



Agenda

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MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD

A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Barn at Frenchy's Field

Corner of Agua Fria & Osage

Tuesday August 16th, 2011

5:00 -6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of the Meeting Minutes from 03/15/2011
5. Old Business – Robert Wood
 - Arbor Day Observance – Completed – Summary
 - Partners
 - Tree Giveaways and Plantings
 - Tree Care Workshops & Safety Programs (A9, A11)
 - Project & Organization (B1,B2)
 - Board Member Interest –
 - Progress – Patrick Torres
 - Parks Advisory – Process for New Members – Patrick Torres
6. New Business – Robert Wood/Pat Torres\Sandra Taylor
 - Budget
 - Ongoing Discussion on Direction for 2011 Year
 - Goals
7. Public Comments
8. Confirm date and time for the next meeting

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CITY OF SANTA FE
MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION

AUGUST 16, 2011

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• Budget	Discussed	5
• Ongoing Discussion on Direction for 2011 Year	Discussed	5-6
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7. PUBLIC COMMENTS	None	6
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9. ADJOURN	6:05 p.m.	6

**MEETING MINUTES
FOR THE
CITY OF SANTA FE MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD
A SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE PARKS AND OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMISSION**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Municipal Tree Board, a subcommittee of the Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Chair Patrick Torres on this date at approximately 5:00 p.m. at Frenchy's Barn, Corner of Osage and Agua Fria, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Patrick Torres, Chair
Sandra Taylor

Members Absent

Staff Present

Robert Wood, IPM Program Manager

Others Present

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of March 15, 2011

Mr. Wood said he failed to send out the minutes and suggested they be held until the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

- Arbor Day Observance – Completed – Summary

Mr. Wood said the observance was a great success for both events. He said he had good pictures at the Potencia Baca site and a great response from the neighborhood.

Mr. Wood said he was applying for the Gold Leaf Award for outstanding observance. He said he doesn't expect to receive it but no money was needed and it helped to have a program recognized on a regular basis, when applying for grants.

- Partners

Mr. Wood said he was contacted by the Santa Fe Green House and Gardens and a PNM board member who want to be members of the MTB. He said he wasn't sure of the number of board members, term lengths, etc. decided on by the Parks Advisory Commission.

Ms. Taylor asked if the interested parties wanted to be voting members or advisory to the MTB and if Mr. Wood had their resumes.

Mr. Wood said the Board was provided with the resume for Santa Fe Greenhouse but Joe Stuart at PNM was changing positions. He said both have been at their positions over 20 years.

Mr. Torres said he discussed partners with Chair Booth and she suggested the Board be kept small with 5-7 members. He said he presented the names of the interested and Chair Booth saw no problem.

Ms. Taylor suggested MTB provide as a point of information to POSAC, how many board members etc.

Mr. Wood suggested that the interested parties be interviewed first by the MTB and then make recommendations to the Parks Commission.

Ms. Taylor said logistically, the Advisory Board should be informed and MTB should have a structure in place to show that members could include non park commissioners, etc.

Mr. Torres said at the agreement of the Board, he would draft a letter to present at the next Advisory Board meeting. He said he would send a draft to Mr. Wood and Ms. Taylor prior to the meeting.

- Tree Giveaways and Plantings

Mr. Wood said the there were two different events for the tree giveaways; Community Days and the Arbor Day observance. He said on Arbor Day 200 small Austrian pines were given to almost every kid that attended and some were given to teachers.

He said Potencia Baca would be plumbed for irrigation and the landscape would be complete in two weeks.

Mr. Wood reported for Plantings- seven trees were planted and doing well. He said kids from the school would do the maintenance and plant grass and flower seed and pull weeds and do plant identification.

- Tree Care Workshops & Safety Programs (A9, A11)

Mr. Wood said he had run a number of in-house workshops with limited success. He said a lot of the part time people took the classes and the training was repetitive; supervisors and full time employees were getting an excellent education.

He said with the Quality of Life money safety training DVD's were purchased. He said work with the employees was done on everything from ground operations, tree operations, maintenance on vehicles and safe driving habits. He explained that most city training on safe driving was about being in a car and had nothing specific about a truck that was towing 3000 pounds of trees. These videos have a different take.

- Project & Organization (B1,B2)

Mr. Wood said he hasn't had time to work on this item.

- Board Member Interest

Previously discussed.

- Progress – Patrick Torres

Previously discussed.

- Parks Advisory – Process for New Members – Patrick Torres

Previously discussed.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Wood said he wanted to show what was accomplished with the Quality of Life money received. He said \$72,000 was set aside for contractor work that had been budgeted at \$25,000. Coates Tree Service was awarded the bid and work was done in several areas of town.

He showed photographs of trees in the work areas. A summary of work follows.

- On Washington Street about 7 truck loads were taken out and additional growth and trees were trimmed back to their original rated load.
- Ashbaugh Park had a large amount of trees under double transmission lines and two hazardous trees were removed and five trimmed. Additional trees would be put in and replacements would be done.
- East Alameda and Patrick Smith Park had a lot of problems with dead or dying trees and branches that were falling and was the main work. Fire trucks helped with some of the pruning and were in and out in 2 days. Parks assisted with closures and street corrections and supervised the crews.

- An arroyo near Ft. Marcy had trees that had grown out of the arroyo and into houses; trimming was done. The concentration was more for safety and to reduce the city's liability.
- Cathedral Park had a large tree removed and another tree salvaged.
- A tree next to the El Castillo Retirement Center with a wall next to a public walkway was shown with an elm tree that could be a safety hazard. Ownership of the wall was being determined and the owner could be required to trim the tree. This problem was spotted by some of the Parks men in the field because of the education employees have received.

Mr. Wood said people could report problems and staff would look at the issue without charge. The projects throughout had saved the city money and throughout the process the neighborhood was educated about why they should be aware of the trees and should report them before they fell.

Mr. Wood showed an e-mail he received from John Dressman regarding the Plaza problems with the trees caused by too many events. He suggested that the Board let Mr. Dressman know they were interested in the trees and in the events that caused problems.

Mr. Wood talked about what was done with money from CBQL (City Business Quality of Life.)

- Help with watering and aeration of the trees in the Plaza; trees were on the decline and replacements should be planned so the trees were not replaced all at the same time.
- Homeowners on East Alameda would be notified about problems with their trees in regard to the sidewalks. A photograph of a brick sidewalk was shown that was no longer ADA accessible and had no sidewalk on the opposite side and made the city unfriendly. Ownership was in question in some areas such as alleyways or where no easement access was granted. Mr. Wood said he was starting to look at the issue.
- Equipment such as chainsaws, OSHA required chaps, safety glasses, gloves and first aid kits was purchased with the Quality of Life money. Helmets were ordered and a lot of the tree work was being done in-house.
- A photograph of Herb Martinez was shown with the top of a tree removed; the bottom half would be carved.
- A cedar at Cornell Park with freeze damage was spotted by Parks staff.
- A photograph of damage done to a tree by a part time employee was shown. The employee attempted to trim sucker growth from a tree with a weed whacker; four trees were killed and twelve were damaged.

A hazardous locust tree was identified across from the courthouse with an elm tree that rooted in the crotch of the tree. The elm grew faster than the locust and split the tree. Photographs were taken of the tree once cut and the portion of locust and elm were identified and the photos would be archived. Wells Fargo paid for the tree to be cut down at no cost to the city.

Mr. Wood said he kept records to show the program needs to continue because it saves the city money if City Council ever considered whether the program and his position should exist.

Ms. Taylor said that saving money was important but she would put health and safety issues first followed by the beautification.

- Budget

Mr. Wood said he applied for the Quality of Life again but hasn't received an answer. He said a number of options were looked at. The grants were restrictive and most had a matching in-kind and federal had cut back.

- Ongoing Discussion on Direction for 2011 Year and Goals

Mr. Wood said he would leave open both the Discussion on Direction and on Goals.

Ms. Taylor asked Mr. Wood for his top three suggestions for the 2011 Direction.

Mr. Wood said at the top should be Health and Safety (of the public) and staff training of what could be corrected and done in-house or what couldn't be in the downtown Historic District. He said 23 trees had been newly planted but all were less than six inches and it would be 20 years before they were big. He said the Plaza watering exceeded the budget because of the amount of foot activity that caused compaction.

Mr. Wood said he would suggest trails and river areas be combined and make sure they were safe and passable and not overgrown. He suggested a slow reduction of Siberian elms. He said there should be more growth at the lower slopes to grow willows and upper slopes to grow cottonwoods, to get back to the way it looked in 1952.

Mr. Wood said he would have the same three items as Goals.

Mr. Wood said he planned to get the photographs on Face Book and archived and to set up a website.

Mr. Torres asked Mr. Wood to send other recommendations via e-mail if had any.

Ms. Taylor asked the status of Tree Campus USA. She was told it was dead with no response to requests.

The Board talked about the college contact and the Tree City Campus.

Ms. Taylor offered to meet with councilors and a college contact if Mr. Wood could find who that was.

Mr. Wood said he would send the information by e-mail and the members could decide the best way to meet. He noted that the forester Lance Davison had moved to Boise Idaho and the position would be filled in the next month.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING- October 18, 2011

ADJOURNMENT:

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Approved by:

Patrick Torres, Chair

Submitted by:


Charmaine Clair, Stenographer