



Agenda

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Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee

Parks and Open Space Office

1142 Siler Rd, Bldg C.

Wednesday September 23, 2009

3:00 – 5:00 pm

1. Call to Order
 2. Roll Call
 3. Review and Approval of the August minutes
 4. Approval of the Agenda
 5. Old Business
 - Park Renovation Update
 - Prairie Dog Update
 - Valentina Replacement on the Committee
 6. New Business
 - Brian Bringham of the Northern New Mexico Soccer League
 - Stan Holland – Waste Water Division: Project affecting Maclovio Park
- Reports: Youth Sports and Little League - Tom Agard, Community Gardens Update – Jessie, Soccer –Marg Veneklasen, BTAC-Anna Hansen, NW Quadrant/BMX / Skate Parks – Daniel Coriz, Tierra Contenta Parks – Oralynn Guerrerortiz, Park History – Sandie Collier.
6. Public Comments
 7. Confirm date and time for the next meeting.

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CITY OF SANTA FE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

September 23, 2009

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**MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Anna Hansen, Acting Chairperson 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

Tom Agard
Daniel Coriz
Oralynn Guerrerortiz
Anna Hansen
Sandra Taylor
Patrick Torres
Marg Veneklasen

Members Absent

Elizabeth Booth, Chair (excused)

Staff Present

Bob Wood, Parks Division, City of Santa Fe
Jesse Esparza, Parks Division

Others Present

Brian Brigham, Northern NM Soccer League
Stan Holland, Waste Water Division, City of Santa Fe
Peggene Bishard, Pdawgs
Karen Schmidt
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-August 26, 2009

Ms. Taylor moved to approve the minutes of August 26, 2009 as presented. Ms. Guerrerortiz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Torres moved to approve the agenda as presented. Mr. Agard seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Park Renovation Update**

Mr. Wood went through the parks (Exhibit 1) as listed on the attached exhibit. A summary of comments and/or questions follow:

Melendez Park- private property was cleaned up and Ms. Taylor asked if the landowner would be charged and was told the owner could be. She asked for a follow up at the next meeting specifically on reimbursement from the property owner.

Espinacitas – the committee discussed old equipment that was removed and the relocation of the playground equipment to other parks if ADA compliant.

Ms. Hansen moved that the former equipment be moved to another park before given to a school.

Ms. Veneklasen commented on the playground equipment at Fort Marcy and said kids didn't know how to use the equipment. She was told the playground equipment had been chosen by the architect and she asked the committee to promise to look at the equipment. The committee learned that non-compliant equipment in parks had to be removed or replaced within a certain period of time.

Ms. Hansen added to her motion that if ADA compliant playground equipment was taken out of a park, it would be placed in another park and that the playground equipment was relevant to children's standards.

Daniel Coriz entered the meeting at this time.

Ms. Hansen said that in the discussion about each park in the planning process, the committee should have a voice in playground equipment in the parks.

Ms. Veneklasen made a motion that the committee would discuss and review equipment before placed into a park. Ms. Hansen seconded the motion.

Ms. Hansen withdrew her original motion and made a new motion. She moved that any playground equipment that was ADA compliant be relocated into another appropriate park. She accepted the friendly amendment made by Ms. Veneklasen that before any equipment was put into a park there would be a discussion and review of the equipment by the committee. Ms. Guerrerortiz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Ms. Hansen said playground equipment would be added for discussion to the agenda next month.

Ms. Taylor said Nava Ade Park playground equipment should be reviewed and asked for the committee to see plans and pictures of the playground equipment to be placed in the park.

Ms. Hansen asked that a copy of the parks renovation list be sent to everyone on the committee and for the committee to look at parks in their neighborhood to see what "complete" meant.

Ms. Hansen said the committee should look at parks in general to see what had been done and would be a good way to report to the public. Ms. Taylor and Mr. Wood asked to be involved in the review. A newspaper article would be written to inform the public of the status of parks.

- *Prairie Dog Update*

Mr. Agard said Wendy Blackwell of the Land Use Office would develop and present a report to the city manager for a comprehensive, integrated pest management control plan of how the city would deal with nuisances, such as fleas, rock squirrels etc and to have a plan in place. A draft had been emailed to the committee and would be revised.

He thought the process was great and would have positive outcomes and said with respect to the Youth Sports that everyone agreed prairie dogs couldn't be on the fields. He said 5 or 6 active use parks would be identified and prairie dogs would be kept out and where prairie dog populations could exist in the city, would also be identified.

- *Valentina Replacement on the Committee*

Chair Booth had indicated in a note that she interviewed Joe Ruiz and she provided information on the indoor skating business he owned. She said she liked him for several reasons. He had years of experience in skating, he owned a small business and had a lot of good ideas that wouldn't take much money and was a team player. She said she would sign a copy of the Ethics of Conflict of Interest and didn't think there would be a problem.

Mr. Ruiz's business would hold a skating competition on October 2 and Chair Booth encouraged the committee to attend if possible.

Ms. Hansen said Mr. Ruiz would be an Action Item on the agenda for October and suggested people try to meet him during the month.

NEW BUSINESS

- Brian Brigham of the Northern New Mexico Soccer League

Mr. Brigham said when he started with soccer 15 years ago space to play wasn't a problem and now almost 1,000 kids played in 75 teams on 4 fields for spring and fall rather than the 10 they had years ago. He said a burgeoning number of groups for rugby, Frisbee golf etc. were interested in space for their kids to play and said a soccer field needed about three acres. He said two fields were used half time at Fort Marcy and Villa Linda with rights at Ashbaugh and a small park near Airport Road and said most teams practiced at the race track where 12 fields were utilized.

Ms. Veneklasen said she started soccer and had 175 kids and they used the deaf school a lot.

Mr. Brigham said access to Franklin Miles Park had been traded for access to Ashbaugh and the School for the Deaf practiced there. He said the city charged \$15 per head at MRC and he had refused to pay the fees and had found ways around the charge.

He said if the commission had say in the CIP, \$1.3 million for 10 soccer fields was planned and Ms. Veneklasen told him she was on the CIP committee and they weren't aware of the charge. Barbara in the Parks office was asked why kids were charged a fee. She said that MRC was an enterprise and had to make up the money for the golf course. She said a 2006 ordinance was re-done to say all city parks should charge to play and fees per season would be \$15 for youth and \$10 for kids under 10 years old. She said she hadn't added those fees and thought Robert Romero was working on the issue.

The commission discussed the use of fields and Mr. Wood noted that the cost of maintenance increased with more people. It was suggested there be a discussion between the commission and Robert Romero and Mr. Chavez about the ordinance and possibly to include a city councilor.

Mr. Agard said to find soccer a permanent home was important and the commission should work on the issue would be vital to kids. He said the football league, YAFO didn't have a home and shared Franklin Miles off season with the National Little League and had been problematic. He named other leagues and the parks they used and said soccer was left to fill in where they could. His focus was to look long range and focus on what would work and where to go with that.

Ms. Guerrerortiz thought the commission should take the fee on to have it eliminated.

Ms. Hansen said the issue should be an ongoing discussion and information should be provided from Mr. Chavez and Mr. Romero where there were fields for soccer and should be researched and a strategy devised. She thanked Mr. Brigham for bringing it to their attention.

▪ *Stan Holland – Waste Water Division: Project affecting Maclovio Park*

Mr. Holland said he was an engineer with the city and was at the meeting because of a project that involved state grant funds over \$300,000 to get water and sewer off Agua Fria across from Frenchy's Park. He said there were about 16-17 homes that water and sewer lines would be put in and Maclovio Park was the only way out and people had worked hard to get the money. He hoped to start in March and be finished in by the end of April.

He showed a map of the park and the acequia where a culvert would be put in. He and Mr. Chavez had discussed where the lines would enter and that two new trees had to be removed. He said once the project was completed the area would be returned as they found it.

Mr. Holland said jersey barriers and a chain link fence would be used during construction, grass would be put in. The sidewalk was in a low spot and would have base course across the area and filled in over the sidewalk. The fire department would use that in an emergency and that would provide more than one way in or out. He said there would be a small footbridge with dirt over the culvert that could be walked over.

Chair Booth had requested the project be an Action Item on the agenda on Wednesday, October 28.

Mr. Holland said a neighborhood notification would be done and he would talk with the city clerk to set everything up.

Ms. Hansen suggested he talk with the neighbors about what was being done and have them talk with their neighbors to explain the benefits.

Reports:

- Youth Sports and Little League-Tom Agard

Mr. Agard said there was no update other than the prairie dogs. He said he wanted to celebrate when the fencing at Franklin Miles Park came down. The commission discussed the celebration and decided a spring celebration should be done.

- Community Gardens-Jesse Esparza

Ms. Esparza said she did a field check and McClovvia had turnips, peas, radishes and no prairie dogs. She said at Frenchy's almost everything was gone except jalapenos and chili plants, tomatoes, potatoes and eggplant. She said the squash, peppers and corn was eaten and the vision screens hadn't helped once the prairie dogs knew the garden was there.

She said another community garden was planned at Sunny Slope Meadows near Casa Solana and they would get the word out this year.

- Soccer-Marg Veneklasen

Previously discussed

- BTAC-Anna Hansen

Ms. Hansen said she attended a trails meeting for Dale Ball that was being worked on. The parking lot entrance to the trail was steep and volunteers would move the trail head to the bottom of the parking lot with a section to cross the street into the dog run.

She asked if anyone could go to the BTAC meeting the next evening and the status of the acequia trail at the St. Francis Drive crossing, north of Cerrillos was planned.

Mr. Agard said he went to the BTAC meeting and handed out flyers for the trail jam and again requested the BMX and motocross course be included on the master plan because he hadn't seen it.

- NW Quadrant/BMX / Skate Parks -Daniel Coriz

Mr. Coriz said a bicycle walking path built at Franklin Miles Park was an issue because it crossed the Skate Park and would be a conflict during seasonal sports between pedestrians and bikers. He said the Skate Park was being extended and the path shortened the space needed and during football and baseball season people using the path would create a conflict.

Some of the committee remembered discussion on that and that plans had been marked to avoid the problem and that Mr. Chavez had assured the committee that was taken care of.

Ms. Guerrerortiz asked that the Skate Park and pedestrian walkway at Franklin Miles Park and the result of moving the trail be an Action Item under Old Business on the next agenda.

Mr. Coriz said he would meet with Martin Lujan in the morning on the use of the MRC for a BMX race track for a group of kids and he hoped they would have use by next season.

He said kids had worked on the motocross off of 599. He still waited to hear from the Northwest Quadrant on the master plan.

He said the BMX jam went well and there were pictures and new obstacles were put in a couple of weeks prior to the event.

- Tierra Contenta Parks-Oralynn Guerrerortiz

Ms. Guerrerortiz thanked Ms. Veneklasen for her assistance in getting the plan passed and said it was added to the list of CIP projects to go the state. She said the general language stated it would be for athletic fields, a skate park, dog park and other things and would push for funding for the master plan for park design.

- Park History-Sandra Taylor

There was no report at this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Peggene Bishard with Pdawgs said for the committee information she had followed up with Councilor Bushee in regards to her issue with the prairie dogs. She said most of the prairie dogs were removed from Ragle Park and she asked where they were relocated to and what the plan was for the remaining prairie dogs.

Mr. Wood said the conversation had been between Ms. Saccone and Mr. Chavez but he understood all of the prairie dogs were removed that could be and the rest would be removed in the spring and were out of the construction area.

Ms. Bishard said Ms. Saccone wasn't able to get follow-up on the passive relocation at French's that would take place.

Mr. Wood said the hardware cloth that caused the prairie dogs to burrow out to the side of their burrows was laid recently. He said in another area once the road was established, prairie dogs that came up in the middle of the road would be relocated.

Ms. Bishard said Mr. Agard hadn't mentioned Herb Martinez Park that was to be decommissioned once Franklin Miles Park re-opened.

Mr. Agard said youth football was using the park because Franklin Miles Park was closed. He said the traffic volume and parking had been a problem and why it wouldn't work as an active sports field and the master plan stated the park would become passive once Franklin Miles was re-opened. He wasn't sure of where that was in the staging process and said lights and backstops would be removed and the councilors had been asked to re-commission the park for the year.

Ms. Bishard asked if the prairie dogs would be removed if the park was passive or was there a plan to contain them instead of relocate them.

Mr. Wood thought if practice was being held, relocation should be considered. He said the prairie dogs had started to hibernate and wouldn't be relocated until April and understood the park would be in use until Franklin Miles Park opened and possibly Ragle.

Karen Schmidt said she fed prairie dogs at Calle Mejia and she thought that was the perfect place for the prairie dogs to exist without being in anyone's way. She talked with Wendy Blackwell about the person who cut the grass and thought they made it a point to run over every burrow and had done that to eradicate the prairie dogs.

Mr. Wood said the prairie dog feeding habit was to bring food to the burrow and a lot of seeds dropped at the opening and tall plant material grew faster there. He said the opening was purposely run over not to get the prairie dogs, but for the weeds. He said once the weeds were tall enough the prairie dogs could take care of them but because of so much other vegetation, they hadn't.

Ms. Schmidt asked if something could be planted and said that was a great place for prairie dogs and people liked them and came to feed them.

The commission expressed concern about prairie dogs becoming addicted to being fed and if that encouraged an unsustainable population.

Ms. Bishard said it was only supplemental and weeks went by without feeding. She said prairie dogs only bred to an area where they could be sustained and wouldn't over breed.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING:

October 28, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. unless otherwise notified.

ADJOURN:

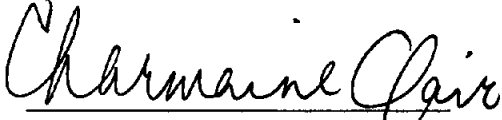
Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:53 p.m.

Approved by:



Anna Hansen, Acting Chairperson

Submitted by:


Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

UPDATE ON PARKS RENOVATIONS

Based on master plan approved by council, process on implementation plan

Adam Armijo – complete (September, 09)

Melendez – Private Property North St. Francis Drive - cleaned up property

Orlando Fernandez – Complete (July, 09)

Espinacitas – Play structure (SF housing authority has different plans).

GCCC – hired an architect for in house design

Nava Ade – Via RFP for design working on design, 30 days scheduling - scale plan designer down to construction drawings. Will design to 100% construction drawings, will phase construction to fit budget constraints.

Ragel – 100 % construction prepared, ready to bid drawing

Ortiz Dog Park – pending environmental issues (improvements are not due anything until April of 2010)

Monica Roybal – Charge irrigation system and replaced trees. Complete (September, 09)

Sunny slope - Design has begun. Call for topographic survey.

Cornell - Work will begin in next two weeks (October, 09)

Perez Patio – Thru ADA move forward by next month design complete. Moving through ADA committee.

Magers – complete (October, 09) over seeding, coring of turf and fertilizer application to aid in recovery from 400th celebration.

Patrick Smith – complete (October, 09) with changes. Single shade structure design and construction remain to be completed, additional irrigation line for meadow planting to be completed end of this week.

Franklin Miles – 35 % construction complete. New completion date projection late November, 09. Prairie dog removal and rain delays

River Park Way – Surveyed master plan design. Surroundings design firm working on planning/design documents, surveys under contract.

Frenchy's & Larragoite – From historic: expecting architectural survey to agree after we look at plans (will bid with 30 days)

E. De Vargas – complete (July, 09)

Plaza - complete (June, 09)

Maclovía – complete (February, 09)

MLK – complete (June, 09)

Las Estancia – complete (September, 09)

Don Diego – complete (November, 08)

Los Milagros – complete (December, 09 on schedule)

Gregory Lopez – complete (November, 09) Under construction being completed in house

Young – completed (June, 09)

Cathedral - completed (July, 09)

John F. Griego – starting this week (September 23, 2009)

Pueblos Del Sol Trail – ADA issues & hired an surveyor who gave us
profiles of area gave us profiles of all slopes & grades
spine (ADA) fetteres non ADA
Finishing basketball court and drainage issue

MRC - process upgrades valves, pumps and heads. Ordering new
controller.

Galisteo tennis courts – in house design in November, 09

Atayla – in house design – November, 09 (Historical Board)