City of Santa Fe

Agenda

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MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD

A Subcommittee of the PARC (Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission)

The Barn at Frenchy's Field 2001 Agua Fria Street

Wednesday, September 28, 2016

10:00 am - 12:00 pm

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 24, 2016
5. Old Business
   A. New Tree Board member update
   B. Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Update
   C. Tree Inventory progress project
6. New Business
   A. Suggested sites for April, 2017 Arbor Day planting
   B. ISA Best Management Practices
   C. Tree inventory species list
   D. Report on St. Michael's Drive Public Meeting
7. Announcements
8. Public Comment
9. Date and Time of next meeting- Wednesday, October 26, 2016 10:00 am
10. Adjourn

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MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
THE BARN AT FRENCHY'S FIELD
2001 AGUA FRIA STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016, 10:00 AM

ITEM	ACTION	PAGE
CALL TO ORDER		1
ROLL CALL	QUORUM	1
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	APPROVED	1
APPROVAL OF MINUTES AUGUST 24, 2016	APPROVED	1-2
OLD BUSINESS		
NEW TREE BOARD MEMBER UPDATE	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	2
PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION UPDATE	POSTPONED	2-3
TREE INVENTORY PROGRESS REPORT	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	3-5
NEW BUSINESS		
SUGGESTED SITES FOR APRIL, 2017 ARBOR DAY PLANTING	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	5-7
ISA BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	7-8
TREE INVENTORY SPECIES LIST	INFORMATION/DISCUSSION	8-9

REPORT OF ST. MICHAEL'S DRIVE PUBLIC MEETING	**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**	**9-11**
COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD	**INFORMATION/DISCUSSION**	**11**
ANNOUNCEMENTS	**NONE**	**11**
PUBLIC COMMENT	**NONE**	**12**
DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING	**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2016**	**12**
ADJOURN	**ADJOURNED**	**12**

MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
THE BARN AT FRENCHY'S FIELD
2001 AGUA FRIA STREET
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2016

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Municipal Tree board was called to order by Kathryn O'Brien, Chair, at 10:00 am, at The Barn At Frenchy's Field, 2001 Agua Fria Street, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT
Katherine O'Brien, Chair
Athena Beshur
Tracy Neal
(Vacancy)

MEMBERS ABSENT
Tom Dominguez

OTHERS PRESENT
Richard Thompson, Parks Department
Victor Lucero, Parks Department
Gary Varela, Parks Department
Mary Schruben
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair O'Brien asked that Comments from Board Members be added to the agenda.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the agenda as amended.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AUGUST, 24, 2016

Ms. Beshur said on page 3, the reach was to Delgado, they met at the corner of

Delgado and Alameda and on page 4, it should say 31 inches.

Chair O'Brien said on page 4, it should say City Land Use and Planning Department.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. NEW TREE BOARD MEMBER UPDATE

Ms. Beshur said Janie O'Rourke has applied to be a member of the Board. She is part of the Watershed Association Women Who Walk on Water Group. She is serious about serving and is very involved in the Santa Fe Watershed inventory.

Ms. Beshur said Ms. O'Rourke sent her resume to the Board members and to Mr. Thompson.

Everyone said they had not received the resume.

Ms. Beshur read the letter of interest and will send the resume to the Board and Mr. Thompson for consideration.

Everyone agreed that she would be a good addition to the Board and asked the Chair to get in touch with her to meet her and then to forward her name to the PARC Board for appointment.

Chair O'Brien will contact her and move forward.

Mr. Neal said he would like to meet her at some point.

Chair O'Brien will attend the next meeting of the PARC Board to speak to them about the appointment. If she is approved she will attend the next meeting of the Municipal Tree Board as a member.

Ms. Beshur said that is good. It is hard to attend meetings as a potential member and not be able to vote or participate as a member would.

B. PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION UPDATE

Chair O'Brien said due to the absence of Mr. Dominguez, this item will be

postponed.

C. TREE INVENTORY PROGRESS UPDATE

Ms. Beshur reported that the Watershed Association's Women Who Walk on Water reach was very successful. They will be inventorying again on October 7th at 10:00 am. Anyone interested in being involved is welcome.

Chair O'Brien said she may be able to come and help.

Ms. Beshur said we will meet again at the corner of Delgado and Alameda.

Ms. Beshur said at the last Master Gardener inventory on Saturday, we started and completed the Plaza, thanks to Mary's organization and Tracy knowing so much about plants. There were six people in attendance. Three Master Gardeners were there. They are all interested in becoming co leaders. It was very successful. Our next mission is to complete Ragle. She would like to complete Ragle and then do City Hall and finish it and then do Cathedral Park. She needs dates.

Ms. Schruben said she would like to thank Jason Kluck from the Facilities Department for the drawings that he researched and printed out for us for our next parks and Ragle. It gives us a big advantage. He is very helpful. We are good for the rest of the year.

Mr. Neal asked Mary do we have lists for the two areas we need to finish at Ragle.

Ms. Schruben said the newer one does but the older one does not.

Mr. Thompson said Craig who we met at Ragle was the architect of record. He may have a different set of drawings.

Mr. Neal said that was a long time ago. At all the parks there have been plantings done in the last five years. We are looking at new plantings. Where is our plant list that tells us what and where the plants are.

Mr. Thompson said we keep the records of all plantings at his office. At least they have done that in the two years he has been there.

Mr. Neal asked what about the records before two years.

Mr. Thompson said he can't say. We find very few records of what happened in Parks before he was there and before Victor was the IPM director. Bob Wood was the IPM director before.

Mr. Neal asked don't they have to submit a plan for plantings like at Ragle.

Mr. Thompson said the large amount of trees planted there were paid for by capital improvement money. We don't run capital improvement projects out of our office.

Ms. Schruben said they would probably be in the Public Works Office and Jason would have them.

Mr. Thompson said we are doing a public tree inventory now. That will reside in the Parks Department. Elected officials have very little interest in operational activities. They may pose questions to us but for the most part he has not had any Councilor ask him about planting trees.

Mr. Varela said when we build a new park we get a copy of the set of drawings.

Ms. Schruben said only for the ones where the money comes from Parks. Still there are lists in all these other places. Goggle Earth maps are a picture of what is on the ground. She is getting some from Richard and that is great but it takes a while to find out who has the current drawings. That is why talking to Jason is helpful.

Mr. Thompson asked what does the plant list have to do with the inventory.

Mr. Neal asked if there is a hybrid you don't care which one.

Mr. Thompson said no. The inventory is to present a graphic picture of what is there. We just need the genius and species.

Mr. Neal said he just wants to be sure we are recording the correct information.

Mr. Thompson said just identify with species.

Mr. Thompson said we are looking at presenting graphic information and numeric data to the Governing Body. We are trying to expand on the trees that will adapt to the area but we generally rely on the designers to specify trees.

Mr. Neal said we are trying to find trees that will put up with climate change and drought. We are looking at oaks and elms and there is a large variety of those. We don't know which ones will hold up over the long run.

Mr. Thompson said we may draw a conclusion by looking at the tree but we would rely on industry data. The inventory is not for that purpose. It takes one hundred trees to draw any conclusion on their vitality. We are not going to draw inference from one example. The idea of the inventory is to move as quickly as possible to get the numbers that we can draw a picture of. We can design an experiment if the MTB wants

that kind of data but we need to talk to Jennifer and our friends at NMSU to see if they are doing ornamental trials. They would support this kind of trial.

Chair O'Brien said we can get information from Brian Suhr at UNM. He tests elms.

Mr. Thompson said we attended a SW Colorado meeting in Alamosa and were introduced to a statewide tree inventory call Co-Tree.

Ms. Beshur said getting back to dates for our next inventories, one date that was particularly interesting to volunteers was October 15th. We can do Ragle then.

Ms. Schruben said there are fifty to fifty five trees remaining to be inventoried.

Ms. Beshur said it could be possible to do that in one session.

Ms. Schruben said the acreage is twice the size of the Plaza and by the way, we had great comments from the public at the Plaza. The afternoon would be better for her.

Ms. Beshur said she can do that and we can do a bit longer of a session and possibly finish Ragle on that day. We will do October 15th, at Ragle, from 1-4 pm.

Ms. Beshur said let's set one or two more dates for October. How about the 12th.

Mr. Varela left the meeting.

Ms. Schruben said we could do City Hall.

Chair O'Brien said she can do October 12th.

Ms. Beshur said we will do City Hall on Wednesday, October 12th from 5:00 - 7:00 pm. Chair O'Brien said she will be there and Mary will try to be there depending on the City Council agenda. Ms. Beshur will try to be there as well.

Ms. Beshur said she is having an event with the Master Gardeners on October 22nd and she will encourage volunteers at that time.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. SUGGESTED SITES FOR APRIL, 2017 ARBOR DAY PLANTING

Chair O'Brien asked has anyone thought about possible sites.

Mr. Thompson said the state has designated the last Friday in April as Arbor Day.

Chair O'Brien said so as far as we know it is April 28th.

Ms. Beshur said we did notice when we were at the Plaza that there is one quadrant that is almost exclusively very old American Elms. We thought that quadrant might be a good place to add a new tree.

Mr. Neal said there is a big open spot in the center of some trees as well. It is on the west side. The elms will have to be eventually taken out.

Ms. Beshur said there are two in that quadrant that are in fair condition.

Ms. Schruben said the change in the Plaza design is to put trees on the sides and walkways so people can congregate in the center and put their booths there. That was discussed in the public hearings.

Mr. Thompson said anything historic requires a process to change. The Plaza is governed by the National Park Service and State Antiquities. We would have to go through at least two Committees to plant additional trees.

Chair O'Brien said she contacted Lisa Randel at the schools. She has nothing to do with knowing Arbor schools.

Ms. Schruben said that might be up to a principal decision now.

Chair O'Brien said that is what she indicated.

Ms. Schruben said yes, she is now doing just hard reviews but years ago she did look at those things. Those decisions are now with the principal and the PTA.

Chair O'Brien said the goal we came up with at the last meeting was to choose a site that had ample parking and that we gave as much notice as possible so we could get it publicized. Let's keep thinking about a spot.

Mr. Thompson said Patrick Smith Park and Las Acequias Two Park between South Meadows and Zafarano would be good sites.

Ms. Beshur said there was a park we talked about last year. It was Griego Park. Along the watershed. The reason for that one was by planting along the river trail that would eventually allow for a phase out of the elms on the river trail by allowing a shade process to develop.

Mr. Thompson said we always look for a target for the shade like a bench or water fountain or picnic table.

Ms. Beshur said on Griego the target for the shade would be the playground and the Memorial.

Ms. Beshur said she knows some people who just bought a home next to Agua Fria and Hickox and their irrigation system is right there. They would be interested in watering a new tree in the park.

Mr. Thompson said he will check on that to make sure it is City property.

B. ISA BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Chair O'Brien said when our guest at our last meeting, Mr. Smith, was here he said the stumps of the elms need to be killed. Richard asked that the best management practices be on the next agenda.

Mr. Lucero said we don't use them. The city of Santa Fe does not use chemicals on pests. That is why we have such an invasive pest problem. The standard is to cut down and deal with sprouts. The management practice is basal cuts.

Ms. Schruben said when we inventoried with the watershed ladies we did not note the cut trees and growth from them should we.

Mr. Thompson said no.

Ms. Beshur said the volunteers are continuing to cut those.

Mr. Thompson said we did note the trees removed by the Friends of the River Michael Smith group and we recorded riparian species.

Ms. Beshur said she has been doing research on compost teas. She wondered if that form of integrated pest management could be used in the form of spraying and be publicized. It is a natural product and we are doing some tests in using less chemicals in our environment. Maybe we could use this project to show that we are interested in using less chemicals.

Mr. Lucero said one of the things to consider is when you spray any compound that contains organic compounds you will inhale those. He would rather eat an apple treated with approved fungicide as opposed to when moth and its fecal matter gets inside of an apple. Spraying would be a concern to some of our citizens. Insects thrive on robbing plants of nitrogen. If he had the best food source available to him but had a

massive tape worm you get rid of the tape worm, not continue to feed the host. Until you control the pest you are not doing anything.

Mr. Neal said it goes back to the whole notion of strengthening the health of the tree so that it can avoid pests. Work has to be done from the time they are planted to keep them as healthy as possible so they don't get attacked.

There was a discussion about IPM.

Mr. Thompson said his macorrhiza connection speaks to the fact that 99% of all nutrient activity happens below the ground. We do believe in plant health care as the number one pillar in IPM. We would love to have more training.

Chair O'Brien said it is up to the Municipal Tree Board to see what we can do to assist the Parks Department in dealing with this issue. It is a very important thing.

Ms. Beshur said speaking to the weed question, mulching and encouraging more fungal and bacteria associations will lead to fewer weeds.

Mr. Thompson said a long term capital improvement program funded maintenance in the parks. It was $5 million. We wacked everything. We now remove them. We feel that airing the soil through weed removal is preferable. We have a CIP approved but not funded yet to restore the landscapes to the medians and right of ways. We are investing in training materials for the ISA Certification which includes manuals and fourteen CDs. We will get two sets of the ANSI standard. One for the Parks Department and one for Land Use and Planning so they might approach landscape requirements.

C. TREE INVENTORY SPECIES LIST

Chair O'Brien said this was covered under our previous discussion by Richard saying what is needed from the inventory is genius and species.

Ms. Beshur said the point of this species list was to allow the volunteers to have a species list with the code abbreviations.

Ms. Schruben said so everyone can begin to identify the same thing with the same codes for consistency.

Mr. Thompson said it sounds like he volunteered to do this at the last meeting. Everyone is aware of the approved plant list that the City has. Tracy was one of the authors. He suggests that we start with that tree list. It is on the website.

Mr. Neal and Ms. Beshur asked that it be sent to them.

Mr. Thompson said there is a version that was transferred to a PDF that was much abbreviated. The one he is speaking of is the spread sheet.

Ms. Schruben said what she has been doing is starting with the plant list and adding to it. As she gets more plant lists she adds to the list she uses for the boxes. The only objective is to be able to have in a plastic sleeve a list for people to use for a reference to identify trees and use the correct codes. One side will be in order by the common name and on the other side in the order by genus and species. It is to develop a common vocabulary for their volunteer work. A common reference point.

Mr. Neal asked where are we with that.

Ms. Schruben said she gave out the list two or three meetings ago. Since we finished the Plaza she will add those trees to the list.

Mr. Neal asked Ms. Schruben to email to him the list she has not. Ms. Beshur asked for one as well.

Ms. Schruben said she will send it to everyone.

Mr. Thompson said for the numeric data we are hoping to present graphically we use the Excel function and a list of genus and species to ensure they are counted. We update that from the inventory in the electronic database.

D. REPORT ON ST. MICHAEL'S DRIVE PUBLIC MEETING

Ms. Schruben said this was a private meeting. The entire packet of St. Michaels Drive LINC was in the Planning Commission packet. It is sixty five pages. Their vision is that they will remove the center turn lanes in between lights and plant that as a boulevard of trees planted twenty five feet apart. They will replant the sidewalk scape at the ten foot level from the curb with trees. She tried to encourage Matt to come to us to talk about grouping trees and not make the planting linear. He said no. That is an item she has on her list for the public meeting. That it is not the most advantageous way to plant trees. The whole objective is to introduce alternative architectures, building scapes, colors and materials to promote on sidewalk vertical walls three to four stories as an alternative to the long set backs of parking lots. That means then that the vision for trees does not promote any people spaces at all. One person asked where will the children play. Where is the nearest park. They said Franklin Miles is only a mile and a half away. To put three hundred families into apartments with no place for children to play except a parking lot is unreasonable. It moves the people moving in there into the neighborhoods to find a tree to eat their lunch under. It is cost effective for the new loans from HUD and is attractive for a developer. LINC will be on St. Michaels from St.

Frances to Cerrillos. The existing trees, if they survive the construction, would be left but the intent of the design is to reinforce the design. There are no alternatives in the parking lots. The concept is for parking to be shared for retail in the day and residents at night. This is the scape of Hyde Park in Chicago. There is no place to be outside or for children that is safe and protected.

Mr. Thompson said he wonders if he could ask the MTB to consider a policy statement about the importance of trees and the emerging thought of plant communities as opposed to linear alignment of shade trees along boulevards. He knows why people want street trees. But, the life expectancy is seven years for those trees.

Chair O'Brien said it sounds like a good time to do it.

Mr. Neal said he would go for that and would ask for any research you have, Richard, on the this issue be emailed to us.

Mr. Thompson said he will do that. At the Urban Forestry Conference he was told that rule of planting trees twenty five feet apart comes from when they used to tie horses up.

Ms. Schruben said this midtown LINC overlay zone is on the agenda for a public hearing on October 26th at the City Council meeting.

Ms. Beshur asked these medians are they recessed in the ground to allow water drainage and how wide are they.

Ms. Schruben said no, they are not recessed. It is a fifteen foot sidewalk easement. Curb to sidewalk is ten ft with a five ft sidewalk. That is where the wall of the structure will be, at the fifteen foot mark. There was no discussion of any of those things. The City of Santa Fe does not yet own St. Michaels Drive. They are negotiating with DOT to take over that stretch. Their stick is that they have to repave it first and fix the severe drainage issues. They want DOT to fix all that or pony up the money for it before they sign up for it. DOT says no so it is a fight. If they are not successful in obtaining ownership she does not believe they can make the changes.

Chair O'Brien asked how wide are the medians in the center.

Ms. Schruben said three feet and two feet in some places.

Mr. Thompson said to be within code they have to be four feet in width. We redlined what we found as issues and then they go ahead and do it.

Ms. Schruben said also there is a move to try to get the crossing of the Railrunner made into a park area. They are asking for State or Federal money for that.

Chair O' Brien said thank you Mary.

7. COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD

Ms. Beshur said Rotary Club del Centro is speaking about being interested in helping with the inventory and is interested in Adopt a Park. She gave them the initial idea of Bryant Park. It is in three separate segments. She wanted a bit more clarity on what Adopt a Park is.

Mr. Thompson said the park you are speaking of is Mark Brandt Park. This is an opportunity for citizens to be involved in neighborhood parks. It is on a first come first serve basis. The idea is they meet with a member of the Department Director's office and they will outline the responsibilities and duties, which are very limited. It was initially thought that we were turning over maintenance to citizens but we are not. It is approved by the Governing Body and we have an application and guidelines. We have a website that you can mail to and you can call Jesses phone number or just come into the office and pick up the packet. We carry the packet everywhere we go.

Ms. Beshur said it is a great addition to the inventory idea that the Rotary Club could inventory a park and develop a tree planting in it. It is a common project for Rotary Clubs. She will keep talking with them about it.

Mr. Thompson said the ideal candidate would live next to the park.

Ms. Beshur said she just mentioned that park because it has water and drainage. She will let them know that it is best to live near the park.

Mr. Thompson said there have been no adoptions yet. People are concerned because of the press that they have to mow, but they don't. We can maintain volunteer work days for the park.

Mr. Neal asked if people see problems in the parks who do they report them to.

Mr. Thompson said Frances Ortega is our Constituent Services person. She is in his office.

Ms. Beshur said she will let him know how this progresses.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

10. DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Chair O'Brien said the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 26, 2016 at 10:00 am. The City Clerk's office has asked us to let her know if we are going to continue meeting on this schedule for the coming year.

There were no objections.

11. ADJOURN

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Beshur, to adjourn the meeting.

VOTE The motion was passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Katherine O' Brien, Chair

Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer