



**ARIZONA PARKS AND RECREATION ASSOCIATION
ETHNIC LEADERSHIP BRANCH
October 6, 2006**

- I. Call to Order / Welcome – 11:09 am
- II. Attendance: Alonso Avitia, Cynthia Aguilar, John Mason, Augie Perez, Juan F. Rodriguez, Carmela Ramirez, Sherilyn Dean-Mason, Randy Babchuck, Lani Auwen, Emma Martinez, Casper Habre, Jeff Spellman, Chris Diaz, Susan Aguire, Eduardo Villa, Emmett Boyd
- III. Secretary's Report: Augie Perez provided meeting minutes for September 8, 2006. John Mason motioned to accept the September 8, 2006 meeting minutes; Casper Habre seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- IV. Treasurer's Report: John Mason provided ELB Treasurer's Report; balance of \$3,504.87. Casper Habre motioned to accept the Treasurer's Report; Emmett Boyd seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- V. Chair Alonso Avitia distributed a 2006-07 Meeting Schedule of future dates for ELB meetings and reminded members in attendance the meeting schedule (1st Friday of each month at 11:00 am); he also reminded everyone about the next meeting place at UMOM Facility, 3320 East Van Buren Street
- VI. Chair's Report: Alonso Avitia provided an update on the following.
 - Thank you to City of Glendale for hosting October Branch meeting.
 - Branch 2006/07 Goals and Action Plan – Chair Alonso Avitia briefly discussed the Professional Development goals/ action plans and then turn it over to each section representative. Carmela Ramirez mentioned that we begin to implement professional trainings for part-time staff and new city employees. She has drafted an outline of these trainings but still needs to make some minor changes. She recommended that ELB members become involved in the process. Juan Rodriguez mentioned that the career presentations will continue and one has been confirmed for November 2006 at Phoenix College. All are welcomed to help out. Chair Alonso Avitia mentioned that the dates for the 2006 ELB Awards Luncheon and 2007 Maintenance Workshop be on the next agenda for more discussion but that the Board looks at some dates. He also mentioned as ideas that the branch consider sponsoring two APRA conference sessions, have an informational booth and also bring out potential presenters or speakers.
 - Marketing – Marketing Co-Chairs Lani Auwen and Randy Babchuck have worked on the web site and presented a rough draft of the web page design to the members in attendance. Randy Babchuck mentioned that he would be taking photos of each of the board members and includes them on the web page. Other items to be placed are goals, new logo, brief bios, past meeting minutes, link from APRA site, list of contacts and a comment's page. A more complete presentation would be presented at the November meeting. Lani Auwen mentioned that she attended an ACTIVE meeting that involved some other cities and did some outreach with them in hopes to get more participation. The cities were Peoria, Avondale, Goodyear and Surprise. She also proposed the idea of having a business /

information card containing ELB information. Chair Alonso Avitia mentioned that he would be working with Stephen from Show Low about articles for the APRA Magazine.

- Volunteer - Chair Alonso Avitia proposed the idea of incorporating the volunteer awards during the ELB Awards luncheon. The idea was put on the table but not voted on by the members. He also mentioned that Emma Martinez could assist in the area of tracking volunteer participation. The branch will continue to support the 3 fundraising events: Golf Tournaments, UMOM Event and the 2007 Maintenance Workshop. Chair Alonso Avitia encouraged members to get involved and recruit others for ELB events. Juan F. Rodriguez proposed the idea that a monetary value be given to the COMFORT program. Juan will present a proposal to the board at the next meeting. This order of business shall be discussed at the November meeting.
- Donations/ Sponsorships – Chair Alonso Avitia proposed the idea of the branch to provide \$800.00 worth of scholarships to students. The idea was discussed, voted on and approved. He also mentioned that a \$300.00 donation be given to UMOM for a back to school event for the purchase of school supplies. Casper Habre motioned that the amount be up to \$350.00, under the discretion of the president's approval. Emmett Boyd seconded; motion passed unanimously.
- Emmett Boyd motioned to approve the Branch 2006/07 goals; Susan Aguire seconded; motion passed unanimously.

VII. New Business:

- 2005-06 Award Nominations - Chair Alonso Avitia mentioned the importance of submitting names earlier and encouraged members to do so. The deadline for submittal will be November 13. He also added that an email would be sent out to the members as a reminder.
- 2007 Maintenance Workshop – Chair Alonso Avitia discussed the idea of hosting a training in January but that we check dates with APRA first so that there are no duplication in workshops. He also introduced Jeff Spellman who is the current APRA Vice Chair. Jeff spoke to the members and applauded the efforts of the ELB Branch members for undertaking the maintenance workshop and doing a great job of putting it on. He also talked about the idea of getting the APRA Maintenance Branch back on board in hopes of getting their commitment to sponsor future maintenance workshops and / or work in collaboration with the ELB Branch.

VIII. Next meeting – November 3, 2006 at the UMOM Facility.

IX. Reminder: December 1, 2006 at Burton Barr Library from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m; Holiday Awards Luncheon.

X. Meeting Adjourned at 12:11 p.m. Motion: Juan F. Rodriguez; Seconded: Emmett Boyd