



El Centro del Quinto Sol  
Advisory Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
August 5, 2025  
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: Tom Carrigan, Chair  
Alyssa Vargas-Lopez, Member  
Janelle Quick, Member  
Shawn Vecellio, Member  
Joe Latino, Member (arrived at 6:00pm)  
Tamara Moore, Recreation Supervisor  
Absent: Veronica Collins, Program Coordinator
- III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: April 1, 2025. Shawn Vecellio motioned to approve minutes as submitted, seconded by Alyssa Vargas-Lopez.
- IV. Announcements:  
Chair Announcements
  - Tom shared that he invited Ms. Finzel to speak with the board about the Fountain Creek Clean-Up. The group typically utilizes El Centro for their safety meeting prior to the event and will be in touch with Veronica soon.Parks and Recreation Announcements -
  - Tamara confirmed everyone received the email with the seminar offering for board members on September 4.
  - Parks and Recreation will have a booth at the next PLACE event that will take place on the east side.
  - Tamara shared the budget as of 7/25/2025.Center Program/Event Updates
  - El Centro will be hosting their annual school supply giveaway this Saturday, August 9 from 9-11am. We currently have a good amount of donations and will continue to collect through the week. The Zumbathon held last Saturday brought in a great number of supplies. Colorado Credit Union donated 20 Jansport backpacks bringing our total middle school/high school backpacks to 35 along with 10 elementary backpacks. Amanda with Mobile express cuts will provide free haircuts again this year. Last year she was able to give 25 haircuts during the event. There will also be three community organizations with resource tables; Pueblo Community Health, Head Start, and Parents Challenge.

***El Centro del Quinto Sol Advisory Board Focus: Program development and enhancement, Community partnerships, Facility enhancements, and Communication***

- Tamara shared that this summer has been busier than last summer with the Boys and Girls Club and Eastside Daycare groups attending weekly. The Boys and Girls Club held their STEM camp at El Centro on Wednesdays, along with bringing groups on different days throughout the week.
- Tamara reported the attendance at El Centro for April was 1206 and May was 1354. June's attendance was 1146 compared to 743 in 2024. July's attendance was 1263 compared to 752 in 2024.
- School hours start August 18. El Centro will be open Monday through Thursday 3-8pm, Friday 12-8pm and Saturday 12-6pm.
- Tamara shared the Las Animas Online will continue their rental for activity space for their students this school year on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- In partnership with Pueblo Food Project, a cross generational cooking class will be held at El Centro September 12 through November 21 from 1-3:30pm on Fridays. Currently four 55+ participants have registered. There is still room for two more 55+ participants and six youth ages 10-18.
- Tamara informed the board for the safety of the El Centro staff and patrons that a mandatory protection order has been placed on an individual whose behaviors have recently escalated around the center. Joe shared a number of incidents around the community that he is monitoring.

#### V. Old Business:

##### Construction Update

- Tamara shared the final walk through is tentatively scheduled for next Friday, August 15. The board expressed concerns about being 11 months past the contract deadline and questioned why the City has not taken any financial or legal recourse. Discussion followed about possible classes and grand opening celebration planning.
- Tamara shared that the 1A project for improved parking is currently in the bid process. This would expand parking along 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and Fountain, changing the landscape and budget allowed, add pedestrian lighting as well.

#### VI. New Business:

##### Holiday Celebration

- Tamara asked the board for any concerns about partnering with Lucero Library to combine the holiday gift giveaway with their celebration on December 6 at the Lucero Library location. The only concern expressed was if there is enough space for the amount of patrons at the celebration.

#### VII. Board Comments

- Janelle expressed how glad she is to see the increase in numbers attending El Centro and is curious to know how many of the attendees will continue to use El Centro when the Library vacates.
- Alyssa asked if there were any talks of additional holiday celebrations other than Halloween and Christmas. Janelle shared that the Friendsgiving event would be good to bring back and offered to help cook if needed. Tamara will follow up with Veronica.

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- Joe thanked the group for all they do.

VIII. Adjournment: Shawn Vecellio motioned to adjourn the meeting seconded by Janelle Quick at 6:30pm

Next meeting: September 2, 2025 @ 5:30pm, El Centro del Quinto Sol