

**OCTOBER 15, 2020 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, October 15, at 6:15 p.m. Virtually through the ZOOM platform, Farmington, NM

Members Present     Leslie Thompson Chair; Deborah Cutler; Thomas Hawkins; George Golombowski; Patricia Baca; Evan Noel; Richard Griffiths and Ken LaCasse.

Members Absent:     Tyson Snyder, and Larry Hilliard

Also present were:   Shaña Reeves, PRCA Director; Natalie Spruell, Gwen Johnson, PRCA Administrative Aide;

**OPENING OF MEETING:**

Chair; Leslie Thompson called the Parks, Recreation, & Cultural Affairs Commission meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. She welcomed the Commissioners and thanked them for being present. The roll was taken.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair; Leslie asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the past September 17, 2020 meeting. A motion was made by Deborah Cutler to accept the minutes as written, upon vote, the minutes were approved unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS-**

The Open Meeting Resolution Act was presented. It was decided that the PRCA Commission would continue meeting at 6:15 pm on the third Thursday of each month. The motion was made by Rick Griffiths to accept the decision and Evan Noel made the second. The vote was taken and approved unanimously.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATE-**

Shaña Reeves, PRCA Director, began the department's updates with program numbers, and facility changes that will take place due to Governor Lujan Grisham's latest COVID 19 guidelines. The updates will be put in place and take effect on Friday, October 16<sup>th</sup>.

There are two of our PRCA programs that will definitely be affected by this change.

The reservations of park shelters for parties of 10 have been cancelled due to the gathering numbers being decreased to 5. This affected 14 reservations. The spike in COVID 19 cases has determined this change. The next program being affected is permitting of our sports fields. We will suspend issuing permits for field use and this will also include the field lights. The fields are still available for use on a first come first serve basis, following the 5 to 1 ratio. Our coaches, teams, and youth are very disappointed about this.

Shaña expressed that Governor Lujan Grisham is being a bit hard on our law enforcement and challenging them to get involved by enforcing the COVID 19 mandates. Shaña wants to avoid putting our Farmington Police officers in the position of being caught in the middle of our athletics programs.

Swimming and pool programs will make adjustments for the 5 to 1 ratio and remain open.

Updates for the Department projects are as follows: the new bleachers are being installed and finished on Ricketts field. We are looking forward to getting the poles in to get the nets up. Irrigation will be put in at the infield and around the pitching mound. The park's operations have also re-sodded part of the dog parks, grassy areas.

Our Golf Course will be entering into a lease agreement for the equipment. The need for this was presented at the most recent City Council Meeting. The decision for this is because our equipment was last purchased in 2004 and it is in bad condition and needing too many repairs to be cost-effective. We have two greens mowers down just to name one of the major issues. This lease would be a 5-year lease. The irrigation plan is moving forward with an RFQ (request for qualification) being put in place so when the funds are available, the project will be able to move forward.

The Animal Shelter will begin a startup plan for the spay and neuter program, with 220 surgeries that were postponed to be put back on the schedule and then will move forward as they can on a priority basis with other surgeries. The Animal Foundation has made a generous donation of \$15,000 for the year to help fund these.

Natalie shared that the First T Organization has presented a Park Golf program being funded through a grant and would like to use Sycamore Park grounds to offer this program. The Park Golf is a program that offers the golf sports experience to youth that might not otherwise have an opportunity to engage in the sport. The First T organization would provide all the equipment, including low flight balls. This program and information will be presented to the City Council at their next regularly scheduled meeting for possible approval.

An attachment of the course map will be sent to each of the Commissioners.

The Among the Waters Trail moves forward with the continuation of it being put out to bid again. There has been a 9-day extension added to the deadline.

There has been a condition assessment scheduled for Lions Pool. This will identify all the things that are wrong with this building, and pool and how we should proceed with the highest to lowest priorities able to be prioritized. The assessment will be complete in November.

The Indian Center restroom project has had an updated change. There will no longer be showers in the restrooms. To properly update the ventilation system to accommodate showers there has been a projected cost of an additional \$50,000 to \$60,000. The new restroom will be ADA compliant.

The Recreation Centers restroom renovation has been postponed to December due to the Boys and Girls Club utilizing the building for the school program.

#### **COMMISSIONER ITEMS**

Deb Cutler extended compliments to the customer service and kindness of the employees at the Civitan Golf Course.

Chair; Leslie had the Commissioners take note that at the next regularly scheduled meeting on November 18, the Chair position would need to be voted on for the next year's term.

Nothing else for discussion or comment, from the Commissioners, Chair; Leslie Thompson has for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Commissioner; Pat Baca made the motion, to adjourn, Commissioner; George Golombowski made the second. The meeting was adjourned at 7:43 pm

Next Meeting November 19, 2020

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Chair; Leslie Thompson,

zoom meeting -

  
Gwen Johnson, PBCA Administrative Aide