. Styron provided an updated draft copy of the Naming & Dedication of Farmington Facilities Guidelines to the commission members for review. He requested if there are any questions or concerns to contact him directly.

Mr. Styron advised the commission that the Crouch Mesa Community Center will officially close under the PRCA Department June 1, 2016. Gold Star Academy will be instituting a Pre K age 3 to 4 program for the a.m. and an after school program age 5 to 12.

Mr. Styron mentioned highlights from the February report. He noted the Civic Center is doing very well with programming and having great responses to events. Mr. Styron also mentioned that the Civic Center is working to bring Pat Benatar to Farmington for a concert. He stated that the Animal Shelter is "raining" cats and dogs again.

ACTIVITY LISTING

Mr. Styron highlighted events from the March 17th to April 21st Activity Listing. He noted the Tween Twilight Egg Hunt at the Recreation Center in which participants are given flashlights to look for eggs. The Easter Eggstravaganza will be held on Friday March 25th and over 30,000 plastic eggs will be placed for hunting by children of the community at Sycamore Park.

ADJOURNMENT

After no further business or discussion, Ms. Galloway moved to adjourn, Mr. Holzem seconded, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Tyson Snyder, Chair



Debbie Homer, PRCA Administrative Aide