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CITY OF SANTA FÉ
BICYCLE & TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 20, 2015

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MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FÉ
BICYCLE AND TRAIL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

May 20, 2015
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

A. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fé Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee was called to order by Chair Patti Bushee on this date at approximately 5:30 p.m. in City Council Chambers, City Hall, 200 Lincoln Avenue, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

B. ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the absence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present:

Patti Bushee, Chair
Joseph Abbatacola
Gretchen Grogan
Shelley Robinson

Members Absent:

Frank Herdman, Vice-Chair
Paul Cooley
John Longworth
James Ronald Pacheco
Tomás Rivera

Staff Present:

Melissa McDonald, Staff Liaison
Carl Boaz, Stenographer

C. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Bushee decided to have the meeting anyway with informational reports and discussion. The agenda was not approved since there was no quorum.

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - April 15, 2015

The minutes were not approved since there was no quorum.

E. CITIZEN'S COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

There were no citizen communications from the floor.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Communications from other agencies was considered later.

G. INFORMATION, DISCUSSION & ACTION

1. 2008 GO BOND AUDIT (Bette Booth)

Ms. Booth said she cut and pasted a report from several documents on what they (POSAC) learned about the trails and the procedures. As a result, she had several things to bring up. She provided two handouts to the members.

Chair Bushee said BTAC wanted to know if the money was spent. "We need to have progress done by the people in charge of spending the money."

Ms. Booth referred to the Committee packet and described what was in it. The first page was a list of all the parks they worked on. The second page was about project completion procedures and it showed the questions. \$1.8 million allocated to trails projects was reallocated to parks. She saw minutes where parks staff imported trails monies for parks projects. One was Mr. Chávez.

Chair Bushee asked if that didn't come before the committees.

Ms. Booth said that is the question. In the BTAC minutes under the 2011 reallocation, it says it came here for approval.

Ms. Grogan thought it should show BTAC approving this but didn't think any minutes were ever shown.

Ms. Robinson recalled meeting at the Railyard and most BTAC members and Parks staff were there. It was a regular BTAC meeting and members took home a huge pack of information and everyone asked questions but didn't feel they were answered.

Ms. Booth said it was the January 2014 meeting. The bond was put together from the questions asked and most of them were not answered. They came to POSAC in December and unfortunately Chair Bushee couldn't be there. Teresita Garcia was there as was Mr. Pino.

Ms. Grogan said they should look at the BTAC minutes to see if that was approved by BTAC.

Chair Bushee said BTAC was just told that things were going to be reallocated because project managers needed to bill for the work they were doing.

Ms. Booth said that was really done in 2008. Teresita said Mr. Romero put aside \$4 million from the beginning for salaries.

Ms. Robinson said BTAC was very specific about that bond that we were going to be so transparent and the voters could ask about it.

Ms. Booth said that all changed in 2011. That is what it looked like from the last financial reports, none of which are final reports. The trails money was handled better because most of that was in contracts. But money was transferred around. According to Mr. Gurulé, the parking lot came out of that money.

She said there are two resolutions to ask the City to provide a whole series of documents including a management plan and that puts the Council in the driver's seat instead of the Mayor. Councilor Maestas asked for a full forensic audit.

She said there were \$3 million in overruns but almost all were over budget even with using Locals.

Chair Bushee asked if it was any better for the 2012 bond.

Ms. Booth said it wasn't. Parks is using a local crew and no one is checking to see there are no overruns. She encouraged every BTAC member to talk to the Councilors.

Chair Bushee asked about the group that did this audit.

Ms. Booth said this needs someone who has done forensic audits with fraud experience. It can't be just any CPA.

Ms. Robinson said there is worry at the Council about how much will be needed and where it will come from. Also, the media has hold of it.

Chair Bushee said the public thinks we have lost \$30 million and that isn't true. We need to find out how much was siphoned off and when approvals were given for any trails money.

Ms. Booth said \$30 million was spent and as part of the management plan, the Mayor asked Mr. Pino to go out and see what had been done. Seven people went out and took pictures but those people didn't have any historical context and weren't engineers.

Chair Bushee asked about the cameras.

Ms. Booth said in the reallocation there was \$100,000 put in for cameras.

Chair Bushee asked Ms. McDonald to follow up on the security camera money too.
Ms. Booth noted that was not on the implementation plan.

Chair Bushee asked Ms. McDonald to save all the agendas and to report what BTAC was promised in the implementation plan and try to cross reference them in between.

Ms. Booth said there were 24 parks where she had questions and asked Pino for a response. The trails part is easier to do. After she reviewed the first 4 parks, she realized they needed to do all of them to find out "what the heck we spent the money on."

Ms. McDonald pointed out that City Inspectors did inspections on all the trail contracts so that documentation is stronger. She knew that those documents came before BTAC - sometimes once a year and sometimes twice a year. The last time it came before BTAC was when she started in February. Most of the projects have been completed. In terms of budget, that has to go through Ms. Garcia.

Chair Bushee said she want it all from 2008 and 2012 Bonds as well as the Implementation Plan. She wanted to see however many projects and follow the minutes.

Ms. McDonald said Chair Bushee is asking for what it ultimately cost. Each trail has many phases.

Chair Bushee asked her to start with the money in the plan and what was spent and when it was approved.

Ms. McDonald said okay, she would take this back. One of the problems is that there were different allocations out of trails. The person running the project might not be aware of the overall budget. She added that, "It may not be our department. In order to speak to the greater budget you might have to speak to Finance."

Ms. Booth said the City drug their feet. It (the audit) was set up for 2014 and in 2014, everyone left and then they approved the audit. From what she understood, the decisions were made above Eric's level.

Ms. Grogan said as part of BTAC's regular business, we need to track the money.

Ms. McDonald said the Committee could get the report more frequently.

Ms. Grogan suggested the report doesn't have to be presented every month but maybe every quarter.

Ms. McDonald said she does it for Finance every month now but she wasn't aware of where the money goes.

Ms. Booth finished her report.

2. La Tierra Technical Trail Update (Tim Rogers)

Mr. Tim Rogers reported the Flow Trail construction was very successful and the trail will be maintained by the Fat Tire Society. A full report on the Flow Trail is on the Conservation Trust web site and

in the packet. The numbers are over 60 volunteers and over 1,000 hours. And they don't all report their hours. The opening was great. Afterward, he went to a ride on it and found people at the flow trail several times. It will be a resource that visitors will enjoy for years. He added that all families could ride that trail. There are a few technical jumps that are optional but no gap jumps with drop offs. Near the bottom is very pronounced alternate areas and three choices for the jump plus going around it. The bottom is marked one-way. The design diverts the water off the trail and it will shed water downhill. It is an opportunity to create barriers and the water has no choice but to leave the 1.03 mile trail.

The volunteers are from all over but most are from Fat Tire Society. We had people working who were not mountain bikers. REI brought new hires there for touch-up work. Most required some understanding of mountain biking but there was plenty of work even for those not interested in mountain biking.

Brent Bonwell was recognized as bicycle advocate of the year at the grand opening and they had pizza to reward the volunteers.

Chair Bushee mentioned that the County Manager picked up the award.

Mr. Rogers announced a worked day on July 25 on the flow trail. It is on our website. That day might evolve into a celebration as well. It is a Saturday.

Under communications, Mr. Rogers announced that June 6 is National Trail Day. He will be doing a cruise and a couple of trail work events then. Yesterday and today he took out 3 fourth grade classes up to the corral and the Dale Ball Trail where tomorrow they will meet with county staff and put up an interpretive sign. It is awesome to bring those kids out. It was a bi-lingual school. Most of them have never been up to the trails. We have a passport for trails and will give them stickers when they complete that.

Mr. Rogers welcomed more volunteers. It would be helpful to have more adults for sure. He has been working with Jason Kirby for recreation camps. The S L Gimble Foundation supported the transportation incentives. Kids got a backpack, hat, sun block, compass, etc.

Mr. Rogers agreed to help track the work that corresponds to the MPO Bicycle Master Plan.

Ms. McDonald agreed to speak with John Romero about those and ask him to report to BTAC on them.

Chair Bushee said BTAC could also establish a consent calendar for just information.

F. COMMUNICATIONS FROM OTHER AGENCIES

Mr. Wilson offered to color code the MP and show which parts are funded and which are built and which ones have passed development reviews. He agreed to coordinate with Mr. Romero to pull it together.

Mr. Wilson reported that the printer printed the 2012 map instead of the 2015 map. He sent the printer the correct map in the folder but he didn't send a proof for it.

Mr. Wilson thanked those who showed up for burritos on the plaza. They ran out of burritos next year they will say, "Yes, there will be enough burritos. And Desirae Luján won the bicycle.

Mr. Wilson reported that for the bicycle police, the big issue is riding at night without lights. So we are going to give them lights to hand out. It was a big success.

Chair Bushee showed "rules of the road" playing cards and said these rules of the road should be published somewhere.

Mr. Wilson said they were distributed by NMDOT from years ago and had some left overs.

Chair Bushee reported that Zia Station is now in motion and it should have a plan.

3. Discussion of ordinance to prevent parking in marked bike lanes (Keith Wilson)

Ms. Robinson said the ordinance is a great idea.

Ms. Grogan said it should have a fine imposed.

Mr. Wilson said there is a fine (\$27) in the ordinance but not always enforced. It is part of the uniform traffic code and \$27 is the standard amount.

4. Review, Discussion and Action regarding the Current Bicycle and Trails Advisory Committee Powers and Duties and Resolution 2010-33 (Melissa McDonald)

Without a quorum, the Committee could not take action on this item.

5. Proclamation for Bike to Work Week (Councilor Bushee, Melissa McDonald)

Chair Bushee reported that Council approved the proclamation.

6. BTAC Subcommittee Updates:

a. On-Road Subcommittee

Ms. Grogan said BTAC needs to spend CIP funds and the new CIP money in 2014. We don't have a concrete plan.

Chair Bushee agreed they needed a plan. There is \$80,000 available. She asked how they wanted to handle it.

Mr. Wilson said he could work with John Romero to get ideas and bring them back here - using the CIP funds and the Bike MP just to get the ball rolling.

Mr. Abbatacola asked if there were stats on the off-road trails.

Mr. Wilson said they were accurate only for urban trails. The on-road trails are not mapped well. So that needs to be done. Some might not meet the standards.

Mr. Abbatacola suggested putting up signs to make them bike lanes with on-road.

Ms. Grogan said Mr. Romero provided a PO for buying symbols but didn't know where that stands.

Mr. Wilson said right now is the time to start. He would work with Mr. Romero on it with an implementation plan for on-road facilities and bring it to the full committee.

Chair Bushee agreed to put it on the agenda for action next time.

b. Mountain Bike

This update was not considered by the Committee.

c. Bike Education and Outreach

This update was not considered by the Committee.

d. La Tierra Master Plan

This update was not considered by the Committee.

H. STAFF COMMUNICATION

Ms. McDonald said she followed up on the HR insurance policy for \$100,000. The City is switching from United Health to Cigna and they are giving up to \$100,000 for health improvement and Victoria said it needs to be targeted to employees; not the public. They might be able to focus on biking for city employees. She agreed to report back.

She reported to Parks about the Gonzales Bridge condition and we looked at it. It is 20 years old and many planks need repair. Mr. Herdman brought that up at the last meeting. It is on the River Trail. It will require putting it out for bid so she brought it to Richard Thompson's attention and would keep BTAC in the loop.

She reported that Safer Streets was bumped off of the Finance Committee agenda because they had lots of issues - it did get approved on consent on Monday.

In terms of the maps, she looked at it out at La Tierra and got information back from Tourism. Lots of maps are being distributed and Tourism is tracking the information on who is getting them.

I. COMMITTEE COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Bushee thanked everyone involved in the parade. She was disappointed about the map but very interested in getting them out, especially to visitors. They want this information.

Ms. Robinson thanked everyone for Bike to Work week and offered congratulations for the award. She will be absent for the June meeting because of her surgery but back in July.

Ms. Grogan thanked Mr. Wilson for the event coordination. Only the weather was a bummer. The way it incorporated bike and brew was awesome. It was really fun and a nice day as it turned out. She reported that the Gail Ryba Trail east of the tunnel is sort of at grade now with the arroyo. It has been filling in and one more substantial storm will take out the concrete.

Ms. McDonald replied that there are plans to do some immediate action with Youthworks is to reseed the bank and provide some stabilization for the short term. It is part of a greater plan to stabilize the whole arroyo. It is ranked on a list. The watershed association did an analysis in the city and ten projects are designed and shovel ready at a cost of about a million dollars but they have applied for a mitigation grant through FEMA to double that. Then they will look at other areas along that arroyo. The improvements are temporary and they need to look at a series of structures to address that threat.

Ms. Grogan feared the surface would be obliterated.

Ms. McDonald agreed it is a difficult place for a trail right in an arroyo. It is dynamic. A lot of private owners have done things the city has no control over. All the gabions are owned by the apartments. And the other side the drainage is not being maintained. But with the money we could look at the whole stretch.

Mr. Abbatacola saw heavy equipment there recently.

Ms. McDonald said they were clearing debris there. She was very concerned about the sediment at the lower bridge.

Mr. Abbatacola said it was totally wrong that for a city that relies so much on tourism, it doesn't have maps for the visitors. He went and picket up the new Dale Ball and La Tierra Trail maps and delivered them to the visitor center on the plaza. They were recently upgraded maps.

Ms. Grogan announced that at the Galisteo Basin trails there is now a QR code at the bottom of the trail head so people can access the map. It gives them a map on their phone.

Mr. Wilson said he had phone calls this week from two people in Missouri who want maps and he mailed maps out to them. The only issue with the 2012 map is primarily the bike shops and a couple of new roads. The trails built since then were dotted lines on that map. The yellow side has the correct locations for bike shops.

J. ADJOURNMENT

The discussion ended at 7:33 p.m.

Approved by:

Patti J. Bushee, Chair

Submitted by:

Carl Boaz for Carl G. Boaz, Inc.