

---

MEMBER-OWNED AND MEMBER-OPERATED SINCE 1965

# The Albuquerque Press Club

---

201 HIGHLAND PARK CIRCLE SE  
ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87102

505-243-8476  
ABQPRESSCLUB.COM

---

February 27, 2021 6:00pm

Special Meeting- Called to order 6:05pm

Board Members in Attendance: Laura Dunagan President, Lynn Embick Secretary, David Hayden, Adam Gates, Sarah Blanton, Rip Williams, William Fitzpatrick

Absent Board Members: Steve Williams, Justin Cumley

Also in Attendance:

## Topic 1 - NBC Nightly News

- NBC Nightly News contacted APC through the manager's account. Interested in how the lockdown in NM has affected bars, especially ones like ours. How do these rules affect you? How do you feel about how the rules have been applied? Maynard responded and had a phone interview. Will has agreed to an official interview next week. Looking to build a cohesive message agreed upon by the board.
- Discussion ensued.
  - Rip-bigger picture is an opportunity to promote the legitimacy of the Club.
  - Will-stress that we are in a unique situation, small businesses are closing around us, but our membership has kept us going.
  - Laura-social clubs have been lumped in with bars with no consideration for varying business models, comparable to wineries and distilleries that are open.
  - Maynard-get our point across without aggression.
  - David-small amount of time to get our message across.
  - Laura-member owned means not open to the public, limited attendance.
  - Will-The Press Club focus is the 1st amendment, a sanctuary, professional club, has been denied access.
  - Rip-use actual attendance numbers, square footage of outdoor space, and average age of patrons.
  - Laura-PPE loans have not been available for 501C7 forced to close with no employees.
  - Maynard-preservation of a historic building.
  - Will-Clarification requested from state government without response.
  - Maynard to have a conversation with NBC on Monday, Will to attend as well.
  - Will and David-can Maynard prepare a projected loss statement for Club
  - Laura-include movie contract loss.
  - Will will put together some bullet points and attend meeting on Monday.

## Topic 2 - Member party request

- Maynard was approached by a member wanting to hold a team building event at the Club. 15 guests, outdoor use of grill, indoor use of bathrooms and pool room. Maynard makes a motion to allow said event to happen. Sarah seconded.
- Discussion ensued.
  - Rip-Things to consider: who would be controlling the keys? No staff, volunteer Board? Insurance up to date? What would the liability be? Would we be considered open? Would we allow them to bring drinks on the property, contrary to our current policy? Would we do this for all members?
  - Laura-we have allowed members to sit on the porch and photo shoots
  - David-we haven't discouraged members from coming on the property, but sitting on the porch is different from an organized event. We are not an event space.
  - Rip-Currently at Yellow Level. Violation to even host an event in a home with more than 10. All bars are closed.
  - Adam-an event at the Club could draw unwanted media attention. The requesting member would be in excess of the allowed guests under normal conditions. Consider the consequences for the Club, which could include loss of liquor license.
  - Will-We would be voting to defy a current health order. \$5,000 fine daily/each infraction. A precedent has been set, restaurants stripped of their license. If ours was revoked, we lose our ability to gain income outside of membership dues. With our knowledge, we would be culpable. Our job is to represent the interests of all members.
  - Laura called for a vote. None in favor. Motion does not carry.

### Topic 3 - Request for documentary endorsement

- Maynard was contacted by a member who is close to obtaining all permits to make a documentary about the Whittlesey House. The focus is the history of the house and how it shaped the growth and history of ABQ, and the roles the house has played over the years, including being saved and renovated by the ABQ Press Club.
- Rip made a motion to accept and support the request for involvement from the APC, provided in exchange we receive control of the APC messaging and unfettered licensing access to the work for our own promotional purposes. Adam seconded.
- Discussion ensued.
  - Rip-The film will be made with or without our blessing. It is a good story. Advocate for unencumbered licensing of final product in exchange for access and participation.
  - Maynard would like to have editorial control over what is said about the WH/Club and how it is distributed.
  - David wondered if we want any control of content. Referenced the ghost tours.
  - Adam-in reference to ghosts and the overnight tours, no point of contention, no need to discourage.
  - Maynard didn't want it to focus on hauntings. Not who we are.
  - The request includes conducting interviews and B-roll of Club.
  - Rip-can't control all content, but we can seek oversight of Club message and marketing. History of the Club and the WH will most likely include ghosts.
  - Document to air late March of this year.
  - Laura called for a vote. Rip motioned to amend/clarify original motion. David seconded. All in favor. Motion amended.
  - Vote on acting on the motion. All in favor. Motion carries.

Motion to adjourn at 7:54pm by David. Seconded by Rip. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.