

**SUMMARY OF ACTION
 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
 GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER
 TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017**

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**GENOVEVA CHAVEZ COMMUNITY CENTER, CONFERENCE ROOM
3221 RODEO RD.
TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2017, 5:30 PM**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission was called to order by Victoria Bruneni at 5:30 pm, on Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at the Genoveva Chavez Community Center, Conference Room, 3221 Rodeo Rd, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

Victoria Bruneni, Chair
Patricia Cardona
Linda Jackson
Terrance Foreback
Peggy Vasquez
David Sidebottom

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tom Dominguez
Damon Archuleta
James Stodgel

OTHERS PRESENT

Rob Carter, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Katherine O'Brien, Chair, Municipal Tree Board
Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Cardona, seconded by Mr. Sidebottom, to approve the agenda as presented.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MAY 16, 2017

Mr. Carter said that under his report the term "Phase 2" needs to be removed.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Vasquez, seconded by Ms. Jackson, to Approve the minutes as amended.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

5. PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATE

Mr. Carter reported that 250 kids attended the Annual Fishing Derby last Saturday on the river. The Parks Department is conducting interviews for the vacated Recreation Manager position at the GCCC. We have received applications from Santa Fe, Espanola, Colorado and North Carolina. We have hired a new Marketing administrator who will be taking the position vacated by Peggy Trujillo.

Mr. Carter said the Las Acequias Park improvements are completed. There is a new playground, an improved walking trail and a couple of other new park amenities. The first phase of Salvador Perez Park is nearly completed. We are advertising for 15 seasonals who will start on July 1st to work on the medians, renovations and reconstruction. The Triathlon is set for Saturday, August 12th here at GCCC.

Ms. Cardona asked what will they be doing on the medians.

Mr. Carter advised that she speak with Richard Thompson about those details.

Mr. Carter said he was recently at the Cornell Park, the Rose Garden Park, and it is so beautiful. The Rose Society and the Master Gardeners have adopted the park and they are doing wonderful work there. We have added new benches and done some painting as well. It is a good example of coordination between 2 community groups and the City. We will be removing the 2 old Cottonwood trees due to trunk rot. He has told Richard Thompson to purchase mature trees to replace them so that we do not lose all of the shade they have provided for years.

6. NEW BUSINESS

A. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE MUNICIPAL TREE BOARD REGARDING KEEPING OUR CITY TREES SAFE FROM PESTS.

Ms. O'Brien thanked Chair Bruneni for coming to the last Tree Board meeting. We are very concerned about the issue of pests effecting our trees in Santa Fe. The City of Santa Fe is hampered in treating the City trees in any manner because there is a group of citizens who oppose the use of any treatments, even those included in the IPM Ordinance. We want to take care of the plants and trees and use the least toxic methods of dealing with pests. The Parks and Recreation Department has the IPM Ordinance to follow; however, when they do this group of citizens sounds the alarm bells. As you can see from the report in your packet written by Victor Lucero, Parks Department Entomologist, we have several pests present today that are very damaging to trees. We, as a Tree Board, feel we are negligent in our responsibilities if we do not inform the public and the Governing Body about this situation and support the Parks Department in their use of the IPM Ordinance.

Ms. O'Brien said sitting on our hands will mean we lose Honey Locust trees. 15% to 20% of our shade trees in Santa Fe are Honey Locust trees. There is a borer in town that is deadly just like the bark beetle was that we had here before. This borer is deadly to trees. We can treat it and take preventative measures so that our trees are not so susceptible to the borer but we need the word out so that people know what to do with their own trees and so that the community supports the Park Department in their efforts to save trees. As a landscaper, we do not advise planting Honey Locust trees anymore.

Mr. O'Brien said we have scales effecting the elms including the big elms on the Plaza. There is a white fly effecting green ash trees as well. We need PARC to take this seriously and submit this document to the Governing Body, support public education on the issues and support the Parks Department use of the IPM Ordinance.

Chair Bruneni said this is now open for discussion. The Tree Board wants public awareness. By not allowing the City of Santa Fe residents to know that their trees are dying no one is doing anything preventative. Parks has their hands tied because of some of our citizens who will not allow preventive protection. The Tree Board is presenting this to us and with our blessing wants Parks to present this report to the Governing Body as soon as possible. They also want the information circulated to the public so that residents can address the issue of their own trees.

There was extensive discussion on this item.

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Foreback, seconded by Ms. Cardona, that the PACR Commission supports the Tree Board report given to us and we support the Parks Department utilizing the IPM ordinance as written.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

MOTION A motion was made by Ms. Jackson, seconded by Ms. Cardona, that the PARC Commission recommends to the Park Department that they engage in a public awareness campaign regarding the infestation of tree pests in Santa Fe and options for prevention and treatment.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Cardona said we need to make sure everyone understands that we are supporting the existing IPM Ordinance. We are not asking for any changes.

Chair Bruneni said it is super important to have this public awareness. We are the voice for the community for Parks and it is our responsibility to let the community

know that our trees are in danger. Imagine if all of our trees were gone what the landscape would look like.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

8. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None.

9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

None

10. NEXT MEETING

MOTION A motion was made by Mr. Foreback, seconded by Mr. Sidebottom That PARC not meet in the month of July.

VOTE The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The next meeting will be on August 15, 2017.

11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Victoria Bruneni, Chair



Elizabeth Martin, Stenographer