

**Minutes of the
North Mesa Senior Recreation Center Advisory Board
Held at North Mesa Senior Recreation Center
Regular Meeting
1112 N. Mesa
Wednesday, February 8, 2017**

Voting Members Present:

Sally Garner	Chairperson
Jean Loafman	Vice-Chairperson
Sonny Adcock	Member
Beth Frederick	Member
Jigger Skillern	Member
Ysidro Molinar	Member
Helen DeAnda	Member

Voting Members Absent:

Board Secretary Present:

Dina Navarrette	Center Manager
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Others Present:

Tina Swindell	Asst. Center Manager
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1. ROLL CALL OF VOTING MEMBERS AND DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM

Roll call of those present was taken at 3:00 p.m. by Sally Garner. It was determined that a quorum was present.

2. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by Beth Frederick and seconded by Ysidro Molinar to approve agenda of the February 8, 2017 agenda. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Jigger Skillern, Sonny Adcock, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Ysidro Molinar, Sally Garner

No –

Absent –

3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF JANUARY 11TH MEETING MINUTES

Helen DeAnda brought it to our attention that she was not present during the first two agenda items at the last meeting because she came in late, so her name needed to be removed from the votes for those items. A motion to approve the January 11, 2017 meeting minutes with changes was made by Beth Frederick and seconded by Ysidro Molinar. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Jigger Skillern, Sonny Adcock, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Ysidro Molinar, Sally Garner

No –

Absent –

4. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TIMES AND DATES OF NMSRC ADVISORY BOARD MEETINGS

A motion was made by Sally Garner and seconded by Jean Loafman to approve the NMSRC Advisory Board meetings to be held on the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 3:00 p.m. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Jigger Skillern, Sonny Adcock, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Ysidro Molinar, Sally Garner

No –

Absent –

5. DISCUSS WEDNESDAY & FRIDAY GROUPS

Dina explained that we have a band, The Rounder's, that we have received numerous complaints about the volume of their music over the last several months. Following protocol, she talked to the head of the Dance Committee Barbara Robertson, who stated that she has asked the band to turn down their volume on several occasions, but it seemed to only antagonize them and they would turn the volume up instead. Tina Swindell has also asked the band on several occasions, per Barbara's request, to turn the music down, with the same results. This has been going on for several months, so on Wednesday, January 25th, Dina stayed late so she could hear the volume of the music and talk to Barbara. When she approached Barbara about the volume, she stated that she asked the band four times just in the last week to turn it down and instead it sounded to her that it was louder. Throwing her hands in the air she said didn't know what else to do. The band had not arrived yet, so Dina left and came back around 8:00 p.m. and the band was taking a break. Dina, along with Tina, went over to the table where the band was sitting. Dina extended her hand and introduced herself to the lead singer of the band, Mark Carter, and he immediately became irritated and started talking loudly, saying he knew why she was there to talk to them about the volume, when in fact she had only just introduced herself. Dina said she did need to talk to them about the volume as there have been several complaints from other members. They both sat down at the table and Mark began explaining in a very loud voice so others could hear, that all of the instruments follow the lead of the drummer. Dina responded that the volume of the drums weren't what the complaints were about; that she felt lowering the master volume on the guitar amplifiers would solve the problem. She asked him to just meet us half way and we'd be happy to work with them, and reminded them that other members use the facility while dances are going on, and she has to do what's best for all. At San Jose Senior Center and also the senior center in Artesia, when they have dances, there isn't anyone else in the building so the music doesn't disturb anyone. However, at our center, we have many people using our facility during dance nights and we have to take everyone into consideration. Mark's wife, Judy, stated that's how they played and they weren't going to change it. Val Cannon, another member of the band, and also a member of two other bands who play here at the center, said we were the only ones who had an issue with the volume. Dina explained to him that when the bands or dancers approach other groups asking about the volume, they won't say that it's too loud to them, because they don't want to cause trouble. They feel more comfortable approaching staff to voice their complaints. He finally said he would work with us, but voiced his discontent through the lyrics in his music and comments to the room over the PA system. This seemed to aggravate some of the dancers and they voiced their displeasure to Dina and Tina. The following day Dina began hearing that dance members were planning to take their complaints directly to City Hall so Dina met

with Patsy Jackson Christopher as well as Mayor Janway and Deputy City Administrator Stephanie Shumsky regarding the situation. Jigger Skillern stated that this particular band is too loud. He said they can hear it in the bridge room and they enjoy their music, but conceded that they are behind a cinderblock wall and a steel door. He stated that he felt the committee didn't do their job but that it was not Dina's job to go to the band, because he felt that it was not in her realm of duty; she should have gone to Barbara and told her to tell them to turn it down or they can't play here. Dina acknowledged Jigger's view about how things could have been handled differently. She also acknowledged Ysidro Molinar's when he added his opinion on how the situation could have been handled. Dina expressed to the board that she was sure there would be several other views on how the situation could have been handled but that she was put in the position as Manager of the center to manage situations as they arise to the best of her abilities following the procedures set forth by City Administration. She explained that recently, Jean Loafman came to her about an issue she was having with a line dancer wanting to be in a more advanced class than what she was ready for, and if it was necessary, she would have to remove them from the dance floor because an inexperienced dancer could cause someone serious harm. She stated she talked to Dina in case a problem arose with this person; she wanted Dina to step in to handle it. Jean stated she believes that handling these types of situations is exactly what Dina's job is and well within her realm as manager of the center. Jean continued that everyone has an opinion on how things should be handled, but the city hired her to do this job. Sally Garner stated that she had a problem with everyone second-guessing Dina's decisions as the manager. Jigger stated that they didn't have a dance last Friday and also there wouldn't be one again this evening. Sally told him that it's the committee's problem, as they are the ones in charge of the dances. Dina reminded the board that in the past center staff offered to help them find bands or DJ's, but they declined the help. Dina said that as long as the city administrators tell her what her job is, she will continue to perform her duties to the best of her ability. Jean brought up the code of conduct which can be used as a tool to suspend or ban members for being disrespectful to staff. Ysidro Molinar asked if any of the groups or other members had filled out a written complaint form. Dina told him that once they filled out that form it becomes public information and a lot of our members don't want to be seen as troublemakers so they won't fill them out, but they will come to staff to complain or comment on situations. Protocol was followed and when the committee was not able to handle the situation, then management stepped in. The two dancers that spoke up and said the band was too loud are now targeted by other dancers, getting dirty looks and snide comments, which is exactly why many don't want to say anything to them directly, but would rather go to staff.

6. UPDATE ON NMSRC ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

We had a pool tournament scheduled for February 7th but it was cancelled due to lack of participation. The decision had been made from the prior pool tournament that there were to be no spectators allowed in the pool room during a tournament. This rule came about when several players approached staff saying that they didn't want spectators because they were talking, walking around, even commenting on how they would have played a shot, and being disruptive. The last tournament we held did not have spectators and it ran smoothly, without issue, and all the participants enjoyed it. This issue was brought up again when we posted signs for this tournament, member commenting it wasn't fair that they couldn't come and watch their friends play. Dina explained to them again, that the participants in the tournaments requested that there not be spectators due to the disruptions. She's found that because the people who play pool are friends, they don't tell each other that they don't want spectators; instead, they come to staff and voice their concerns. The Zia Quilter's and Stitchery Guild will be having a retreat February 18th-19th.

7. ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next board meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2017 at 3:00 p.m.

8. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made at 4:00 p.m. by Beth Frederick and seconded by Jean Loafman to adjourn the meeting. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Jigger Skillern, Sonny Adcock, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Ysidro Molinar, Sally Garner

No –

Absent –

Minutes approved on behalf of the North Mesa Senior Recreation Center Advisory Board:

Sally Garner
Sally Garner, Chairperson

03-08-2017
Date