PARKS, RECREATION, AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MINUTES OF THE June 16, 2014 MEETING

The Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Affairs Commission of the City of Farmington met in a regular session on Monday June 16, 2014, at the Civic Center, 200 West Arrington, Farmington, NM. Roll call was taken with attendance as follows:

Members Present: Ed Horvat Staff Present: Cory Styron – PRCA Director

Patricia Baca Linda Harris – Administrative Aide

Jane Banes Judi Ziegler – Senior Center

Sherry Galloway Shaña Reeves – Recreation Superintendent

Peter Holzem Larry Bomberger – Senior Center Kent Mobley Roger Drayer – Landscape Architect

Myra Newman – Fmtn. Indian Center

Members Absent: Larry Hilliard Leslie Mueller – Fmtn. Recreation Center

Debbie Cutler Brian Bobeck – Parks Operations

Tyson Snyder Ryan Neihaus - Aquatics

Leslie Thompson Natalie Spruell – Sycamore & Crouch Mesa Dorothy Nobis Lynsay Rheinhardt – Aquatics Manager

Stacie Voss – Fmtn. Regional Animal Shelter

Guests Presents: Pat O'Toole, GreenPlay LLC

Dave Peterson, Design Concepts

<u>CALL TO ORDER</u> - The PRCA Commission meeting was called to order by Ed Horvat at 4:06 p.m. Approval of the May 15 minutes were postponed until the end of the meeting when a quorum could be attained.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - DISCUSSION ITEMS:

Master Plan Draft: Mr. Styron introduced Pat O'Toole, GreenPlay LLC. Mr. O'Toole began by presenting the Recommendations & Action Plans as found through the Master Plan process. Top on the list would be enhancing and improving internal and external communications by updating the current marketing plan, and website. He suggested opening lines of communications with potential and current partners within the community.

Next is to attract regional tourism through outdoor recreational opportunities, branding Farmington as an "outdoor recreation destination." Mr. O'Toole recommends partnering with other agencies on regional recreation services such as jeep trails, mountain biking, water features etc. Another recommendation is to utilize Farmington Lake as the area's "flagship" recreational park which would have a regional draw and boost local economy. Discussion began concerning the rationale for closing Farmington Lake to recreation; city's drinking water and the invasive aquatic mussel influx. Mr. Styron's advice is to have the possibilities researched and open discussion with the City Council. The Master Plan supports the continued development of the River Trail areas; upgrading the Frisbee Golf Course at Lion's Wilderness and the clubhouse at Pinion Hills Golf Course which will promote both courses to a premier status.

Computers and Software need to be upgraded to a current system; an integrated registration system should be available to allow "real time" registration at all public facility computers.

Provide convenient connections to parks and facilities (recreational connectivity) to include biking paths, walking trails, and public transportation. Have consistent signage for parks clearly identifying as a PRCA facility; improve directional/wayfinding signage as well as maps for trails and roadways identifying

facilities. Improve partnering relationships to create a central clearing house for distribution of materials and opportunities to include adding parks/ hotels on the Red Apple public transportation routes and maps. Enhance culture diversity by embracing cultural awareness; improving relationships and opening lines of communication with the variety of local cultural groups. Involve neighborhood residents in the development of parks and facilities in their area (Adopt-A- Park) which will help the residents to "take ownership" of the care and protection of their park and in turn the agency will be perceived as more culturally aware and open to community engagement.

Create staffing positions to include a grant writer to enhance the ability to implement the Master Plan through federal, state, regional and local grant opportunities. Establish a staff liaison to enhance the partnership with the Navajo Nation. A staff member assigned to manage the PRCA website. A staff member assigned to manage and address all water-related topics. As the Master Plan is implemented, ensure staffing levels can maintain parks and facilities at or above acceptable standards including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Other findings include campaigning for community investment, and improving financial situations; implementing equitable user/assessment fees, increasing tax increment levels, and pursuing grant opportunities.

Improve programs and service delivery. Increase programming for families, youth, and teens paying attention to wellness, cultural, special needs and watercraft. Increase the number of cultural and historical special events and festivals.

Maintain and improve existing facilities and amenities by updating shelters, playground structures and safety surfaces. In addition, improving public safety perception in the parks by implementing crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) are all ways to improve level of service. Implement a strategy for repair, repurpose or replacement considering facilities such as the Recreation Center, the Senior Center, and the Aquatic Center. Consider creating one "destination" park with a theme and all the amenities to attract regional tourism.

DISCUSSION FROM THE FLOOR

Mr. O'Toole opened the floor for questions. Discussion began with dialogue regarding safety and security in the parks, cost and funding, city infrastructure, 5-20 year timelines, and partnering agencies. With no further discussion, Mr. Horvat asked for a motion to approve the Master Plan draft.

♣ Mr. Holzem moved to approve the Master Plan draft; Ms. Baca seconded. The motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Horvat asked for a motion to approve the minutes of May 15, 2014. A motion was made by Jane Banes and seconded by Sherry Galloway to approve the minutes of May 15. The minutes were approved as presented.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business, Mr. Horvat asked for adjournment; the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.

Ed Horvat, Chairperson

Linda Harris, Administrative Aide