



Agenda

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Agenda
Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee
Parks and Open Space Office
Building C, 1142 Siler Road
Wednesday, May 20, 2009
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of the March minutes
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Community Gardens Update
 - Park Renovation Update
 - Prairie dogs in parks
6. New Business
 - Patrick Smith Park
 - Parks / BTAC Committee Communication and Coordination
7. Reports

Soccer – Marg Veneklasen, BTAC – Anna Hansen, Youth Sports and Little League – Tom Agard, NW Quadrant/BMX – Daniel Coriz, Tierra Contenta Parks – Oralynn Guerrerortiz, Park History – Sandie Collier.
7. Public Comments
8. Confirm date and time for the next meeting.

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INDEX OF
CITY OF SANTA FE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MAY 20, 2009

ITEM	ACTION TAKEN	PAGE(S)
1. CALL TO ORDER		1
2. ROLL CALL	Quorum	1
3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES April 22, 2009 Minutes	Approved	1
4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Approved	1-2
5. OLD BUSINESS		
▪ Prairie dogs in parks	Discussed	2-3
▪ Park Renovation Update	Discussed	3
○ Patrick Smith Park	Discussed	3
▪ Ms. Gonzalez's Replacement	Discussed	3
▪ Community Gardens Update	Discussed	3-4
6. NEW BUSINESS		
• Mural In Frenchy's Field	Discussed	4
• Letter To The Editor	Discussed	
• Parks / BTAC Committee	Discussed	6
7. REPORTS		
Soccer –Marg Veneklasen,	None	4
BTAC	Anna Hansen	4
Park History – Sandra Taylor		
Youth Sports, Little League	Tom Agard	5
Tierra Contenta Parks	Oralynn Guerrerortiz	5
NW Quadrant/BMX	Daniel Coriz	5-6
8. PUBLIC COMMENTS	None	6
9. ADJOURN & DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING	4:43 p.m. June 24, 2009	6

MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

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 3:00 pm at the Parks Division Conference Room, 1142 Siler Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a forum as follows:

Members Present

Elizabeth Booth, Chair
Tom Agard
Daniel Coriz
Oralynn Guerrerortiz
Anna Hansen
Sandra Taylor
Marg Veneklasen

Members Absent

Valentina Gonzalez (excused)

Staff Present

Fabian Chavez, Director of Parks Division, City of Santa Fe
Jesse Esparza, Parks Division

Others Present

Councilor Ron Trujillo
Wendy Blackwell, City of Santa Fe Land Use Department
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE April 22, 2009 Minutes

Page 4, Ms. Gonzalez "*was asked* for recommendations" should replace *recommended* names of replacements.

Ms. Hansen moved to approve the April 22, 2009 minutes as amended. Ms. Taylor seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Booth said Mr. Chavez would be available until four and requested agenda changes as follows: Under Old Business: the first item to be *Prairie dogs in the Park* followed by *Park Renovation Update*. Ms. Gonzalez's Replacement was added to the agenda.

Under New Business: Mural in Frenchy's Field and a Letter to the Editor was added to the agenda.

Ms. Hansen moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Taylor seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Prairie Dogs in Parks**

Daniel Coriz entered the meeting at this time.

Mr. Chavez said he would leave early to attend a meeting for the \$53,000 Parks bond to try to get the entire package of \$158,000 stimulus money he had learned about from Melisa Daily, planner for Community Development. He said the money was specifically for renovation that worked with disadvantaged and local youth.

He said solar lights made of cast iron had been designed by Tom Joyce that could be placed in neighborhoods that met the criteria and certain parks had been qualified. The lights had rheostats with timers that turned them on and off and dimmed the lights and could be charged with a day of sunlight and costs were comparable to current lighting.

Mr. Chavez said the prairie dog population appeared to have dropped but was because they were underground with their pups and in the birthing and weaning season.

About 85% of the prairie dogs had been removed from Franklin Miles and another 50 to 75 were estimated to be removed. The city contract was held by Trent Bodkin with Eco Solutions and he worked with a wildlife biologist, Paula Martin, who made decisions about how, when, where and what could be done with the prairie dogs.

Mr. Chavez said the contractor would mobilize at Franklin Miles when the moms and pups surfaced with the goal that all prairie dogs would be removed and relocation started by June 15. Work with the public schools had removed the prairie dogs from the school next to the park.

The removal of the prairie dogs was discussed: There had been 1,000 prairie dogs removed at a cost of \$70 per prairie dog. The ordinance was unique because the City of Santa Fe considered prairie dogs a protected species and specified the ways prairie dogs had to be captured and handled and the certain type of land they could be re-located to. Landowner's were paid for grazing rights and many who might accept prairie dogs were reluctant to because of their neighbors' concerns.

Mr. Chavez suggested once the park was ready to open all of the prairie dogs would have to be gone and stronger methods to remove the last few might be considered because of the safety of the community and the expense of park improvements.

Mr. Chavez said he would receive a count from Mr. Bodkin and by August all of the prairie dogs might be gone. Chair Booth would include monthly updates on the agenda.

- **Park Renovation Updates**

Patrick Smith

Councilors Romero and Wurzbarger had been asked to hold another neighborhood meeting on June 2 because there were still a lot of questions from the community. The twenty-two people at the original meeting would be contacted and the contract and the priorities set at the previous meeting would be discussed.

Construction had stopped on four items that would go before the H Board (Historic Design Review Board) after the June 2 neighborhood meeting.

The four items for review were:

1. Three shade structures; two at the west end over the picnic tables and one at the parking lot next to the tot lot
2. An asphalt path
3. A dog park with a split rail fence with mesh
4. A gate located after the bridge that would prevent kids who entered after hours and could be locked at 10 p.m.

Chair Booth had concerns about the construction being stopped and said there had been a significant planning process, two public meetings and a bond budget passed by the city council. She said the committee should ensure that a few people with specific interests wouldn't stop the process again.

Ms. Blackwell said if the Land Use Department had known about the process, the department could have had the H board review the plans months ago.

Ms. Hansen said items that had been approved should be done throughout the city and was a roadmap to be followed because the money had been received for that purpose and the problem in Gregory Lopez Park with the light had been because the plan wasn't followed.

Mr. Chavez said the *road map* was a general guideline and features were done to the extent of the city being able to afford them.

- **Replacement for Ms. Gonzalez**

Chair Booth said a replacement for Ms. Gonzalez was still being looked at and was critical because of the work being done and Mr. Coriz' representation of the BMX'ers showed that importance in the conversations. She suggested the replacement be young and Hispanic and said Anthony Gonzalez's name had been received to be considered.

Mr. Gonzalez's background was read to the committee: he was recognized in the music industry, was a sought after graphic designer and had launched a clothing company at 16. He moved to Santa Fe to

become more involved with the skate board industry while he worked as a manager at the local skate shop. He continued to freelance graphic design and work in the music industry and run his clothing company and had been involved in skate park development.

The committee discussed Mr. Gonzalez as a potential replacement as well as other options and connections in the community and agreed Mr. Gonzalez should be contacted and a letter of interest requested.

NEW BUSINESS

PARKS & BTAC COMMUNICATION

- **Mural In Frenchy's Field**

Friends of Frenchy's had approved the mural on the house at Frenchy's Field to be done by Jan Costas and Sabrina Pratt would handle the budget.

- **Community Gardens**

The garden organization would consist of Peggy Doolittle on the city council, Louise Pappy and Ms. Esparza.

A contract would be signed and people would pay for water; rainwater would be saved and possibly provide free water. The work with everyone would start on May 30 at 10 a.m.

Six plots were available and calls had been received about the gardens from the radio ad the previous day.

Mcclovvia had 6 plots, 6x6' and the Rail Yard Park had also opened a community garden.

- **Letter to Editor**

Chair Booth received an e-mail from someone on the committee that had passed the bond and who suggested a letter to the editor or an op-ed piece about how the bond money was being spent and how good the parks looked.

The committee discussed the idea and possible contacts at the New Mexican to determine if a story or editorial might be possible. The article should be generic and cover the renovation of the parks and the public should be invited to take a look at improvements that had been completed.

Mr. Agard agreed to write a *My View* and would bring to the next meeting for committee review. Mr. Chavez was suggested as a source of information.

REPORTS

Power Plant Park

A New Mexican article said the Power Plant Park would begin in the summer and final approval would happen in June. Chair Booth suggested the committee participate actively in the public meetings.

*Soccer –Marg Veneklasen
Nothing to report this month.*

BTAC (Bicycle Trails Advisory Committee)-Anna Hansen

Chair Booth had asked Councilor Bushee her opinion about getting the groups together and the councilor wasn't sold on the idea and had expressed concern BTAC'S agenda was full. She was open to a specific activity being discussed.

The committee discussed how much and what kind of information BTAC needed. BTAC was moving forward without knowledge of the parks and trails that existed and trails that connected to parks were deemed appropriate information and a suggestion was made that new park designs would be provided to BTAC.

POSA had a master plan outline of where everything would be and how money would be spent. The committee thought focus and priority would be provided by providing BTAC parks that could be connected and how the connections could be done. A suggestion was made to provide BTAC a schedule of the design phases for the parks and that Mr. Chavez could communicate the design issues.

Mr. Agard agreed he would present the plans for Ragle at the BTAC meeting to open the door for communication and would indicate there were no alterations to the trails within the park.

Chair Booth suggested the committee identify 3 or 4 parks that had synergy between parks and trails she could discuss with Councilor Bushee.

Park History – Sandra Taylor

Ms. Taylor shared a photo from archives of Frenchy, owner of Frenchy's Field and said she hoped to use the photo on the city website and have the fee waived.

Youth Sports and Little League - Tom Agard

Mr. Agard said the season had two weeks left and there would be a tournament followed by the all-stars. He said Herb Martinez Park and Alto Field had been used for the girls' softball with some prep to avoid the prairie dog holes and the T-ballers and the coach pitch would play on the turf and 10 games a night made a late night for the smaller kids but they had a lot of fun.

Tierra Contenta- Orallynn Guerrerortiz

Ms. Guerrerortiz took a tour of Tierra Contenta, the largest regional park at about 40-50 acres, proposed for the master plan in the Arroyo Hondo. The next phase would be an arterial road that bordered the property. She had talked with a councilor to get impact fee money for a master plan for something big like a skate board park and planned to develop the design, get a price and go for a bond.

NW Quadrant/BMX – Daniel Coriz

Mr. Coriz said the water had been drained from De Vargas Park and he thought the problem had now been fixed. There was another issue of coping of several ledges at Franklin Miles Skate Park that was a problem caused by design and maintenance. Mr. Coriz showed a photo of a kid with his bike wedged and said to fix the problem required the coping to be stripped and re-done. The issue would be communicated to Mr. Chavez.

He said more money was needed for Franklin Miles for maintenance of the ledges and more structures because kids had built wooden ramps for use in the park and one had been hurt in a serious crash.

The banner with "your bond dollars at work" was needed and should also be added to the website.

Chair Booth asked the issue of repairs be on the agenda at a time Mr. Chavez would be present.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING

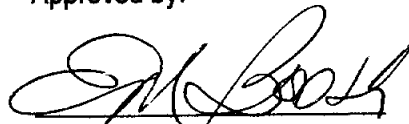
The next meeting would be Wednesday, June 24, 2009.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Agard moved to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Guerrerortiz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

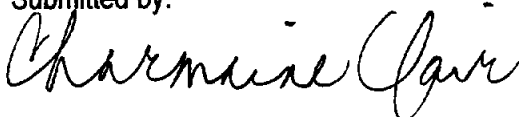
Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:43 p.m.

Approved by:



Elizabeth Booth, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer