PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
WILL BE HELD ON OCTOBER 21, 2021 AT 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 700 N. MAIN

CANCELLED

1. Introductions
2. Conflict of Interest
   At the opening of each meeting, the chairperson shall ask if any member on the Board or City staff has any known conflict of interest with any item on the agenda.
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
4.1. Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes for July 15, 2021
   Documents:
   PRAB MINUTES 07-15-2021.PDF
5. Public Participation
6. Action Items
6.1. Direct Email for Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Members
7. Discussion Items
7.1. KLCB Update
7.2. CLC Parks & Recreation Department 2021-2022 Fees & Charges/Facility Use Policy
8. Staff Member Comments
9. Board Member Comments
10. Adjournment
If you need an accommodation for a disability to enable you to fully participate in this event, please contact us 72 hours before the event at 541-2550.

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Posted: October 14, 2021
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
July 15, 2021

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board held a meeting on July 15, 2021, at 6:05 p.m. via zoom webinar.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Present:

1. Cassie McClure – District 1
2. Stan Engle – District 4
3. Megan Schuller – District 6
4. Eli Guzman - At Large

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members Absent:

1. Jeff Thompson – District 2
2. Maryln Zahler – District 3
3. Eric Montgomery – District 5

Others Present:

1. Franco Granillo, Parks Administrator
2. Joy Ann Lucero, Management Analyst
3. Cathy Mathews, Landscape Architect
4. Hazel Nevarez, Recording Secretary
5. Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator
6. Gregory Shervanick, Public
7. Thomas Winter, Public

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting of July 15, 2021, met via Zoom webinar and was brought to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chair McClure and recognized as having a legal quorum.

1. Introductions

1.1 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Members

Board members introduced themselves and stated the district they represent.

1.2 Parks and Recreation Staff

Staff introduced themselves and stated their position.

2. Conflict of Interest

No Conflict of Interest.

3. Approval of Agenda
Board Member Schuller moved to approve agenda as presented, seconded by Board Member Engle. There was no discussion.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman - Aye
- Board Member Engle – Aye
- Board Member Schuller – Aye
- Chair McClure - Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

4. Approval of Minutes

Board Member Engle moved to approve minutes of June 17, 2021, seconded by Board Member Schuller.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman - Aye
- Board Member Engle – Aye
- Board Member Schuller – Aye
- Chair McClure - Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

5. Public Participation

No public participation.

6. Old Business – Action

6.1 Board Elections – Cassie McClure, Board Chair

Board Member Engle nominated Chair McClure for another term as Board Chair. Chair McClure accepted. There were no other nominations.

Board Member Schuller moved to accept by acclamation Chair McClure as Board Chair.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman – Aye
- Board Member Engle – Aye
- Board Member Schuller – Aye
- Chair McClure – Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair McClure nominated Board Member Engle as Vice-Chair. Board Member Engle accepted nomination. There were no other nominations.
Board Member Schuller moved to accept by acclamation Board Member Engle as Vice-Chair, seconded by Board Member Engle.

Chair McClure stated first motion to accept her as Board Chair has died due to lack of second.

Board Member Engle nominated Board Chair McClure for Board Chair. Chair McClure accepted nomination.

Board Member Schuller moved to accept by acclamation Chair McClure as Board Chair, seconded by Board Member Engle.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman – Aye
- Board Member Engle – Aye
- Board Member Schuller – Aye
- Chair McClure – Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

Chair McClure nominated Board Member Engle as Vice-Chair. Board Member Engle accepted nomination. There were no other nominations.

Board Member Schuller moved to accept Board Member Engle as Vice Chair by acclamation, seconded by Board Member Engle.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman – Aye
- Board Member Engle – Aye
- Board Member Schuller – Aye
- Chair McClure – Aye

Motion carried unanimously.

7. Discussion Items

7.1 4th of July – Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator

Mr. Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator, reported the 4th of July live in person event this year was a success – Electric Light Parade, Concert, and Firework Display:

- Parade Theme “Stars and Stripes Forever”
- Grand Marshals were R. Jay Lloyd a decorated Coast Guard veteran, and faculty member Dr. Michael Woods, and 3rd year student Bradley Poindexter who represented Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- Parade featured 42 entries and over 250 vehicles from car clubs, UTV clubs, floats, and law enforcement.
- The route was from Apodaca Park to Meerscheidt Recreation Center.
• Fun Run
• Concert headliner Gin Blossoms.
• Amazing firework display by contractor Garden State Fireworks, who have also done events at the White House, NY Time Square, and many other large events.
• Largest crowd we have ever had.

7.2 Community Pool – Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator

Mr. Robert Nunez reported groundbreaking for the 50 Meter Community Competition Pool was held Tuesday, July 13, 2021. He informed the Board:

• Pool will be constructed north of the existing Regional Aquatic Center Complex.
• Contractor HB Construction Cost $15.2 million.
• The new facility will include ten competition lap lanes, meet timing room, training room, lifeguard/first aid room, women’s & men’s locker rooms, and public restrooms.
• Facility will be just over 37,000 square feet.
• Work has started and completion by November 2022.
• This project is in City Council District # 3.

Board Member Schuller noted trees were eradicated from the recent storm in time for the groundbreaking.

Chair McClure asked how much the recent storm dinged Parks and Recreation. Mr. Nunez deferred the question to Mr. Franco Granillo, Parks Administrator.

7.3 Youth Development/Diversion Grant – Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator

Mr. Nunez informed Board Members the Youth Development Diversion grant was approved for $308,779 for the Juvenile Citation Program and will go to City Council July 19, 2021, for approval. He reported being in the new fiscal year and already have clients in the program and are hiring for some additional staff and working with NMSU to get some interns from Health & Human Services College. He said hopefully through work study and through City funding, would be able to compensate them when they join us when they return to school for the fall semester.

Chair McClure asked if the Youth Board will pick up at some point. Mr. Nunez said this will be rolled out as the school year starts, giving the students a couple of months to apply for the program, and then get the Youth Board started in late Fall.

Ms. Schuller asked if staff has considered reaching out to the Family and Consumer Sciences Department at New Mexico State University to help with the interns as well. Mr. Nunez responded yes.

7.4 Young Park Pond - Franco Granillo, Parks Administrator
Mr. Franco Granillo, Parks Administrator, updated the Board on the Young Park Pond situation and status from Memorial Day weekend:

- Aerators were pulled and sent to vendor for repair.
- Damage was significant and couldn’t be repaired so ordered new air diffuser aerators which go underneath the water – received July 15, 2021.
- Working with Facilities staff to get installed.
- Since Memorial Day, have moved water manually with staff and help of utilities, checked oxygen levels daily and continue to do so, kept aeration and oxygen levels going up until June 28, 2021, when had another weather event and water exchange was not significant enough to keep the oxygen levels up and lost more fish.
- No issues since June 28, 2021. Staff continues to exchange water when necessary and still moving the water with pumps when necessary.
- Facility staff has installed seven ten-inch air diffusers underneath the water as a short-term fix until the diffusers received today are installed in the next few days.
- Also have two compressors on the south side of the pond moving air on that side along with the fountain.
- Facility staff also installed a small air diffuser on the north side of the pond.
- For the last few weeks, have been taking oxygen levels every day. Have increased the reading so can monitor morning, afternoon and evening time so can make sure oxygen level stays high.
- Will continue to monitor over the weekend with the weather event coming in.
- Getting assistance from Joshua Rosenblatt from Utilities who is familiar with ponds, algae, fish, and wildlife, along with other Utility staff who have helped acquire and purchase the meters and trained staff to take meter readings.
- Not sure if aerators purchased will be a 100% fix but based on specs given by vendor, oxygen levels should stay between a five and seven reading.
- Will see how the pond stabilizes with the new air diffusers once installed.

Mr. Gregory Shervanick from the public had a raised hand but was unable to be heard thru the speakers. Chair McClure asked that he try again toward the end of the meeting.

Chair McClure asked if there are any other systems in the parks that need any kind of preventative treatment the same way as the pond needed aerators. Mr. Granillo responded any time this kind of maintenance is needed, staff has to partner with Facilities because is plumbing, electrical – the kind of infrastructure not taken care of by park staff. Facilities has taken over the responsibility of making sure the plumbing and electrical is always functional on the aerators/diffused air and the plumbing on the fountain and will provide park staff with maintenance schedule regarding that kind of infrastructure. Other items in the parks like turf, maintenance, weed abatement, litter pickup, playground equipment, are scheduled for every other aspect of the park.

Chair McClure asked about the storm damage. Mr. Granillo said it was the worst he has seen – just in the right of ways and medians, 71 trees and staff has just finished catching up. In parks between 45 and 60 trees. He said it was going to be close to 150 trees that were lost – large
canopy trees providing shade. Mr. Granillo said he is putting some numbers together for the Sun News and will also send forward to the Board.

7.5 FY22 Budget – Joy Ann Lucero, Management Analyst

Ms. Joy Ann Lucero, Management Analyst, presented to the Board Fiscal Year 2022 Parks & Recreation budget and provided a summation, attached.

Chair McClure ask how our Parks and Recreation budget ranks compared to other comparable cities in the state. Ms. Lucero said she can do some research and get back to the Board.

Board Member Engle suggested response be percentage of budget that goes to Parks and Recreation as opposed to other departments. Chair McClure added in terms of population. Ms. Lucero asked for clarification, department or population in other cities, as Parks & Recreation’s budget is the fourth highest budget here at City of Las Cruces. Chair McClure said she would like to see how we shape up with similar sized towns, even if not in the state.

7.6 Future Board Meeting Location/Attendance – Robert Nunez, Youth Services Administrator

Mr. Nunez reported after speaking with City Clerk, as of July 1, 2021, the state’s emergency orders have ceased and all Boards reference back to the state statute which is requirement for in person Board meetings. City Attorney and City clerk are awaiting some decisions from the state office regarding that. He said City Council will be meeting in person July 19, 2021. Mr. Nunez said possible locations for meeting are Branigan Library, Henry Benavidez Community Center, Frank O’Brien Papen Community Center.

Board Member Engle said it sounds like this meeting is in violation if meetings were supposed to be in person beginning July 1, 2021 and doesn’t know if there are repercussions to that. He asked if there is possibility of discussing this offline to be fair to Board members that are not here to give their input.

Chair McClure said she received an email from the City talking about the return. She said the email was interesting because it asks for proof of vaccination and those who don’t show proof wear masks. Chair McClure asked if that applies to the Board as well. Mr. Nunez said he would inquire regarding this but in talking with City Clerk, all Boards would follow suit as to what City Council does, and in reference to State Statute on Open Public Meetings. Chair McClure said she doesn’t know what the Board should do given that fact that the Board doesn’t have a space to go to that is safe. She said the safest thing to do is meet online and isn’t sure if there is an undue burden for staff. Chair McClure asked if staff could let the Board know in the next couple of days how are going to merge with the Mayor’s emergency proclamation and how the Board can respond to that so can decide before the next Board meeting.
Chair McClure said she received email from Mr. Shervanick on his question earlier. She said his question was what was cost of new aerator system. Mr. Granillo said the new diffused air system was about $6,600 with no install charge since doing in house.

8. Staff Member Comments

Ms. Cathy Mathews, Land Scape Architect, reported the skate park renovation park is progressing. She said the Selection Advisory Committee agreed on the language for a revised request for proposal and was put out for rebid this past Friday. She anticipates receiving and evaluating responses in August.

Ms. Mathews reported staff is in the process of receiving a new grant from the New Mexico Department of Transportation for developing a Way Finding plan. She said way finding is directional signage, informational signage, and monumental signage for the trail system and the parks. Ms. Mathews said notice was received July 14, 2021, that the grant was awarded.

Mr. Granillo reported staff from all Parks and Recreation sections worked well together for the 4th of July and kudos to all staff involved.

Ms. Lucero reported correction to her statement made earlier that Parks and Recreation had the fourth highest budget in the city. She said Parks and Recreation has the third highest budget with police first, and fire second.

9. Board Member Comments

Board Member Engle commented on the Nevada Cool Corridor from June’s Board meeting. He said he is 100% behind any other projects like the Cool Corridor but feels like the demonstration project didn’t live up to its cool moniker. He said he drove by a few days ago and noticed there are weeds growing in the chicanes.

Board Member Schuller thanked everybody. She said it is nice to see the swimming pool in the East Mesa open which was a long time coming – kudos to that staff. She also said she is glad that everything in general is safe from recent storm and knows the park crew will have a lot to keep up and maintain and is appreciated. She also expressed hope in finding a happy medium to meeting back in person and hopes everyone continues to stay safe.

At Large Guzman expressed thanks to Parks and Recreation Staff for all their work and appreciates their effort.

Chair McClure echoes all the thanks. She said she is a little suspicious of all the ATV’s being part of the parade, which doesn’t make a lot of sense to her – beyond that, it was nice to see a crowd again.

10. Adjournment
Board Member Engle moved to adjourn the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, seconded by Board Member Schuller.

Roll Call:
- At Large Guzman - Aye
- Board Member Engle - Aye
- Board Member Schuller - Aye
- Chair McClure – Aye

Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 7:05p.m.

Hazel Nevarez, Recording Secretary
Cassie McClure, Chair