



El Centro del Quinto Sol
Advisory Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
November 14, 2023
5:30pm at El Centro del Quinto Sol

I. Call to Order: Board Chair Tom Carrigan called the meeting to order at 5:33pm

II. Roll Call:

Present: Tom Carrigan, Chair
Mindy Armijo, Member
Joe Latino, Member
Maria Lopez, Vice
Janelle Quick, Member
Jessica Plascencia, Recreation Coordinator - El Centro del Quinto Sol
Tamara Moore, Recreation Supervisor

Absent: n/a

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: October 3, 2023. Janelle Quick motioned to approve minutes as submitted, seconded by Mindy Armijo.

IV. Announcements:

Chair Announcements: (Tom Carrigan)

- Tom congratulated Joe Latino on securing the District 2 City Council Seat.
- Tom recognized Jessica, Paula and staff for the great Halloween event. Jessica thanked the Board Members who were able to attend and help with the event.
- Tom inquired about lighting outside of the building and if work orders have been placed or if it was going to be addressed. Jessica stated that work orders have been submitted for the lights that are not currently working on the north end of the building. Janelle brought up a possible grant opportunity through Black Hills Energy for government buildings and Tamara discussed the possible 1A funding for streetlights along the sidewalks and street parking.

Program Coordinator - El Centro del Quinto Sol Position:

- Tamara shared with the Board that a full time Program Coordinator position for El Centro is in the proposed budget for 2024 and if approved will be an open application process. There were concerns expressed from some Board members about the position being opened to the public instead of internal promotion, and discussion followed about the hiring procedures of the City. Janelle suggested that the Board write Jessica a letter of recommendation to attach to her application.

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Center Programs/Events Updates:

- Jessica reported that the attendance for October was 949, with approximately 300 in attendance for the Halloween event. The Halloween event was a success despite the cold temperatures. Jessica thanked everyone who was able to attend and help.
- Upcoming Events:
 - Friendsgiving will take place on Tuesday, November 21 at 6:30pm. Board members were invited.
 - The Holiday Zumbathon will take place on Saturday, December 2 from 10am to 12pm. Participants are encouraged to donate a toy and in turn attend the two hours of Zumba.
 - The Holiday Celebration event will be held on Saturday, December 9 from 12pm to 2pm. Volunteers are needed for the event and are asked to show up at 11:30am.
- Extended Hours
 - Thanksgiving Break: Monday - Wednesday El Centro will be open 11:30am to 8pm. El Centro will be closed Thursday and Friday. Saturday will resume to normal hours.
 - Winter Break: weekdays, December 26 through January 5 will be open 11:30am to 8pm. El Centro will be closed on December 25 and January 1.

I. Old Business:

Basketball Hoop Installation:

- Tamara reported that the hoops should be installed the first week of December. The Board discussed having an opening event to celebrate the basketball hoops being back open and ready for use; tournament, free throw contest, etc.

Construction Update:

- Tamara reported that the kitchen remodel/HVAC project will go out to bid before the end of the year. It was determined that asbestos abatement will take place during construction (instead of prior to construction) to minimize the amount of building and program disruptions. Tamara added that the City may apply for a Brownfields grant for total building abatement at a later time.

II. New Business:

- Tamara requested Board members to return to the December meeting with ideas and contacts for the teaching kitchen programming. This information can then be taken by the staff to help develop a program plan for when the remodel is finished.

III. Board Comments

- Mindy asked if there is funding for cameras or if anyone has heard of a recent funding opportunity for security cameras. Tom mentioned that the police department is looking at a smart-shot camera system that would be monitored 24/7 and if approved would come into the eastside and Bessemer neighborhoods.

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- Tom shared that there is a neighborhood watch meeting at the VFW on Thursday, November 16. He also mentioned that the VFW is open to the community for event rentals. Tamara mentioned this may be a good option for those requesting to rent during the remodel/construction phase at El Centro.
- Maria expressed her appreciation for the work done at El Centro.
- Janelle suggested a take-and-make craft to get kids interested in attending the art and science classes at El Centro. PHEF may be interested in partnering with El Centro to help get the word out in District 60 schools. Jessica and Janelle will connect to coordinate marketing efforts and share contacts.
- Tom suggested an art show event at El Centro to help encourage participation in the art classes as well.

IV. Adjournment: Mindy Armijo motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Janell Quick. Meeting adjourned at 6:27pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 5 @ 5:30pm, El Centro del Quinto Sol