



Agenda

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Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission

The Barn at Frenchy's Field

Corner of Agua Fria & Osage

Tuesday August 16, 2011

3:00 -5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of Minutes: July 2011
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Priority Recommendations for Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreational Facilities Planning Process – Action Item
6. New Business
 - Parks Bond Update and Request of Reallocation of Parks Bond Funds — Action Item
 - La Tierra Trails Resolution – Action Item
7. Possible Reports:
 - Tom Agard: Organized Youth Sports and Survey / Workforce Development / Trails to Schools
 - Jessie Esparza: Community Gardens
 - Martin Ortega:
 - Anna Hansen: Art in Parks / MPO Meetings and 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

AUGUST 16, 2011

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

TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2011

CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the City of Santa Fe Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission was called to order by Bette Booth, Chair 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 a quorum as follows:

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Joe Lehm

Staff Present

Fabian Chavez, Parks Director
Jesse Esparza, Parks Division

Others Present

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

Chair Booth called the meeting to order and read the Parks and Open Spaces Commission mandate:
"The Parks And Open Spaces Advisory Commission (POSAC) shall provide ongoing advice regarding all park and open space related issues, including but not limited to the acquisition, planning, development, operations, construction, and maintenance."

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- July, 2011

Ms. Taylor moved that the July minutes be postponed until the next meeting. Mr. Ortega seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Mr. Agard entered the meeting at this time.

OLD BUSINESS

- Priority Recommendations for Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreational Facilities Planning Process - Action Item

Chair Booth said the Water History Museum and Park was added to the priority list. The plan was for a regional type of park and a museum about the water history of Santa Fe that would be done in several stages. The museum would be renovated and ultimately an interpretive trail would be along the Santa Fe River.

Ms. Taylor confirmed that there would be no tennis or basketball courts etc.

Ms. Hansen said there was an existing trail and signs and stories would interpret how the water came down. The park would continue to be passive and would be a teaching facility about the way the water was first brought into the canyon, etc.

Mr. Chavez said the park was finished except for a bathroom that would be added. He said inside the building anodized signs would show how it looked and what happened where. A wheel that generated the water would be re-installed and the park would be available by permit for weddings, parties, etc.

Chair Booth said it was asked that the park be included on the priority list for this bond. She said it would help to bring in the district one vote.

Ms. Hansen said the Santa Fe Watershed Association would be a partner. She said the Association does a tremendous amount of training in schools and the kids would be taken into the watershed to see how the river works. She passed out Santa Fe Watershed Association newsletters.

Chair Booth said there was a nonprofit that private funds could be raised for and the Governing Body and Parks would decide what portion the bond would fund and what would be funded by private funds. She said she had been clear about the priorities and where the park fit.

Chair Booth asked the Commission if they thought the list was ready to present to the Governing Body.

The Commission discussed changes and Chair Booth agreed to make them.

Ms. Hansen moved to approve the priority recommendation of parks with the changes made as suggested. Ms. Guerrerortiz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Chavez suggested that Councilor Dominguez be asked the format he would like. He said the Councilor could decide what other explanations and verbiage was needed etc. He said he thought the Commission's work was done.

Chair Booth asked for Mr. Chavez's impression of the list.

Mr. Chavez said once the numbers were in, the document would be complete and it would be Councilor Dominguez's task to direct what else should be done. Mr. Chavez offered to provide any needed information.

Chair Booth offered Mr. Chávez and his staff the Commission's help and Mr. Chávez agreed to let them know if help was needed.

Mr. Chavez said his initial take was that general recommendations were at the front of the document. He said Councilor Dominguez might want parks at the front, etc. He said the numbers need to be added and Robert Romero might ask that recommendations in different amounts of 10, 20, and 30 million dollars to be done.

Chair Booth said several things floated to the top for follow up:

1. In January strategic planning could be done; where the Commission was and what was wanted going forward.
2. A more "wheel friendly" Santa Fe.
3. The public meeting notification process.
4. A celebration of Parks staff- how to let staff know that all they do is appreciated.
5. A funding mechanism- supported by the Commission for an individual to fund a feature etc. for groups such as the pump track and skateboarders etc. who want to raise money.
6. Future projections in terms of demographics and water. The City received \$190,000 for a study on climate change and water in Santa Fe. A presentation should be planned.

NEW BUSINESS

- Parks Bond Update and Request of Reallocation of Parks Bond Funds- Action Item

Chair Booth said she wanted to start with what was learned from the process. She said personally she had kept her word and she had total confidence the Commission would do the right thing because it represented such a wide diversity of interests and had so much experience.

She said the Commission needs to be informed before anything goes to the city body, including CIP funding. She said the Commission played an important role in terms of community and had been explaining things to the community. She said she really felt blindsided.

Chair Booth asked each Commissioner to talk about what they learned or how the experience could be used to move forward in a better way.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said her spouse in county government said he requested a new position that would be funded by a bond and he said the rules have changed dramatically. She thought that some of the things that came up might be forced to be cleaner in the future.

Mr. Agard said he was on the Commission as an informed and educated participant and to help add value to the parks and people's experience in the parks.

Mr. Agard said secondly he was on the Commission to make a compelling argument for additional future funding. He said that is an important job and the needs assessment and park inventory process needs to continue.

He said the Commission's job was not oversight or accountability and it was important they move away from that. He said as a citizen if they saw something questionable they had the right to bring that forward but the Governing Body has the responsibility to deal with that.

Mr. Ortega said he had no idea that the group existed and a lot of his neighbors had no idea. He said he took away from the last couple of meetings that the Commission was in an advisory mode and there to offer ideas and suggestions to City Council and Parks and provide a voice for neighbors, BMX'ers and skateboarders, etc. He said the accountability issues Mr. Agard referred to had mechanisms to make sure things were done correctly.

Chair Booth moved that Parks staff must inform the Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission before any issue about parks or the parks bond implementation is taken to the Governing Body, including the CIP and the City Council. Ms. Taylor seconded the motion.

Mr. Torres said they should bear in mind that sometimes things take time and move fast and often the Parks Division's opinion wasn't taken into account. He said the Commission couldn't expect to be informed 100% of the time.

Chair Booth clarified that her motion was for the Commission to be informed before an issue went public. She doesn't want to be blindsided again.

Mr. Agard suggested the Commission adopt a process. He gave the Southwest Activity Node as an example because it went through a thorough public notification process.

Mr. Chavez said the only order of process that had to happen was Public Works to the Finance Committee and then to the Governing Body; other committees could be done simultaneously.

Mr. Agard said it added value if something went to Public Works etc. "passed by parks bond" or "reviewed by the parks bond commission." He said that supported getting future funding for projects.

Ms. Hansen said it was very important the Commission is informed so they could speak on behalf of the issue at City Council and support the Parks Department, the people and the trails, etc.

Mr. Chavez said the Commission should understand that a single park plan was different than this report. He said the park plan and scope of work said certain things should happen in a certain time frame. He said re-allocations were worked on by *his* boss and changes and requests were continuously made throughout the process. He added that the document wasn't ready for public release until five days before the first Public Works meeting.

Mr. Chavez said he wanted to make clear as he previously stated to Chair Booth, that neither he nor the Parks Division had tried to hide anything. He said he would do everything possible to honor the motion once passed, but there could be times the Commission wouldn't have a chance to meet. He said they should be prepared to do attend a Parks, Public Works, Finance or Council meeting and speak as individuals.

Chair Booth said she wanted to be sure Mr. Chavez knew the Commission had never at any point thought Parks had tried to hide anything. She said she apologized and was sorry if Mr. Chavez felt that, because it was never the intent.

Mr. Chavez and Chair Booth discussed the comment about being "blindsided." They agreed if an issue would go public, the Commission would be informed.

Mr. Chavez said as a failsafe, the Commission should review the city website each week because every meeting with the agenda was posted a week in advance.

Ms. Taylor made a friendly amendment that the motion be stated "Parks staff would make every effort to inform the Commission."

The motion that Parks staff would make every effort to inform the Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission before any issue about parks or the parks bond implementation is taken to the Governing Body, including the CIP and the City Council, passed unanimously.

Chair Booth asked members for edits or changes to the letter of response to the Finance Committee.

The Commission discussed the points of the letter. Edits and changes were suggested and the Commission discussed their perspective of the responsibilities of the Commission.

Chair Booth said she would send the letter with the changes to everyone and then would send the letter to the chair of the Finance Committee.

- La Tierra Trails Resolution – Action Item

Chair Booth said the La Tierra Trails Master Plan was ready to go to the City Council. She said the resolution would adopt the Master Plan for use by the city as a guide to the development of the city wilderness trails and open space in the Northwest Quadrant. She said Leroy Pacheco was present to answer questions.

Ms. Guerrerortiz asked if all of the items were under the bond.

Mr. Pacheco said the team pulled achievable projects that could be designed and constructed within this fiscal year that were funded: the ATV Park, the connector trail under 599, the parking north of Unity Church and between the specialty bike zones and fencing. He said the signage would be tiered and they would work out to the perimeter.

He said the list exceeded the money available and projects were prioritized based on public meetings. He offered to e-mail the list to Chair Booth.

Mr. Agard moved to support the La Tierra Trails Resolution. Ms. Hansen seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Chair Booth said she wanted to insert the potential for the IMBA (International Mountain Bicycle Association) 2012 race in Santa Fe because it was related to the La Tierra Trails. She asked Mr. Pacheco to talk about how people could support that.

Mr. Pacheco said the City Convention and Visitors Center Bureau and IMBA made application to host the 2012 IMBA International Conference. He said the conference was held every two years all over the world and the award was between Santa Fe and a city in Lake Tahoe.

He said Christine Madden was spearheading the application and said the event would be worth over a million dollars in sales tax generation for the city. He said the average IMBA member was male, late 20s to early 30s, with an income average of \$108,000 a year.

Mr. Pacheco said the political advocacy and programming involvement of youth needs to be increased. IMBA wants to know that outreach was done to bring younger people into the mountain biking arena and that the highest level in the state has political buy-in.

He said letters of support were needed to include with the application and anything that would document the two key points. A letter of support was requested from Senator Udall and Congressman Lujan. A meeting is planned with the Governor's office and Mayor Coss provided a letter of support.

Chair Booth offered a letter of support from the Parks Commission.

Mr. Pacheco said the efforts wouldn't be lost even if the city isn't chosen because they would continue to apply.

REPORTS:

- Daniel Coriz: NW Quadrant / BMX

Mr. Coriz said there was a problem at the MRC/ BMX race track this summer; people used the track for RC (remote control) cars and damaged the compacted dirt by it being loosened. He said that made it more dangerous and hard to ride and the newer kids were having a bad BMX experience.

He asked about signs and if the track could be fenced.

Mr. Chavez said putting a fence up wouldn't keep illegal use out. He asked Mr. Coriz to send him verbiage for a sign and he would have a sign made that stated the track was solely for BMX use. He said bullet points could be included with no RC cars, etc.

Mr. Coriz said also that maintenance had helped on rebuilding a section that was never finished. He asked if there could be a fence, a sign and Parks help to finish rebuilding the last section. He passed around pictures of the Albuquerque track.

Mr. Chavez asked Mr. Coriz to e-mail him when he would be at the track with his volunteers.

Mr. Ortega said Herb Martinez Park has two issues - the chain-link fence needs repair; basketballs roll through the temporary orange netting and kids were running into the street. Mr. Chavez asked he send him an e-mail.

Mr. Ortega said the second issue was the prairie dogs were gone but gophers had infested the schools and were coming into homes. He said resident's spent money on an exterminator that pushed the gophers out but they moved back and the resident's were looking for a solution.

Mr. Chavez said Parks was the only one trapping gophers and it was a circle from the Parks, to the schools to the homes. He suggested Mr. Ortega call the superintendent of the schools to discuss the issue.

Mr. Ortega agreed they could contact the schools but thought Parks should be aware.

Mr. Agard said he wanted to thank the Parks staff. He said the state baseball championship was to be held in Los Alamos and because of the fires the leagues switched to alternate parks with very short notice. He said Parks staff accommodated the leagues and that enabled them to host the Pro Fast Pitch Tournament in Santa Fe at Salvador Perez and Alto Parks.

Ms. Hansen suggested the Pacheco Canyon fire be included in the letter; Parks staged the camping areas at Ft. Marcy and MRC.

- Youth Report- Chair Booth

Chair Booth said a public meeting was proposed on the pump track on August 31 at 6 p.m. at the proposed site of Alire and Alameda. Flyers would be passed out door to door in the area. She invited everyone.

Mr. Chavez said Chair Booth had asked the Parks Division for a report in lieu of an inventory. He said that would be sent by Ms. Esparza via e-mail by the end of the week. He reviewed a page and explained how to read the report.

Mr. Chavez said if a "no" stated something wasn't done, a reason that the task wasn't completed was indicated with an asterisk. He said *Other Improvements* was what had been done in addition to the list. He said the Commission would see that a lot was done that was not identified on the first go around.

Ms. Hansen asked if the report had also been sent to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Chavez said the packet for Finance had been prepared but he would get approval from Mr. Pino to hand out the report with an explanation.

Chair Booth asked the status of the southern Airport Road overlay.

Mr. Chavez said one park serves as acreage for a public/private school. He said currently existing major trails were looked at and he would work with engineers to make connectors to those or trails that would be constructed.

Mr. Chavez said initial calculation showed the overlay district shy about 127 acres of park land based on population. He said the open space and the school property was not included and would be rolled into the next report and made the deficit closer to 30 or 40 acres rather than 127 acres. Part of the swan park would remain open natural space and the balance developed as park land.

He said demographically the youth population in the Airport Road area was shrinking. The new national standard asked for municipalities to look at the level of service and what communities wanted as opposed to just looking at acreage.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said of the approved in the original Master Plan, only a third had been built. She said new construction tended to be new families and a large part of the Master Plan had high density. She said Tierra Contenta was aging but still had potential for a lot more growth and use.

Mr. Chavez said he was told the county would build a 12 to 14 acre park on South Meadows Road. He said the plan shows a prairie dog sanctuary, playfields, playgrounds, shade structures etc. and he was asked to add to that.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING: September 20, 2011 at Frenchy's Field

ADJOURN:

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

Having no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.

Approved by:

Bette Booth, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer