



Agenda

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**Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission
Genoveva Chavez Community Center, Room 228
3221 Rodeo Rd**

Tuesday, February 15, 2011

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of the January 2011 meeting minutes.
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Parks Division Update
 - Priority Recommendations for Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreational Facilities Planning Process: Status to date
6. New Business
 - Art in the Parks – Sabrina Pratt
7. Possible Reports:
 - Tom Agard: Organized Youth Sports and Survey / Workforce Development / Trails to Schools
 - Jessie Esparza: Community Gardens
 - Marge VeneKlasen: Youth Programs
 - Martin Ortega:
 - Anna Hansen: Art in Parks / MPO Bicycle Committee meetings/ Disc Golf
 - Daniel Coriz: NW Quadrant / BMX
 - Oralynn Guerrerortiz: Tierra Contenta Master Plan
 - Joe Lehm: Bike paths and connections / Skate Parks
 - Patrick Torres: Community Gardens /Tree City
 - Sandie Taylor: Ten Park Histories on the Portal / Tree City
 - Bette Booth: Graffiti / Youth Involvement / Prairie Dogs
8. Public Comments
9. Confirm date and time for the next meeting

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CITY OF SANTA FE
PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

FEBRUARY 15, 2011

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• Patrick Torres: Community Gardens /Tree City	Discussed	7
• Sandra Taylor: Ten Park Histories on the Portal / Tree City	Discussed	7-8
• Bette Booth: Graffiti / Youth Involvement / Prairie Dogs	Not discussed	
8. PUBLIC COMMENTS	Discussed	8-10
9. Date and Time for Next Meeting ADJOURN	February 15, 2011 5:08 p.m.	10

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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Bette Booth, on this date at approximately 3:00 pm at Genoveva Chávez Community Center, Conference Room, 3221 Rodeo Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Bette Booth, Chair
Daniel Coriz
Tom Agard
Martin Ortega
Oralynn Guerrerortiz (arrived later)
Joe Lehm
Anna Hansen
Patrick Torres (arrived later)
Sandra Taylor

Members Absent

Staff Present

Jesse Esparza, Parks Department

Others Present

Sabrina Pratt, Arts Commission
Julie Ann, the New Mexican
Members from the Public
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

Mr. Martin Ortega was welcomed as a new member. Mr. Ortega provided his background and said he was a native Santa Fean and he had worked for the State for twenty plus years. He said he lived adjacent to Herb Martinez Park and his neighborhood had concerns about the park.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- January 18, 2011

Ms. Veneklasen was listed under Staff and should be under *Others Present*.

Under Parks Update: *Maclovía* Park was misspelled.

Under Public Comments the reference to Mr. Lebbon should be Mr. *Mike Levin*.

Ms. Hansen moved to approve the Minutes of January 18, 2011 as amended. Mr. Lehm seconded the motion and the minutes were passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Ms. Guerrerortiz entered the meeting at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- Parks Division Update

There was none.

- Priority Recommendations for Parks Open Space, Trails and Recreational Facilities Planning Process: Status

Chair Booth said the meetings with the Councilors from Districts 1 and 3, Park Supervisors and Project Managers was done. The information would now be entered into an Excel spreadsheet that week.

Chair Booth said this was a good time to get inventory of in each park. She said she would send a check list (number of softball fields, cooking pits, shelters, and things of interest, etc.)The idea was to put the inventory on the City website.

Chair Booth said she met with Councilor Bushee who thought the Commission should do a better job of "tooting" their horn about what they have done. She said it was suggested they meet with Joyce Bond in PR (Public Relations) and provide updates of parks, new parks etc.

Mr. Torres entered the meeting at this time.

Ms. Hansen volunteered to meet with Ms. Bond.

Chair Booth said another concern of Councilor Bushee was connections in parks to trails, to loops and south in District Four and connecting parks and trails to economic development and tourism. The Councilor pushed a pilot Bike Sharing Program and wants a dog park in every district.

Chair Booth said Councilor Bushee was in support of Tierra Contenta Park but wanted to know the capacity of the existing facilities and whether more baseball fields were needed.

Chair Booth asked Mr. Agard if he would put the information together.

Mr. Agard suggested the youth sports survey be pared down to get the number of people, fields utilized, etc.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said the question wasn't just if there were enough ball fields but if they were strategically placed in the community to serve the public. She said little kids couldn't get a ride to get to a ball field to another side of town.

Ms. Guerrerortiz suggested the survey be sent and people told the Commission wanted to determine the field needs for now and in the future.

Ms. Taylor asked Mr. Agard to send her a copy of the survey so she could make suggestions. She saw three different areas: as a capacity inventory; a projection of participation – a 5 year plan; and priority of each area. She said it could be smaller softball fields were needed in more places rather than a huge tournament capacity field.

Mr. Agard said one hold up was who would administer the survey; if he does it, some people could think there was bias. He suggested it more appropriate for the survey to be on Staff letterhead and sent to the leagues. He said it could be emailed.

Chair Booth brought up Survey Monkey and said it would be easy and the information would be tabulated. She offered to put it on the survey site.

Mr. Agard said it could be easy if people would read their email. The survey could be sent to the registered youth sport activities (about 20-25.)

Chair Booth asked the status on District Four. Mr. Ortega replied he heard from Councilor Ortiz but not from Councilor Trujillo.

Mr. Agard said Councilor Ortiz had toured and assessed the parks and would relay that information on Saturday. He offered to meet with them if Mr. Ortega set up a location and time. Chair Booth added it would be great if Councilor Trujillo joined them.

Ms. Hansen said she met with the disc golf people and they wanted a place large enough to hold a tournament (two 18-hole disc golf courses.) They also want cement tee pads enlarged or put in everywhere; signage that showed how to go from hole to hole and landscaping-with no prairie dogs.

Ms. Hansen said Councilor Chavez wants speed humps at the parks; especially for small neighborhoods.

Mr. Agard said he could forward the Neighborhood Association and the Homeowner's Association lists for the City. He made some contacts with schools in District Four for input.

Chair Booth said parks should be looked at that should have a public process.

Ms. Hansen said she visited Cielo Vista and it wasn't completely landlocked and a lot could be done in-house. She suggested public input there because it was a neighborhood park.

Chair Booth said that was included in the current bond and they should work with Mr. Chavez and Ms. Esparza on that. She said this would connect the neighborhood with a bridge that currently was roped off.

Ms. Hansen said a driveway and a parking lot would be put in. She said there was a question whether the neighborhood wants to be connected to Maclovía; it wouldn't have to be.

Ms. Guerrerortiz asked about an easement that has to be purchased that was mentioned in the bond.

Chair Booth said the easement wasn't needed and they would get the money for it back.

REPORTS:

- Youth Sports: Tom Agard

Mr. Agard passed out copies of the ordinance. He said he would speak as a knowledgeable participant and the information was from his league.

Mr. Agard said when his league went to sign up for fields and pay their fee they learned that the organized leagues would have to show financial documents and by-laws. He said the ordinance mostly wasn't enforced until now. The positive thing was it would standardize things.

Mr. Agard said one article stated that leagues charged \$300 and the City received a pittance. He said Little League charged \$60 per participant and kids received a hat, a jersey, and a 6 week season with two games a week and one week of a City wide tournament.

Mr. Agard said income from registration was \$12,000 (200 kids at \$60.) He said 300 kids were registered to play and that gave a sense of how many of the kids have scholarships. He said the league made sure anyone who wants to play could. He opposed a per participant fee and said it was a disincentive for kids to play.

He said the ordinance stated the City would assume responsibility for the concession stands. The leagues operated the stands with volunteers and were a huge part of how the league provided for kids.

Mr. Agard said the ordinance was originally written for the MRC and "MRC and all municipal parks" was added. The additional amount would add \$15,750 for field fees to the Little League budget and another \$3,750 for participation fees. He said that more than doubled his league's fees. He noted that the fees collected at MRC went to the MRC Enterprise zones and fees collected for municipal parks went in the General Fund.

He said the bond provided beautiful parks but the City couldn't maintain them. He said his league and many other organized sports would talk about how the fields were not maintained. He said MRC soccer fields were unplayable.

Chair Booth said she heard two big issues-one was the tax on the kids and another that the money wouldn't go into the Parks. She said the maintenance issue was another piece; supervisors and project managers interviewed said the maintenance of parks was a major issue.

The Commission discussed the fees and the original 1996 ordinance.

Chair Booth said Councilor Trujillo talked about an amendment. She asked if anyone knew what the amendment was.

Mr. Agard replied that Councilor Trujillo hadn't returned his calls. He said another point was for fledging leagues like lacrosse and rugby. He said imagine if a fee was charged for BMX biking or skateboarding; the sport would stay unorganized.

Mr. Agard said his league respectfully declined to pay the fee and an appointment was made with the Mayor. The Governing Body would be asked for a reprieve, even if only to delay the fees until 2012.

Chair Booth asked that the Commission be kept updated. She said the issue would be on the next agenda and maintenance would be at the top of the new bond as they move forward.

NEW BUSINESS

- Art in the Parks – Sabrina Pratt

Ms. Pratt said the Art in Public Places (AIPP) program began in 1985. She said 2% of GRT backed bonds was given to the program for art disbursement in city buildings, parks and roadways. She showed slides with art placed across the City.

Ms. Pratt talked about the art pieces. She described the new art project for Ragle Park and showed slides.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said most of the new construction occurs on the south side of town and most of the funding for art projects went to the north side of town. She wanted more equal distribution of funding and more focus on the areas where the funding came from. She asked if Ms. Pratt's budget had money for water for the old fountain moved from DeVargas Park to the Southside Library.

Ms. Pratt said she could look at that. She said the City had problems with the fountain operations and the use and that investment had been debated because of the water waste.

Ms. Taylor said she loved the loan-art program. She noted that most pieces require a concrete pad and security. She said she envisions every renovated park with a pad installed as part of the infrastructure. She said installation would be easier at the time of renovation.

Ms. Pratt said that hasn't been considered and she would look into it.

Chair Booth asked how much of the art was to the South side.

Ms. Pratt said the City worked to get art to the South since 1996. She said other than money specific to the Convention Center, the commissions were being sent to parts of town not chosen earlier.

She said work was done in concert with Transit and Engineering projects. She mentioned the new project of the pedestrian underpass across St. Francis Drive to the Rail Runner station and said an artist was designing form liners.

Ms. Hansen said she wanted to see more interesting shelters (bus.)

Ms. Pratt said the new Transit Shelter Program would have different formats depending on the room available for custom shelters and would have a Spanish Colonial punch tin design.

Chair Booth asked about the mural program and work with youth and free walls.

Ms. Spratt said the Mural Program was run out of the Arts Commission but ran out of funding. She said the community picked up some; most recently teens with the City Youth Program at Carlos Ortega Teen Center worked on walls along the Rail Runner near Alta Vista Street and Siringo.

Ms. Hansen added the walls could be seen in the local guide.

Chair Booth asked if there was more funding for that type of thing and for coordination with the Santa Fe Art Institute and Warehouse 21.

Ms. Spratt said there was a little money for murals; occasionally money was given to a community group with a teen program.

Mr. Agard asked what the process was for the public art program.

Ms. Spratt said the Art in Public Places Committee was in charge of suggestions. When the next bond issue was known the Committee would look at putting other art in place. She asked the Commission to let her know if they saw a site in need of art when the inventories were done.

Chair Booth asked about murals in Salvador Perez, Mager's Field and Franklin Miles Park.

Ms. Pratt said the murals were done through the Youth Mural Program. She said the program no longer ran because there was very little money.

Ms. Guerrerortiz suggested something for the traffic circles. She said it would be nice in the new traffic circle that would go in at 599 and Jaguar Drive.

Chair Booth thanked Ms. Pratt for her presentation and said the Commission would keep in touch.

REPORTS (continued)

- Daniel- Northwest Quadrant BMX Update

Mr. Coriz said work was being done at the motocross track. He mentioned that 70% of a mini bike trail was finished at the motocross track at the Northwest Quadrant.

Mr. Coriz said the plan was to start on the BMX trails next month and the BMX track a few weeks after that. He said he hasn't talked with Mr. Lenman about the pump track but thought that would be a quick process.

- Tierra Contenta- Ms. Guerrerortiz

Ms. Guerrerortiz said Claudia Horn was selected to do the Tierra Contenta regional design with a firm from Denver. The firm was chosen because they had a lot of experience with regional parks.

- Joe Lehm – Skate Parks

Mr. Lehm said the right people were at the meeting with Mr. Chavez. Mr. Gardini had drawn a bigger apron that they looked at building and now waited for Mr. Chavez to provide three elevation points. He said everyone left the meeting feeling very good.

He said the work couldn't happen until closer to spring. His impression was that Mr. Chavez thought the work could be done by Parks Staff.

Mr. Lehm said the concrete couldn't be done until spring at Ragle Park but dirt was moved for the BMX feature. He said the bike path connection wasn't drawn in on the South side of Ragle and would be key for kids to ride from the neighborhood and down the bike path to get to the new BMX and skate feature.

Chair Booth suggested the group meet about that or get out an email.

Mr. Lehm said Action Sports Design; the company awarded the contract design for the Downtown Skate Park and the River Park, was given a great review by the skaters. He said the company also designs pump tracks.

- Patrick Torres-Tree City USA

Mr. Torres said official status was received for Tree City for 2011 and the City received their first year Growth Award. He said the City was required to do various things to maintain that status such as training, public relations, etc.

Mr. Torres noted the ordinance specified the City's celebration for Arbor Day would be on the last Friday of April (29.) Details would be provided at a later date.

Mr. Torres said Ms. Hansen asked about the trees at Gregory Lopez Park that were planted close to the fence. He said Mr. Woods wasn't aware of the situation and was looking into it.

- Jessie Esparza- Community Gardens

Ms. Esparza said a date had to be set. Mr. Torres planned to do training with everyone.

- Sandra Taylor- Parks History

Ms. Taylor said she and Ms. Esparza would receive training the following day on how to put things on the website.

She said Ms. Pratt mentioned information on Adam Armijo Park that she was unaware of and she would call for more information.

Chair Booth said a connections action item was a big issue for the next agenda. She said the three top priorities recommended in the 2009 presentation were road improvements, trail improvements- medium and longer segments and trail improvements- short segments.

Ms. Hansen passed out a sheet for comments on the Bicycle Maintenance Master Plan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sid Monroe said he was a youth coach with Santa Fe Youth Lacrosse and the President of their Board. He said the league was one of the smallest with about 100 kids.

Mr. Monroe said the league was two weeks away from starting the season when notified about the enforcement of the old ordinance. He said the youth league wanted to partner with the parks and see more parks and scrambled every year to find enough fields to share.

Mr. Monroe said the budget was already set and registration was active. He said fees now required would have to come from the league fund and was about 10% of the budget.

Mr. Monroe noted the ordinance had problems with the fees being collected by the youth league and then deposited into a General Fund. He said that placed a lot of burden on the volunteer organizations. Several families had several kids in two or three different programs and would add up.

Mr. Monroe said in talking with other youth organizers everyone was amenable to working this out and to start now with vague guidelines was very problematic and caused severe problems for the leagues.

Mr. Ruben Lovato, YAFL (Young American Football League) said that YAFL was in agreement with all other Youth Leagues in Santa Fe and against the proposed amendment.

He said the ordinance was poorly written and he had questions: where would the money go, who would collect the money, would an ID be received and why the collection of the money for the City was the responsibility of the leagues. He said his league had close to 500 kids and many families with multiple kids.

Mr. Lovato said presently the ordinance stated \$15 per year. He said his league wasn't opposed to \$15 per year fee but were opposed to the *per sport* fee. He said this was not a good time to raise fees and people should be encouraged to use the parks instead of discouraged.

Mr. Lovato said he was disappointed with the City's management of the fields and they were not playable. His board would oppose any amendment to the ordinance and would not pay fees to the City until the answers to his questions were clear. He asked the Parks Commission for their help in requesting a delay until 2012 to have time to clarify the ordinance.

Mr. Lovato said the league provided a lot of scholarships and he wasn't sure that could be continued. He said the league charged \$115 per child, per registration and the helmets were \$75 each. The league paid for helmets, pads, uniform, referees, insurance and a fee of several hundred dollars to the City for the use of a field.

Mr. Brian Brigham said he represented soccer and about 1000 kids. He said he had been fighting for 10 or 15 years to keep the fees low or nonexistent. Kids currently were charged \$70 and \$12 or \$15 per kid was 20% of the leagues fees and they had to collect it for the City. He hoped for further clarification and understood there would be a meeting with the Mayor.

Chair Booth asked Mr. Lovato to keep the Commission in the loop.

Paul Grays, President of the Santa Fe American Little League said he has been involved since 2001, served on the Board of Warehouse 21 and was involved in many community activities. There were three Little Leagues in Santa Fe: American, Metro and National and also AAABC baseball with about 1200-1300 kids that played in all of the baseball leagues in Santa Fe.

Mr. Grays said his league charged \$65 per child and uniforms and equipment was provided. The fee paid for the fee to charter their league and a permit fee for the use of fields to the City.

Mr. Grays said the league paid for tournament fees and the City talked about an additional tournament permit fee after the regular season. He said an additional fee meant the kids would end up paying that.

Mr. Grays thanked the Commission for their work. He said everyone benefited for kids to learn teamwork and sportsmanship skills and the sports were not only about those skills but watching the kids grow into future leaders. He said the leagues don't want a free ride but need to have a voice in how this was done.

Chair Booth thanked everyone. She said the Commission was challenged with an inventory of what exists in parks and who uses them and what might be needed in 5 to 10 years. She said a survey was discussed and she asked the leagues to follow up on that.

The group discussed the use of the fields; passive use of fields; field conditions for play; prairie dog holes and maintenance of the fields, etc.

Mr. Danny Romero, President of the Santa Fe National League said the notice on the user fee was very short and the City hadn't worked out who would collect the money. He said the leagues don't think they should have to collect money for the City. He said the ordinance wasn't enforced since put on the books and notice was required if the City was going to enforce it.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING:

March 15, 2011 would be the next meeting; location to be decided.

ADJOURN:

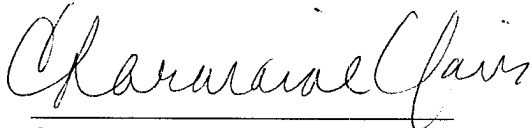
Ms. Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Lehm seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Approved by:

Bette Booth, Chair

Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Charmaine Clair". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer