

**June 15, 2023 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, June 15, 2023 at 6:17 p.m. at the Farmington Civic Center, 200 W. Arrington, Farmington, NM. Roll call was taken with attendance as follows:

Members Present: Debora Cutler, Chair; George Golombowski, Vice Chair; Ryan Davis; Ken LaCasse; Evan Noel and Carla Stimac.

Members Absent: Patricia Baca; Vicki Campbell; Larry Hilliard; Melissa Mortensen; and Leslie Thompson.

PRCA Staff Present: Natalie Spruell, Interim Director of PRCA; Christa Chapman, Assistant Director Marketing and Cultural Affairs; and Michelle Bowman, Administrative Assistant.

Guest(s): None

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Deb Cutler called the PRCA meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of May 18 2023. A motion was made by Ryan Davis and seconded by George Golombowski to approve the minutes; upon vote, the minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS – NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS – NONE**

**DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Chair Cutler recognized Ms. Spruell to present the department report. Ms. Spruell gave the floor to Ms. Chapman to provide the board with the report on the Museum system and Cultural Affairs. Ms. Chapman informed the board that there have been numerous Museum and Cultural events such as the Dinosaur Exhibit which was a hugely successful exhibit with the highest attendance in 27 years! Next year in February and March the Museum plans to bring in a big survival exhibit with hopes that it is just as successful. In addition to these exhibits, there are ongoing projects such as the Downtown Art installation and the Gallery exhibits. All art is available for public purchase. The museum is hosting the Summer Terrace series and TGIF kicked off Downtown in Orchard Park. The Farmington Grower's Market is scheduled to begin on June 24. E3 Museum will host the Ice Cream Social during Freedom Days. The Sandstone Theater is preparing for the summer production of Into the Woods. San Juan Regional Medical Center purchased all the tickets for one night showing so that their employees can attend. The City of Farmington employees will get to see the dress rehearsal before the show opens to the public. The Farmington Indian Center hosted a mini powwow event with over 700 attendees. Ms. Chapman called for questions from the board. With no further questions she turned the floor back to Ms. Spruell for the rest of the PRCA report.

Ms. Spruell stated that the department continues to be very busy with events and activities that will be held over the summer months at all facilities. She advised the commission that multiple projects and/or programs have begun or will be completed in the next few days to weeks. These projects include: Sports

Complex lighting project, changing San Juan College field into a multi-purpose field, Therapy Pool Kick-off meeting, and the Master plan kick-off. Summer programming includes swimming lessons and recreational summer camps. The golf courses have hosted tournaments for local organizations. The Animal Shelter is overwhelmed with dogs and cats in need of forever homes. The Parks Operations division is busy preparing for summer with the Vector technician spraying weeds and mosquitoes.

Ms. Spruell informed the commission about newly acquired property located at 1010 Vine Street. The property is scheduled for demo and cleanup. Future plans are for additional parking for Ricketts Park and Recreation Center.

Ms. Spruell concluded her report by answering questions and comments from the commission. It was brought to Ms. Spruell's attention that the hand dryer in the Women's restroom at the Sports Complex needs servicing. Ms. Spruell was asked if there would be additional handicap parking spots integrated into the parking area at the Sports Complex. Ms. Spruell replied that there are ADA requirements that must be taken into consideration to accommodate these handicap parking spots. It would include rework of the sidewalks and it is on the Capital improvement list. Ms. Cutler acknowledged the hard work of the Parks Operations team and sent her kudos to them. Mr. Noel also expressed appreciate to the team stating they did an awesome job at Riverfest and the River Reach Foundation was thankful for their work.

**COMMISSIONER BUSINESS - None**

**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR** – Ms. Cutler recognized Ms. Andrea Jones, City Clerk. Ms. Jones advised the board of the First Amendment group that has been attending open meetings. A brief discussion ensued about the encounters experienced with this group. Ms. Jones provided the board with guidance on how to deal with any interactions with said group.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, Mr. LaCasse moved to adjourn, Mr. Noel seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:09 pm. The next meeting will be held June 15, 2023.



Deborah Cutler, Chair



Michelle Bowman  
PRCA Administrative Assistant