



Agenda

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**PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
PARKS DIVISION CONFERENCE ROOM
THURSDAY JUNE 28, 2007
3:30 PM**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Approval of Agenda
5. Introduction of Members
6. Introduction of Staff Liaison, Ben Gurule, Project Administrator
7. Resolution: Supporting the Naming of Field #2 at Franklin Miles Park in the honor of Charlie "The Greek" Griego.
8. Resolution: Regarding Curfew for Parks or Recreation areas: Making it unlawful to be in a city park or recreation area one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise except for certain activities.
9. Matters from the Committee
10. Matters from Staff: Presentation of Parks Master Plan proposed improvements for further study and recommendations
11. Next Meeting: Thursday July 26, 2007
12. Adjourn

An interpreter for the hearing impaired is available through the City Clerk's Office upon 5 days notice.

INDEX OF MINUTES

CITY OF SANTA FE

PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 28, 2007

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>ACTION</u>	<u>PAGE(s)</u>
CALL TO ORDER		1
ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE		1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	1
INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS		1
NEW BUSINESS		
a. Resolution: Supporting the Naming of Field #2 at Franklin Miles Park in the honor of Charlie "The Greek" Griego	Approved	2-3
b. Resolution: Regarding Curfew for Parks or Recreation areas: Making it unlawful to be in a city park or recreation area one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise except for certain activities.	Approved	3-4
c. Resolution: Regarding curfew for Parks and Recreation Areas. Making it lawful to be in the city park or recreation area One half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise. Except for certain activities.	Approved	3-4
MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE		4
None		
MATTERS FROM STAFF	Discussion	4-6
a. Presentation of Parks Master Plan proposed improvements for further study and recommendations		
PUBLIC COMMENT		6-7
NEXT MEETING: Thursday July 26, 2007		7
ADJOURNMENT		7

MINUTES OF THE
CITY OF SANTA FE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

June 28, 2007

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee was called to order by Elizabeth Booth, Chair on this date at approximately 3:30 p.m. at Parks Conference Room, 1142 Siler Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Elizabeth Booth, Chair
Patrick Torres
Tommy Martinez
Anna Hanson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Richard Lopez
Cliff Sisneros
Margaret Beneklasen (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT

Ben Gurule, City of Santa Fe Liaison
Melissa Byers, City of Santa Fe
Fabian Chavez, City of Santa Fe

OTHERS PRESENT

Dave McQuarie, Citizen
Veronica Maldonado, Stenographer

PLEDGE OF ALLIGIANCE

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Members agreed that the meeting this afternoon will end meeting at 5:00 p.m.
Mr. McQuaire would like to add an item for Public Comment.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

Members that were present introduced themselves and their reason for being on the committee.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Resolution Regarding the Parks Advisory Committee and Adopting a Resolution Establishing A Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission

Mr. Gurule reported that Mr. Chavez asked that he review the resolution with the members to make sure that at this first meeting the resolution was discussed how the Committee would be laid out and what is best for all of the members behalf and to be as productive as they can because the Committee would be reviewing a lot of information as to how the parks are being built and how much money is going to be used from one CIP budget to another. The Committee will be making recommendations to the City Council and be allocating monies from one budget to another.

Mr. Gurule said that Mr. Chavez particularly wanted to review page 2 of the resolution where it reads: "*The Commission shall make recommendations regarding the priorities for funding parks and open space improvements in the Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan in a timely manner in anticipation of the regular municipal election in March 2008 wherein the governing body may ask the voters to approve a general obligation bond to fund the improvements.*"

Mr. Gurule indicated that the Board would be making some big recommendation so a lot of the literature that is brought to the Committee, the time is taken to read it thoroughly instead of waiting until the day of the meeting. He believes that the time used at the meeting can be used to make solid decisions instead.

Ms. Hansen requested that any materials that have to be reviewed are received at least a week in advance.

Mr. Gurule said that some of the work that this Committee will be making decisions on is already in process so what is being worked on at present will not have direct impact from the Committee. There is a master plan that is being worked on that Councilor Ortiz initiated. The master plan talks about 78 parcels of land throughout the City and some of the recommendations that were made in the master plan of 2001.

Mr. Gurule said that some of the recommendations made in the master plan of 2001 were included in the current master plan. It includes easements. In addition they also gave the Parks Department recommendations. The information is not ready to be handed out. At that time it will be mailed to the members of the Committee for discussion at the next meeting. After review from the Committee it would move over to the Bicycle and Trail Advisory Committee members and the process with the City which is Public Works, Finance and the City Council.

Mr. Gurule stated that as his role as the Liaison, he will try to bring all the pertinent information to the Committee from his Department. In addition he will bring information on projects that they have contracted out and where they are with those projects.

Ms. Booth read the resolution and the duties of the members. The committee will have nine members with a wide background. The Mayor has appointed Ms. Booth as the Chair and she is to designate a Vice-Chair. Ms. Booth said that she would wait on the designation of a Vice-Chair until all members are present.

Mr. Gurule requested that the date for the next meeting be set per the Resolution. The meeting will be on Thursday, July 26, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

Mr. Gurule said he would do a reminder call two days before the meeting to notify members.

b. Resolution: Supporting the Naming of Field #2 at Franklin Miles Park in the honor of Charlie "The Greek" Griego.

Mr. Chavez indicated that Resolutions would come the Committee for recommendations and then to all the Committees. Mr. Chavez said that this Resolution happened before the Committee was formed. The City now has a formal process for naming anything after someone.

Ms. Hansen said that the resolution was received by the members in the mail.

Mr. Martinez made the motion to support the Resolution as outlined.
Mr. Torres seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote

c. Resolution: Regarding Curfew for Parks and Recreation areas: Making it unlawful to be in the city park or recreation area one half hour after sunset and one half hour before sunrise except for certain activities.

Ms. Hansen said that she has issues with this resolution mainly because in her neighborhood she knows that there are people who walk their dogs later in the evening. She understand that there is definitely no loitering in the park but if someone is walking their dog late at 10:00 o'clock on a warm summer evening and they are in the park, she cannot support the Resolution.

Mr. Chavez said that the Resolution is going through Council now. This is actually a request from the Santa Fe Police Department to be able to get the bad actors out of the park. The problem is not with the occasional walkers through the park. The Resolution actually went back to Public Works a second time.

Councilor Bushee asked if she is walking her dog late at night through the park will she get arrested.

The response from the SFPD was that they don't actively go out and patrol parks and run people off. They respond as they are driving by on their regular patrol or they get a call for a complaint. If they see someone peacefully walking through the park it is okay. The issue is large groups of people congregating or folks that are in the parking lot in their cars, particularly at 11:00 or 12:00 o'clock at night there is no security, no

lighting or no gates. It is a response by SFPD when they ask people to leave and there are no signs or ordinance saying that they can run them off.

Chief Johnson said that his direction to the officers will be not to harass people walking through the park. SFPD will not issue citations. It is only their idea to keep trouble out of the park late at night and to help criminal activity stay low.

Mr. Gurule stated that this is also a vehicle to reduce vandalism in the parks since it costs money to replace anything that is stolen or destroyed.

Mr. Martinez made the motion to support the Resolution. Mr. Torres seconded the motion which passed by unanimous voice vote.

MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

None.

MATTERS FROM THE STAFF

a. Presentation of Parks Master Plan proposed improvements for further study and recommendations

Mr. Chavez reported that Councilor Ortiz is proposing an initiative that is funded by a general obligation fund to set up a tax base so that the parks in Santa Fe as identified by the parks Master Plan, and there are about 70 of them that range from the huge regional parks to the small neighborhood parks to the tiny pocket parks to spaces that are just vacant land throughout the city.

Councilor Ortiz asked Mr. Chavez what would happen if they just put some money into the parks and not just did some renovation of the turf and the trees. The five year plan was about to get them out of the drought. As soon as the city started doing that the question came up at the neighborhood meetings about playgrounds, ADA issues, gangs, lights, concession stands, sidewalks and parking. Councilor Chavez asked what the cost would be.

Mr. Chavez said the park master plan was done in 2001 and is six years old now. The plan took a city wide broad paint brush and said this is what should happen in all of these spaces. In some cases they were real specific and said put this at this spot. In other cases they said develop a trail that would connect this park to this park including crossings over Cerrillos Road with some really huge engineering.

Councilor Ortiz said to take this as a basis and start with that then do two more things. The basis is the park master plan and the second is to have staff go out and look at all these spaces. In two months the staff has looked at fences, water fountains and all the signs just to mention a few.

What would it take to bring these parks up to adequate park standards and renovate or build new parks? Then the third cost analysis to do minimum work on all 70 pieces of property including trails and recreation centers.

Staff broke the parks into the four Council districts went out and did the surveys. They took the Master Plan and as the guide and decided that the Master Plan needed more. The document was just finished yesterday afternoon and given to Councilor Ortiz.

Councilor Ortiz wants the Committee to review it. When it is received they will notice that it is broken down into the four council districts. There is a survey sheet for every single park that is in the plan. Councilor Ortiz wants every member to look at every single space and compare what staff and the master plan is saying. There are blanks so that the Advisory Committee can make recommendations. Councilor Ortiz would like for the Committee to prioritize. Staff will redo the calculations.

The Master Plan will then go to BTAC, Public Works, Finance and finally the City Council. Councilor Ortiz is hoping to have all of this ready by the end of the summer and have all additions, deletions, amendments, priorities from all the Committees so he can then work with Katherine Raveling and the Finance Department and see what it would cost the citizens of Santa Fe for the next five or ten years.

Councilor Ortiz is willing to take this political leap of faith that the citizens of Santa Fe want to make the parks a show place in the Southwest and get on with the neglect and all the things that didn't happen for years for whatever reason.

The document was handed to Councilor Ortiz and he will review and write his comments. The document will then be mailed out to the members upon review from Councilor Ortiz. It will be mailed or e-mailed sometime early next week. Councilor Ortiz is asking the members to take their time and go through the document, and come up with their priorities.

Councilor Ortiz will like for the Committee to have their recommendations by the July meeting.

Mr. Martinez indicated that the hour and a half might not be enough to go over the entire plan. There might have to be a special meeting that will have to take 2 or 3 hours to get through it.

Ms. Booth asked how much time is needed and if it is necessary to have some meetings in the evenings to visit some of the parks that have the biggest chunks of money to them. Ms. Booth is concerned with the process of having the document and that they come together. Are they going to be informed enough to have that discussion? She feels strongly to call those members that were not present and let them know what happened and the importance that they attend and that they are going to receive the document.

Mr. Chavez said there are no constraints on the recommendations the Committee gives. The total for the Master Plan was somewhere around fifty two million. The adequate, bringing things up to where they should be when they think of a park and looking at national standards is probably eighteen to twenty million. Minimum was around eleven million. Part of it will be a compromise on what kind of tax proposal has the best chance of passing. When it gets to the finance committee they might look at what is needed.

Mr. Chavez said that when it gets to the Public Works Committee or the Finance Committee they will look at it different and it will probably be the best chances of an initiative chance.

Ms. Booth asked how the Committee feels about the task they have before them and are there any suggestions on how it should be done.

Mr. Martinez suggested that before they make their recommendations that they have a working session. It might take a few hours but at least it would be a well thought out session.

Mr. Chavez said that they can assist. If the Committee has parts that they have worked on, they can then send it to Mr. Gurule and he can get it out to the other members to look at. There isn't any reason why they couldn't start sharing information.

Mr. Chavez said that Councilor Ortiz would like something from the Committee by July 26 even if they need another month to look at other priorities.

Ms. Booth said that the next meeting of July 26 would be a working meeting and go until 6:00 p.m. or later if necessary.

Public Comment

Dave McQuarie, a citizen and the Chair for the Disability Committee stated that according to ADA, anytime that you spent money on the use of facilities, ADA concerns have to be addressed.

From what Mr. McQuarie understands, when the master plan was written up, they completely forgot to include ADA. All federal courts say that if there is no budget limit. The entire budget of the City is available for ADA. You can't say well 10% was spent. 100% has to be used as far as budget is concerned.

Mr. McQuarie said he has heard over and over again that trail access at Camino Alire. When it was rebuilt it was built so steep that strollers cannot access it. ADA says as "Flat as possible." If someone wants to push it they can make the city rip it out and do it over.

Mr. McQuarie said another complaint he hears is that the new underground parking has two access points one to the Planning Use door and one to the City Councilor's Chambers door. Both of those have to be brought up to standard before the dedication of the underground parking. If it is not done the City will be in violation. He has heard people say that they will get a federal court injunction.

Mr. McQuarie said that the one that he is involved with is a park on Los Pueblos del Sol. They have been trying since dedication day to get it ADA assessable. It should be a high priority. From now on when Parks does anything they should look at full access for everybody, the disabled and the fully able. It should be done at the same time.

Mr. Chavez said that now when the City or an outside entity builds, they are sending all the plans through Joe Lujan. Joe Lujan shares with the Disability Committee. Pueblos del Sol was not built by the City. It was built by the neighborhood and a private design company that has built about 200 parks throughout the country. Mr. McQuarie pointed out the parts that were not ADA assessable. Mr. Chavez met with the Impact Fee Committee and asked to resolution. It was approved. To access park impact fee money that park was not on their list. Mr. Chavez basically said there were some ADA issues that had to be addressed and the funds that were allocated for that park were spent out with the understanding from the design firm that it would meet ADA compliance. That money has been approved and gone through committees. Mr. Gurule has set up a line item for purchasing funding. It is going to take about \$16,000 and those issues will be addressed.

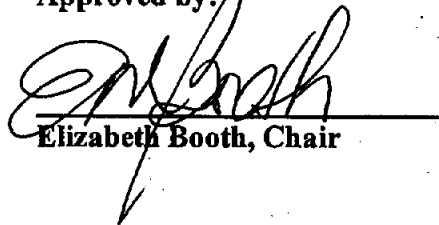
Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for Thursday July 26, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Its business completed the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Approved by:



Elizabeth Booth, Chair

Submitted by:



Veronica Maldonado, Stenographer