

**Minutes of the
North Mesa Senior Recreation Center Advisory Board
Held at North Mesa Senior Recreation Center
Regular Meeting
1112 N. Mesa
Wednesday, June 13, 2018**

Voting Members Present:

Sally Garner	Chairperson
Jean Loafman	Vice-Chairperson
Beth Frederick	Board Member
Helen DeAnda	Board Member
Jigger Skillern	Board Member
Ysidro Molinar	Board Member
Jay Redman	Board Member

Voting Members Absent:

Board Secretary Present:

Dina Navarrette	Center Manager
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Others Present:

Tina Swindell	Center Asst. Manager
Paul Blankenship	Member – Left meeting at 3:58 pm
Rose Blankenship	Member – Left meeting at 3:05 pm

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 the June 13, 2018 agenda. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Ysidro Molinar, Jay Redman, Jigger Skillern, Helen DeAnda, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Sally Garner

No –

3. CONSIDER APPROVAL OF APRIL 11TH MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Ysidro Molinar and seconded by Jigger Skillern to approve the April 11, 2018 meeting minutes. The vote was as follows:

Yes – Ysidro Molinar, Jay Redman, Jigger Skillern, Helen DeAnda, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Sally Garner

No –

4. UPDATE AND DISCUSS ON MAINTENANCE, CONSTRUCTION, AND REPAIRS

o Lapidary

- The Lapidary will be undergo upgrades if the final budget is approved. Items included in the capital expenditure request include the installation of an exit door, a new ventilation system, upgrading the water supply, custom built tables with drainage trays built in, as well as new equipment to replace equipment purchased in the late 60's, early 70's. Ysidro Molinar asked if the city has any requirements for those who are training members to use the equipment in the lapidary; as of now there are none but Dina will be talking to Jack Sewell from the Gem and Mineral Society, as well as city administration, about setting up policy and procedures for room before it is re-opened. That group administrators have mentioned they will also implement new rules for access the room and for training all members on the new equipment.

o Restrooms

- The restrooms are not completely finished. Due to the new toilets being installed, there is less room in the stalls so we are looking into longer stalls to accommodate this. We are currently researching the cost of longer stalls. New LED lighting has already been ordered and will be installed in the restrooms in the near future.

o Roadrunner Room Improvements

- We ordered the sound panels and they should arrive within a week. The window is already here and we will arrange installation of both after July 1st.

5. DISCUSS AND CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW BUSINESS HOURS FOR NMSRC

We have had many requests from members to extend center hours on Monday evenings especially for access to the fitness room. Also the use of the center after 9pm has greatly diminished. Subsequently staff has advised the board that they would like to consider changing the center hours to 7am to 9pm Monday through Friday. While this is adding an additional 2 hours per week, we feel that our staff can handle it while Administration reviews the possibility of adding additional staff to assist during the busiest hours of the day. Currently there are only 2 groups meet past 9:00 pm on Wednesdays and Fridays; Bridge (ACBL) and the dance group. Jigger Skillern said that the Bridge group has declined immensely on Friday nights so their board is going to be voting on having the Friday card group meet at 1:00 pm instead. In addition it was noted that Wednesday and Friday night dances rarely go beyond 9pm. Several board members voiced concerns about the lack of staffing as our membership continues to grow, so it was agreed that the NMSRC Advisory Board will write a letter to Ken Britt, the newly appointed Director of Community Development, to try to get additional staff for our center. Jigger Skillern made the recommendation and Ysidro Molinar seconded it to change the hours at the center from 7:00 am – 9:00 pm, Monday through Friday. The roll call was as follows:

Yes – Ysidro Molinar, Jay Redman, Jigger Skillern, Helen DeAnda, Jean Loafman, Beth Frederick, Sally Garner

No –

6. DISCUSS WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY DANCES

Dina introduced Paul Blankenship, a member of the center, who attends the dances and also plays pool on a regular basis. Paul approached Dina a couple of weeks ago about the decline in dances due to the lack of bands. Dina informed him that the dance group had a meeting with Patsy Jackson-Christopher, the former Director of Arts & Culture and it was determined that center staff would not involve themselves in the management of the Wednesday and Friday night dances via a directive from City administration.

Dina continued the discussion and reminded the board that the dances have been on a decline for the last several years due to several reasons; lack of donations to the bands, bands dismembering due to members who have passed and/or are not in good enough health to continuing volunteering, and also a general lack of bands who will volunteer to play for donations only. Paul said he went to the head of the dance committee, Barbra Robertson, about assisting her with procuring bands and/or music but so far they have not worked together. Paul stressed his desire to have dances on Wednesday and Friday night regardless of the type of entertainment. Dina re-stated that each group is responsible for managing their activities at the center and that staff is here to assist if they can while still maintaining harmony among group members with only the exception of the dance group. Members of the advisory board voiced their concern about getting involved in the management of the dance group or any group. Other board members voiced their desire to assist Paul in finding a solution to the decline in dances at the center. After a lengthy discussion regarding the history and challenges that have plagued the dance group over the last several years, it was decided that the board would refer the complaint to City Administration. Several suggestions were voiced by board members based on data provided to the board reflecting the decline in usage particularly during the last 6 months; in the past 6 months there have only been 4 dances on Wednesday evenings and 11 on Fridays. (Attachment A). Jean suggested, and Dina agreed, it may be easier to find a band if they scheduled dances only on Fridays. Paul said eliminating Wednesday nights would limit his opportunity to dance to every other month based on his current work schedule. Paul became visibly upset at the direction of the discussion and left the meeting. It was again agreed to refer Paul's complaint to City Administration.

7. UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON NMSRC ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

There are no special events or activities planned for the month of June.

8. ANNOUNCE NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next board meeting will be held on July 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 3:54 pm.

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

Sally Garner
Sally Garner, Chairperson

11 July 2018
Date