



Agenda

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Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission

The Barn at Frenchy's Field

Tuesday April 17, 2012

3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of Minutes: March 20, 2012
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Parks Department Update
6. New Business
 - POSAC Strategic Planning
7. Possible Reports:
 - Tom Agard: Organized Youth Sports / 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

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 17, 2012

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, Osage and Agua Fria, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Bette Booth, Chair
Tom Agard
Daniel Coriz
Oralynn Guerrerortiz
Sandra Taylor
Patrick Torres

Members Absent

Anna Hansen (excused)
Joe Lehm (excused)
Martin Ortega (excused)

Staff Present

Fabian Chávez, Parks Director
Jesse Esparza, Parks Department
Robert Wood, IPM Manager

Others Present

Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF MINUTES-March 20, 2012

Ms. Guerrerortiz moved to approve the Minutes of March 20, 2012 as presented. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by majority voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

Chair Booth said the Commission wanted to look at the bond and what is proposed and on the website. She said the Commissioners packets included:

- The POSAC Staff Recommendations for the \$3 million Park improvements by line item for regional parks for districts one through four.
- The SWAN (Southwest Activity Node) first phase that includes the artificial turf multipurpose field/lawn area, family picnic area, basketball court, playground, pathways, access road, parking and landscaping. She noted the skate park, pump track, etc. would not be included.
- The Trails Improvements that explains how the \$4 million would be used and includes striping (funded with CIP money.)

OLD BUSINESS

- Parks Staff Update

Mr. Chávez said the budget went through the City Manager and the Finance Department without problems. Critical capital outlay money was requested for trucks no longer cost effective to repair and other equipment that needs to be replaced.

Mr. Chavez said the following day at a meeting from 1-4 p.m. Parks would be last on the agenda; if Commissioners were interested, the Governing Body would have the details by line item.

Mr. Chávez provided a parks update. A summary follows:

Ashbaugh—would be seeded next week and if the fence is taken down signs would be put up. The new drinking fountain would go in next week and the park would be finished.

Herb Martinez- 50% complete; ADA path work is being done this week. The irrigation on the La Resolana side is 70% done.

Cielo Vista- 15% complete; construction has started and utilities and perimeter fences are being worked on. Easement through neighbor's property is asked for power lines to save \$8-10,000.

Monica Lucero—construction drawings would be finished this week; the cultural clearance letter is in and the projection is to start in June.

MRC—waiting on the shade structure delivery. The engineering drawings are stamped for the footings. Bids were received to make the walking path ADA compliant; cracks would be sealed and portions of the path would be replaced. Pump upgrades were done and valves were replaced.

Torreon, Candelerio, Los Milagros, the Archuleta property, Ranchos Del Sol and Monica Roybal are in the schematic phase of design.

Parque Del Rio- going back out to bid.

Salvador Perez- in the second week of construction; tennis courts and baseball fields are open. The artificial turf field is closed for a couple of months; a tear would be fixed while closed.

Mr. Chavez said the irrigation systems have been turned on and tested in all of the parks; over-seeding of bare spots and aeration and fertilization would start this week and take two weeks.

Mr. Chavez said Chair Booth asked for a list of the parks completed to date. The list was passed around and would be e-mailed to the Commissioners.

Mr. Chavez said Chair Booth also asked for information on park standards and comparison of Santa Fe to the rest of the country. He said the National Recreation Parks Association (NRPA) publishes recommended standards and levels of service; the number of parks per thousand people, level of services and the number of park workers per acre. The national standard is one worker per four acres.

Mr. Chávez said a disclaimer is given and states three factors affect the ability of maintenance workers: the climate, the level of activities in the area and special features in the park. He said the recommendation should not be taken as a definitive and demographics should be looked at because people go to parks for certain activities.

Mr. Chávez said he is calculating what Santa Fe looks like. He said some of his workers also work on trails and spend time on maintaining parks and arterials and special events impact park maintenance. He said Santa Fe is in better shape than Bernalillo County or Albuquerque with 5-6 acres per man versus their 8-12 acres per man.

Chair Booth said the information from Mr. Chavez would help POSAC build a case and make their priorities known when they communicate with City Councilors.

Mr. Chavez thought it a good idea. He said he informed the City Manager (Robert Romero.) He said Mr. Romero has talked about converting more temps (temporary workers) to full-time workers. Mr. Chavez explained a new person takes time to train and is a couple of years before becoming efficient. He said the City also realizes that has value and merit and over the next couple of years more of the temps would be converted to full time positions.

Chair Booth asked what the best way for the Commission to advocate would be.

Mr. Chavez suggested Commissioners attend public hearings and meetings with Public Works and Finance. He said Commissioners have an opportunity when meeting with City Councilors individually to talk with them and could talk about where they are and issues or ideas they are looking at.

Mr. Torres said he recalled in 2008 the resolution was developed or had language regarding support for the Parks Division for additional funding to offset the cost for laborers. He said that might be something to revisit.

Mr. Chavez said that was a good point. He said if all of the temps were brought in and the two supervisors and operator position is filled, the Parks Department would be back to where they were in 2008.

He said he talked with the new warden about the inmate contract that was lost and the warden is ready to do that again. That would mean another five workers to use for a special event or a big project. The drawback was the men couldn't come until 8:30 or 9 in the morning and couldn't work around children and would have to stop at 3 p.m.

Chair Booth asked about the Archuleta property.

Mr. Chavez said the area would be native and have bollards around it with some benches near the river. It would be very passive and isn't a trail or park and isn't ADA accessible.

Mr. Chavez said some of the parks on the list received dollars from the 2012 bond and he would suggest putting *phase I* next to Franklin Miles or Ragle. He said they were done with 2008 money and this would be phase II.

NEW BUSINESS

- POSAC Strategic Planning

Chair Booth reviewed the Summary of Strategic Planning Process. (**Exhibit 1**) She read the five priorities.

She said she knew the field maintenance is important and came from the planning process but wasn't sure it was reflected. She asked if that should go under *Growing Priority Programs* or under something else.

Mr. Agard suggested putting sports turf maintenance under Parks/Trails. He asked about the crews who work on sports turf maintenance and if anyone was certified in that.

Mr. Chavez said the supervisors took care of the parks in their district. He said he didn't know anyone who was certified but the maintenance practices are being changed. He said a gopher machine was purchased and a field could be cleaned in a day and the top dressing and aerating would be done differently than in the past.

Chair Booth reviewed the next steps POSAC would take. She said Councilor Bushee asked her to attend the BTAC meeting the next evening to discuss how POSAC and BTAC could coordinate.

Chair Booth asked Mr. Chavez if he had been asked for a budget and master plan for the parks part of the bond and if he had a timeline.

Mr. Chavez said not yet but he is anticipating it and would have Staff put a timeline on the draft of the POSAC Recommendations. Parks by districts and the parks being worked on would be pushed.

Chair Booth said the reason for the question is to find the most critical to talk with the City Councilors and why it should be kept in the same bundle of money.

Mr. Chavez said he doesn't anticipate money being moved. He said POSAC could advise which park in which district should come first.

The commission discussed the various parks and the status of the parks.

The cost of artificial turf versus natural grasses was discussed.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said the fields at SWAN could be irrigated with reclaimed water and that wasn't the case with every field. She thought that wasn't a location for artificial turf.

Mr. Chavez said it was already decided by an intensive public process. He talked about the benefits of artificial turf; a 12 month field that could be used even in bad weather and used intensively used; the level of maintenance wasn't the same as lawn or growing turf; the artificial turf would comply with the night sky ordinance.

Ms. Taylor complimented Mr. Wood and Mr. Chavez on the beautiful crab apples and flowering trees.

Chair Booth reviewed the commitments made by each Commissioner:

Ms. Guerrerortiz-trail connections north and south and from the river trail to the South side of town including the crossing at Airport Road to Tierra Contenta area with the concept of connecting SWAN to the River Trail.

Mr. Agard and Chair Booth agreed to support Ms. Guerrerortiz in the connections; Joe Lehm and Chair Booth would support the planning for the Skate Park; Mr. Agard for getting the outside fountain working; Chair Booth would help with another new park in Tierra Contenta.

Mr. Chavez mentioned a committee is working on the quality of life. He said a resolution would be done to work on streets, doctors' offices, new parks etc. He said more surveys would be done and Councilor Dominguez would use them to introduce legislation.

Chair Booth asked Ms. Guerrerortiz to coordinate with Councilor Dominguez and find out how POSAC could be involved.

Joe Lehm- committed to work with Brian Drypolcher on De Vargas Park and "wheel friendly" connections at Parque Del Rio. He would also be more involved in the bicycle maps and connections and with the Bicycle Master Plan, etc.

Mr. Coriz agreed to support the project at De Vargas; Mr. Agard the bike path connections.

Mr. Coriz- committed to pump tracks, particularly on the south side and tracks and trail maintenance for BMX and motocross.

Mr. Coriz noted there are three sites on the Northwest Quadrant and the Ragle pumptrack, the MRC racetrack, the Alto pumptrack and hopefully the Zona pump track soon.

Chair Booth said a site has been identified for a pump track at Zona and people at Earth Care would support that; a youth with AmeriCorps who is a student at Capital High would work on that.

Mr. Agard- was committed to getting the ordinance rewritten on fees; green fees, user fees and other rates, etc. He said the ordinance (23-7.4) is poorly written.

Chair Booth said the resolution would be a priority for the next meeting. Mr. Agard agreed to supply copies of the ordinances and the proposed changes.

Mr. Agard would continue to assist with Safe Routes and would commit to bike path connections. He offered to work on getting a Parks employee certified in sports turf maintenance.

The Committee decided "bicycle path connections" would be better reflected if called Trail Connections.

Mr. Torres- committed to the expansion of the MTB (Municipal Tree Board) and its work and the community gardens.

Ms. Taylor would support Mr. Torres with the Board.

Ms. Hansen –committed to the Bicycle Master Plan; Art in the Parks; and a bridge from Ashbaugh to the Pino property.

Mr. Lehm agreed to be support on the Bicycle Master Plan; Ms. Taylor on Art in the Parks.

Ms. Taylor –committed to park histories and Tree City work.

Chair Booth agreed to support park histories; Mr. Torres to support Tree City.

Chair Booth said she talked with Mr. Ortega who is interested in staying and would be more involved in the future. She also discussed with Mr. Lehm about Carlos sitting in on meetings as a non-voting member, when Mr. Lehm was unable to attend.

Chair Booth-committed to the parks on the City website with interaction for the public; youth involvement; the prairie dog constituency; and the BTAC/POSAC coordination.

Chair Booth suggested instead of Parks and Trails Co-Management Friends of Parks would be better.

She reviewed Future Planning- demographic trends, climate change impacts on trails planning. She said the City might be doing a study on the climate change impact on water in the next year and possibly do a presentation on what that would mean to the parks and trails.

Commissioners discussed the districts they were in and who would meet with which City Councilors; both new and returning.

Chair Booth agreed to set up a meeting with Councilors Calvert and Bushee; Mr. Agard would meet with Councilors Trujillo and Dimas and Mr. Ortega would be invited. Ms. Taylor would contact Councilor Ives. (District 2) Mr. Coriz said he wanted to talk with Councilor Bushee about the water situation in the Northwest Quadrant and has talked with Councilor Dominguez.

Ms. Esparza agreed to send the e-mail addresses and phone information on the City Councilors.

Chair Booth said she would send everyone a draft of Skateboard Summary talking points so everyone was working from the same materials.

Chair Booth put the County (Colleen Baker) meeting with POSAC on hold.

POSSIBLE REPORTS

- Youth Sports- Tom Agard

Mr. Agard said it was important to review the ordinance. He said it came up in December 2010 and representatives from the leagues came to POSAC meetings in January and February to talk about it. He said the leagues felt they were not represented well and didn't value the process.

He said the sports turf maintenance in the fields didn't get into the bond. The leagues had asked to be followed up with the Youth Sports Survey and that wasn't reported and wasn't in the minutes for discussion.

Chair Booth said the Youth Sports Survey was reflected in the document of strategic priorities instead of a separate report. She said one recommendation was to support youth sports. Five recommendations came from that and one baseball team and soccer responded to the survey

Mr. Agard said his problem with the survey from the beginning was the administration and he felt it should have been conducted independently. He said mainly baseball, lacrosse and rugby use the City fields and at the same time as the Youth Survey, other surveys went out (SWAN) and that caused confusion.

Mr. Agard said the Youth Sports Leagues use the fields in the City and are the consumers of the product and pay for the use. He thought it would be beneficial if they were called and asked how they were doing. The leagues feel left out and that their voices were not heard.

Mr. Agard asked Mr. Chavez to call the leagues and tell them what he was doing to reach out to them. He said he runs a business and has to have his thumb on the pulse of the product he delivers and wants consumers to buy more. He said the City should encourage the leagues to buy more and pay more for it.

He said the City does want to increase fees so they could get maintenance fees so why not find out what the leagues need.

Ms. Taylor shared Mr. Agard's frustration with the ordinance and said the original ordinance was almost incomprehensible and patched together. She asked Mr. Agard how he saw the process to change the ordinance.

Mr. Agard said one member of the league is an attorney and he has suggestions specific to the Youth Sports Leagues. He thought the suggestions would have to go through the City's Legal Department.

Ms. Guerrerortiz said once the suggestions are written, sponsors would have to be found and the sponsors would take the changes to Legal and then through the various committees.

Chair Booth said the issue would be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

- Daniel Coriz: NW Quadrant/BMX

Mr. Coriz said a new section at the BMX dirt jumps was started late in January and a ton of volunteer hours were put in. He said there would be another month and a half before completed. He said at the same time the BMX track and some maintenance at the motocross was done at and the free-ride area is being worked on.

He said a permanent water source is an issue at the free-ride and BMX sites that Mr. Chavez is working on.

Mr. Chavez explained there isn't a direct distribution line. He explained how he would solve the problem with a tank at the top of one site and another tank at the bottom that would allow the guys to pump water when needed.

Mr. Coriz said there are areas in need of maintenance and he would ask for more tractor time once the road is built. Mr. Chavez suggested that be tied to the construction so it could be paid for from the Northwest Quadrant budget.

Chair Booth said the Torture Bike Race would be the weekend of April 28 and there would be a beginner's course for the first time. She had been involved in putting up flyers and media releases.

Mr. Agard asked about the BMX track at Ragle. Mr. Coriz replied it was a volunteer issue and they hadn't had time to go out there. He explained it needs to be reshaped and compacted.

Mr. Coriz said the skate park feature still lacked a wall. He was told funding is in the bond for skate parks.

- Patrick Torres: Tree City USA

Mr. Torres said the three candidates attended last month's meeting. He said the Board was pleased with all three and recommended their names be sent to the Governing Body for approval.

Mr. Wood said on April 27, Arbor Day he has three separate planting sites. He would start at Frenchy's and a public service announcement would be made. He said he was asked about volunteers and doesn't expect a lot. He said the trees are small and easily put in the ground and the maintenance, watering etc. is where the assistance would be needed.

Chair Booth said Ms. Hansen volunteered her help on Community Day. Mr. Agard offered his help in the morning.

Ms. Esparza would e-mail the calendar for the Arbor Day/Community Day information to everyone.

Chair Booth asked Commissioners about their commitments to another two years. She said she would go back to Mayor Coss with the names.

Ms. Taylor asked about the term limits for Commissioners. Chair Booth said the list had discrepancies and she would need to circle back to Mayor Coss.

- Jessie Esparza: Community Gardens

Ms. Esparza said the water is now on in the community gardens.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were none.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING: May 15, 2012 at Frenchy's field.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Agard 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 4:57 p.m.

Approved by:

Bette Booth, Chair

Submitted by:



Charmaine Clair, Stenographer