



El Centro del Quinto Sol  
Advisory Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
May 7, 2024  
5:30pm at El Centro del Quinto Sol

I. Call to Order: Board Chair Tom Carrigan called the meeting to order at 5:34pm

II. Roll Call:

Present: Mindy Armijo, Member  
Tom Carrigan, Chair  
Joe Latino, Member  
Veronica Collins, Program Coordinator  
Tamara Moore, Recreation Supervisor

Absent: Janelle Quick, Member

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: April 2, 2024. Mindy Armijo motioned to approve minutes as submitted, seconded by Joe Latino.

IV. Announcements:

Welcome Veronica:

- Veronica introduced herself to the Board and expressed how excited she is to work for El Centro.
- Joe discussed his City Council office location, a committee that is being formed and items he is working to address in his role as a Councilman representing District 2.
- Mindy introduced herself stating she is a therapist at Pueblo Community Health Center and works just down the road from El Centro. She has been on the board for about a year now.
- Tom introduced himself as the Chair of the Board, a veteran and VFW official. His interests and involvement include, but are not limited to art, baking, the Eastside Action Team, helping the homeless, veterans, and food insecurities in the community.
- Tamara shared that Veronica has hit the ground running and doing a great job, and discussed the term status of the current Board Members.

Board Vacancy:

- Tamara informed the Board that Maria Lopez resigned last week via email and requested the Board to encourage anyone who would like to serve to apply.
- Joe asked if Tom can be on the review committee for the next Board member. Tamara will check with Alyssa Parga to see if that is an option.

Chair Announcements:

- Tom Carrigan welcomed Veronica.

Center Programs/Events Updates:

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- Veronica reported the attendance for April was 509, with the gym having 212 patrons. She is working on a system to more accurately capture numbers at the center.
- Veronica shared that the Summer Kickoff is scheduled for June 7 at 12pm. It is a free event with a hotdog meal provided. Veronica is working on the events logistics and activities, trying to build excitement and draw customers into El Centro. Suggestions from the Board were a water balloon fight, Pueblo Rocks table, and a skateboard event. Tom suggested doing a quick survey during the event to see what the public would like El Centro to offer. He also suggested having large posters in each room about upcoming programs. Veronica stated she is encouraging staff to be more vocal about upcoming programs with current patrons. Maria suggested getting TV screens to display marketing materials throughout the center.
- Joe asked if the homeless was an issue at El Centro. Veronica stated that they are present, but not problematic. The homeless typically move on when they know that programming is starting at the center. Tamara also stated that the Park Rangers patrol the area/trail nearby and respond when called.

V. Old Business:

Construction Update:

- Tamara shared that the construction company is working on submitting the proper documentation. No other updates at this time.

VI. New Business:

USA Boxing Rental:

- Veronica shared that Coach Ricky Lovato will be using a portion of the multipurpose room at El Centro Tuesday through Thursday from 5:30 to 7pm for a USA boxing program on a trial basis through July. Because it is a free program to the community, the rental fee was waived. It was discussed that Coach Lovato has completed his background check for Parks and Recreation and is vetted, licensed and insured through USA boxing.

Partnership with Library:

- Veronica shared that the Library will be moving into the LULAC room upstairs while the Lucero branch is under construction. LULAC will remove all of their equipment and furniture, with the exception of the computers that will hopefully move to the Learning Center. Steve from LULAC has expressed they would like to bring back programming to El Centro and is working with Veronica on what that would look like. Tamara shared that the Library will also utilize the multipurpose room at times for some of their programs.

VII. Board Comments:

- Joe welcomed Veronica and stated that he is looking forward to working with her. He also stated that the Board and staff are great.
- Veronica asked the Board to share contacts with her to help her make community connections and cultivate programming.

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VIII. Adjournment: Mindy Armijo motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by Joe Latino.  
Meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 4 @ 5:30pm, El Centro del Quinto Sol

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