

**AUGUST 17, 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, August 17, 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, Co-Chair; Patricia Baca; Ryan Davis; Evan Noel and Carla Stimac.

Members Absent: Vicki Campbell; Larry Hilliard; Ken LaCasse; Melissa Mortensen; and Leslie Thompson.

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

Guest(s): Mayor Nate Duckett and Lori Baca.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Deb Cutler called the PRCA meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. and asked for a motion to approve the minutes of June 15, 2023. A motion was made by Carla Stimac and seconded by Patricia Baca to approve the minutes; upon vote, the minutes were approved unanimously as presented.

Chair Cutler recognized Mayor Duckett and passed the floor to him. Mayor Duckett thanked the Commissioners for their hard work serving on the board and as a token of gratitude he issued each member a commemorative coin.

Chair Cutler called for discussion on new business and unfinished minutes. There were no new items or old business to discuss.

**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. The Summer Sandstone production of Into the Woods had sales tickets over 3,000. San Juan Regional Medical Center purchased all the tickets for one night showing so that their employees could attend. Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Coat performance at the Civic Center sold over 1300 tickets. Forty local children performed in the play as well as some local talent. Other events to be held are: 3 Red Neck Tenors, a private showing for the New Mexico Municipal League Conference at the Totah Theater; Sponge Bob in September at the Civic Center; Rod Hubble art continues to be showcased at the Museum; Totah Festival will be at the Civic Center; Jefferson Starship will be performing at Ricketts Park in September with lawn

seating available; and the 4-Corners Balloon Rally will be held the first weekend of October.. 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 transition from summer to academic year events. 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: Therapy pool meetings to discuss redesign at Lions Pool; Consultants will conduct site meetings with PRCA Staff to discuss the Master plan; Brookside Skate Park redesign; All Abilities Park; repaving the parking lot at the Senior Center; and upgrades at Civitan Golf Course. Ms. Spruell was excited to share information about a community project of tree carving down on the Riverwalk. The River Reach Foundation has hired an artist to wood carve the tree stumps at the bridge near the Animal Shelter. Mr. Benally decided he will carve a deer with a fawn.

Ms. Spruell concluded her report by answering questions and comments from the commission. With no further comments she turned to floor over to Evan Pilling to provide an update on his program.


Mr. Pilling thanked the board for providing him time to discuss the Outdoor Recreation Industry Initiative. This is a position that Mr. Pilling has been in for the past 5 months and he has a background in Adventure Sports. Some events that he has been working on include the National Public Lands Day scheduled for September 23; discussion on the pump track at Sycamore Park; hosting a movie about outdoor recreation at the Totah Theater the last weekend of August; and assisting with the Balloon Rally in October.

**COMMISSIONER BUSINESS - None**


**BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR – None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further discussion, Mr. Evan Noel moved to adjourn, Mr. Golombowski seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm. The next meeting will be held September 21, 2023.



Deborah Cutler, Chair



Michelle Bowman  
PRCA Administrative Assistant