



Agenda

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

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Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission

Wednesday October 28, 2009

3:00 – 5:00 pm

Frenchy's Field Barn

Corner of Agua Fria and Osage

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of the September minutes
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Parks Renovation Update – Fabian
 - Water Division: Project affecting Maclovio Park
 - Melendez Park Clean-up Reimbursement
 - Skate Park and Pedestrian Walkway
 - Sun Mountain Resolution
 - Renaming the Boys and Girls Club on Alto Street
 - Playground Equipment
 - Parks Master Plan Revision – Ben Gurule
 - Nominate Commission member to replace Valentina – Action Item
6. New Business
 - Reports:
 - Youth Sports and Little League - Tom Agard,
 - Community Gardens Update – Jessie/Bette
 - Soccer – Fabian 1) MRC Fees 2) New Soccer Fields
 - Art in Ragel Park/BTAC-Anna Hansen,
 - NW Quadrant/BMX / Skate Parks – BB for Daniel Coriz,
 - Tierra Contenta Parks – Orallynn Guerrerortiz,
 - Park History – Sandie Collier.
6. Public Comments
7. Confirm date and time for the next meeting.

Persons with disabilities in need of accommodations, contact the City Clerk's office at 955-6520, five (5) working days prior to meeting date.

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CITY OF SANTA FE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

October 28, 2009

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

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair, Betty Booth, on this date at approximately 3:00 pm at Frenchy's Field Barn, corner of Agua Fria and Osage, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a forum as follows:

Members Present

Elizabeth Booth Chair
Tom Agard
Oralynn Guerrerortiz
Anna Hansen
Sandra Taylor
Patrick Torres (later)

Members Absent

Marg Veneklasen
Daniel Coriz

Staff Present

Jesse Esparza, Parks Division
Fabian Chavez, Parks Director
Ben Gurule, Parks Division

Others Present

Deborah Post
Greg Beamus
Councilor Rosemary Romero
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-September 23, 2009

Page 3, should read that "Chair Booth said she didn't believe Joe Linn would have any problem with a conflict of interest for the code of ethics because he owned a business."

Page 4, third paragraph: YAFO should say: YAFL (Young American Football League) and the 3rd to last line, should read:"YAFL didn't have a home and shared Franklin Miles Park with the National Little League and had not been a problem. "

*All areas in the minutes that referred to the committee should be changed to the commission.
Mr. Patrick Torres entered the meeting at this time.*

Ms. Taylor moved to approve the minutes of September 23, 2009 as amended. Mr. Agard seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda. Chair Booth indicated to guests that the Public Comments portion would take place about 4:45, to allow the public to hear and comment on the commission's discussion.

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

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Chavez reminded everyone specific questions or anything regarding a project that someone wanted to see, could be done at any time and wouldn't have to wait for a meeting.

▪ Park Renovation Update

A report on the master plan was being prepared by the Parks Division (Parks) Project Managers of what had been done and the \$7.9 million spent and would be presented to city council the following month. He asked for the commission to review a copy of the revised Master Plan before the council meeting.

○ Water Division: Project affecting Maclovía Park

The request for waste water to develop an access road to the east end of Maclovía had been tabled. Construction equipment couldn't get in or out and there was concern from neighbors.

○ Melendez Park Clean-up Reimbursement

Ms. Taylor explained the commission questioned if the vacant lot was a park. She said the Parks crews cleaned up the overgrown lot and she thought the division should be reimbursed by the property owner.

Chair Booth said Councilor Calvert requested the lot be cleaned up and a fence put around it. She said after the cleanup, a "for sale by owner" sign was put up.

Mr. Chavez agreed to check on it.

○ Skate Park and Pedestrian Walkway

The Skate Park at Franklin Miles Park was closed for renovation work. Mr. Chavez said contingency money had allowed Mr. Coriz's concern to be addressed about the closeness of the pathway to the Skate Park; asphalt extensions would be constructed for an alternative way to the parking lot. The changes had been made and approved.

Ms. Taylor asked if the dedication of the Skate Park to Martha Ramirez had been rescinded. Mr. Chavez said it had not.

- Sun Mountain Resolution

The resolution moved forward to the governing body. The FIR reflected putting in a trail head, a parking lot, fencing the area in portions, and for re-occurring expenses.

Councilor Romero said the resolution was sponsored by Councilor Wurzbarger and herself and would create a mechanism to receive the land into the conservation easements. She said there could be money for some trail head improvement in the sale of the Watson property. The intent was for other monies to offset city money.

She saw the open space as a regional city effort and a city wide asset. She said money could be leftover within district two from parks that were overestimated and hoped the commission would look at that and allocate toward the purchase of Sun Mountain.

Chair Booth asked how much money had been raised and the cost of the property.

Ms. Post said the cost of the property was \$3.2 million dollars and \$2.7 million had been raised. The Watson house on the property would be sold at auction and was hoped would raise the difference.

Mr. Chavez said Parks preferred off-street parking to avoid safety problems that would be caused by traffic; parking in front of houses and problems with trash and erosion. He thought there would be adequate room for eight or so cars to park off-street on the east side. Engineering would possibly suggest the other side of the street not have parking and wouldn't want parking on both sides of the narrow street.

Chair Booth asked Councilor Romero to re-state her comment about the leftover money and asked Mr. Chavez to respond.

Councilor Romero explained that Robert Romero thought district 2 parks had money allocated that wouldn't be needed. She gave Amelia White Park as an example that had \$46,000 left over. She said her request was for parks to be looked at as a whole, to see if there was additional money.

Mr. Chavez said money was probably available in district 2 and that was within the purview of the governing body to move money. He said contingency money was held for unforeseen things and the councilor was correct that some parks had come in under budget.

Ms. Hansen said district 3 had parks that didn't have enough money, some unfunded and some left uncompleted. She thought the money should come from the private sector. She said trails and other things needed to be done with the bond money. She wouldn't support money being given in any way to Sun Mountain because so many parks were shortchanged throughout the city.

Councilor Romero said money had been allocated equally across the board for all districts and there was a district attitude. She said almost \$3 million had been allocated to the Northwest Quadrant.

She said POSA's mandate was to review and make recommendations to the governing body about parks and open space and she wasn't clear that was specific only to the bond. The commission was to provide ongoing advice to all parks and open space; related issues that included the acquisition, dedication, planning, development, construction, operation and maintenance.

She said the next mandate, as noted by the resolution, included more than the bond money. She said she was thankful for the bond but the next part could include the acquisition of open space without taking from other districts and she pointed out, was within the commission's purview.

Chair Booth said it was within the commission's purview and that was their desire. She said they were already looking at Tierra Contenta down the road.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said the question kept coming up for money to be moved from what it was designated for to something else and there was another need from someone monthly. She said she wasn't aware of anything that had been moved even though there were requests.

Ms. Taylor said district 2 had the least amount of park space per resident and she supported anything that could get more open space. She wouldn't support bond money being moved for an unplanned activity and said that wouldn't keep the commitment to the citizens of Santa Fe to use the money wisely.

She asked for a completion timeframe or when things would be sold and was told the Trust for Public Land would exercise their option to buy that day.

Mr. Agard agreed with the other commission members the bond was voted on by the citizens of Santa Fe with a master plan in place. He thought they should stick to that plan. He opposed any movement of the bond funds for a project such as that.

Chair Booth agreed it was an exciting opportunity and should be jumped on. She said she stood behind her commission members. The people voted on \$2.2 million for district 1; \$2.2 million for district 2; \$2 million for district 3 and \$2.6 million for district 4 and the commission supported the money being moved within those districts. She said the commission was successful thus far but wouldn't be able to hold the boundary if that was opened.

Mr. Bearmus said private resources came up with \$3,200,000 and the improvements being discussed were possibly \$30,000 or 1% of the bond money. He said any time the city or community could get the private sector to fund 99% of a project, it was worth consideration.

Chair Booth said the commission stated they were happy to do that, but *not* with bond money. She said the issue wasn't an action item but if put to a vote, he heard what would happen and that would be unanimous.

Council Romero said her hope was for parks that had been omitted to be looked at carefully and a change to the resolution adapted to particular needs.

Chair Booth said the commission was working five years down the line and was looking much broader than the bond.

Mr. Chavez said the FIR hadn't addressed the bond money being used for improvements. He said the commission or the governing body could ask him to go to the Park Impact Fee Committee as a source for money.

Ms. Post said the city was about to receive 11+ acres of land that adjoined the current open space on the top of Sun Mountain. A permanent public trail access would be dedicated where currently there was none; access had been with the permission of the landowners.

- Re-naming the Boys and Girls Club on Alto Street

Mr. Chavez said one request to rename the park across the street from the Boys and Girls Club was *Louis Montano*, the first Director of the Boys & Girls Club. He said the request had to go through the governing body.

- Playground Equipment

Mr. Chavez said anyone with concern about the playground equipment could come to the office to review the drawings and look at the equipment catalogues that described age appropriateness, features, etc.

Chair Booth referred to a motion made by the commission for review of all playground equipment prior to being placed. She said the two motions passed at the last meeting regarding that issue were not on the agenda and not an action item and were not legal. She said that wasn't the role of the commission and the commission didn't know anything about playground equipment.

Ms. Hansen explained that the motion was if usable playground equipment was taken out, the equipment would be moved to a park before it was moved to a school. She was told the commission couldn't do that.

- Parks Master Plan Revision

Ben Gurule said he was there to discuss deviation of the master plan on some parks. A summary follows:

A survey on *Melendez Park* showed the easement was too narrow to put any ADA landscape or furniture in. The \$1500 was used to do clean up.

Espinacitas Park was owned by Santa Fe Housing and had been dedicated to the city for a park. Additional improvements were planned to the facility but Parks plan hadn't matched *Espinacitas'* plan, so Parks money wouldn't be used.

Monica Roybal had asked for trees and an irrigation upgrade that would have cost \$2000. That wasn't possible for the amount of money and Parks recommended the money be used to landscape the median in the parking lot and xeriscape.

Bianca Caballero asked for eight benches and eight tables but the park was too small; four benches and four tables would go in at 50% ADA.

Larragoite Park had to have an ADA historical survey that wasn't anticipated that cost \$6,000.

Mr. Gurule said MRC and Pueblos del Sol had a lot of changes and the scope of work would be based on the needs of those who used the park. The neighborhood wanted features different from the leagues. The leagues, workers and neighbors discussed what would be done. The money was to be spent on the concession stand, for new stucco, bathrooms, roof, and safety netting. The current ball fields and backstops would be improved as well as bleachers with shade and trash receptacles done. The irrigation systems would be upgraded; parking areas improved and expanded and a culvert system constructed for drainage. Requests were made to improve the BMX track for city events and the volleyball court.

- Nominate Commission Member to replace Valentina- Action Item.

Chair Booth said the commission looked for someone to represent the skateboard perspective and community. Anthony Gonzalez was young, had been in Santa Fe about two and half years and in the major leagues of skateboarding and Joe Linn (?) owned an indoor skateboard park and taught skateboarding and knew all of the kids.

She said she went with Mr. Coriz's recommendation of Mr. Linn as the best candidate. She recommended the mayor be asked to appoint Mr. Linn to the commission. She said she would write the letter to the mayor.

Ms. Hansen moved to recommend Mr. Linn be appointed to the commission. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Reports:

- *Youth Sports and Little League-Tom Agard*
Mr. Agard said opening day would be at Franklin Miles Park and there would be a big celebration in the spring. He said Round Robin for Girls Softball tournaments would be scheduled in the spring.
- *Soccer-*
 - New Soccer Fields: Mager's Field would be permitted in the spring and Villa Linda Mall had been added to the system. Mr. Chavez said he was certain there would be soccer fields at Tierra Contenta. He chose a site at Los Soleras for a joint school, regional neighborhood park and soccer fields.
 - MRC Fees- Chair Booth said she was told fees at MRC couldn't be waived in the ordinance. Mr. Chavez said the master plan had additional soccer fields and a gymnasium. He said the rugby and hardball fields and the small baseball/softball fields for 12 and under were being permitted for soccer. The ordinance stated everyone had to pay that played at the MRC because of the debt service. If the fees were waived, rugby, baseball etc. would be right behind them. Around a million dollars a year was generated by the fees and wasn't enough; the golf course carried the fields.

- *Community Gardens-Jesse Esparza*

The community gardens were discussed. Frenchy's Field had their first meeting and Chair Booth thought for the first time, it was an incredible success. The prairie dogs were discussed. Parks had been asked for help with them climbing the net and the gardeners wanted something slick to prevent that. An e-mail would be sent that day to the Maclovía gardeners about next year.

A community garden would be done at Sunny Slope.

- *Art in Ragle Park /BTAC-Anna Hansen*

Ms. Hansen said she been contacted to be on the Art in Ragle Park committee and was excited. The meeting would be in January.

She said BTAC was difficult for her and if anyone who wanted could take it.

Mr. Agard said he had gone the last two months and would go when possible. Chair Booth offered to go if in town and if the agenda had information on Northwest Quadrant would email everyone.

- *NW Quadrant/BMX / Skate Parks -Daniel Coriz*

There was no report.

- *Tierra Contenta Parks-Oralynn Guerrerortiz*

There was nothing new. The money for the master plan was categorized but hadn't been moved forward.

- *Park History-Sandra Taylor*

Ms. Taylor gave information on Paul Ragle, namesake of Ragle Park. He died in his 80's in February of 1992. He was born in Texas and owned a 1,000 acre ranch that incorporated Ragle Park. Mr. Ragle introduced Brahma bulls for bull riding at a rodeo in the early 40's that angered most of the cowboys.

Chair Booth asked the status of getting the park history on the website.

Ms. Taylor said she would like to get pictures of each of the people. She said she envisioned the website with the size of the park; the date the park was incorporated or dedicated etc. and a history of the park name with a biography of the person the park was named for.

Mr. Agard suggested she do one park and use that as a template.

Ms. Taylor said she could get that up by December. She would email the commission the information for their feedback.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Dan McCam said he was a geologist, a horseman and a bike rider and was sensitive about safety. He was unsure who was responsible for trails once they were built but understood from BTAC the responsibility was that of Parks, if within the city.

He said he had written a letter to Mr. Tom Trowbridge of the NMDOT and asked for bollards to have reflective tape where appropriate; edges of trails to be painted; encroaching debris cleared; fencing marked at the edge of the trails; direct lighting of trail crossings with significant vehicular traffic; trails marked for children that incorporated where the trails and the schools were.

Chair Booth thanked Mr. McCam for being there and said his points were well taken. She asked Ms. Esparza to respond since Mr. Chavez wasn't available.

Ms. Esparza said she had a list of some of the trails like Dale Ball and Tierra Contenta that Parks maintained. She said Nestor Martinez was the supervisor of the trails.

Chair Booth said some of the trails talked about were new and had been developed by BTAC. She said part of the issue was to get the trails into the design to start with and another to look at status of the trails maintained by Parks.

Ms. Hansen said the Santa Fe Community Foundation had a volunteer initiative that maintained the trails. She suggested Mr. McCam talk with Leroy Pacheco who was in charge of the trails and oversaw development.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said many of the trails were built by private developers and the code hadn't reflected the changes. She said if minor changes were made to chapter 14 to reflect the ideas that would be helpful. She said Mr. Pacheco would look at the safety issues and be the one to approve what was done.

Chair Booth noted that Mr. Pacheco was on the agenda for the next meeting.

Mr. Agard said he started the Safe Routes to Schools program in Santa Fe. His understanding was the Parks Department was responsible for the trails in the parks, along with specific trails the department took over maintenance on. He said trail crossings at public streets were a Public Works issue and BTAC adopted priority trails and had a budget for improvements. He thought it was a matter of everyone working together. He suggested Mr. McCam contact Jessica Frost and Tim Robbins.

Chair Booth said Mr. Robbins would be put on the agenda for next month.

Mr. McCam said there were no New Mexico trails on his GPS and he spoke with Garmin about what was needed. He said tourism was an important concept and people often used GPS for hiking and provided a way to navigate a trail and was a safety issue and initially it would just be a matter of a letter being written.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING: November 18, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Hansen asked if it was possible to move to the third Wednesday of the month to avoid being in conflict with the city council meeting and the committee concurred. Ms. Esparza said she would notify the city clerk's office of the change.

ADJOURN:

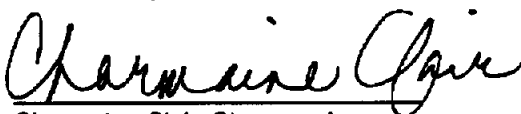
Ms. Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Agard seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Approved by:


Betty Booth, Chairperson

Submitted by:


Charmaine Clair, Stenographer