



Agenda

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Parks and Open Space Advisory Commission

The Barn at Frenchy's Field

Agua Fria & Osage Ave

Tuesday July 20, 2010

3:00 -5:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Review and Approval of the June minutes
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Old Business
 - Strategic Planning - Dominguez City Council Resolution Status
 - Parks Division Update
6. New Business
 - Railyard Stewards: Carol Schrader, Railyard Stewards Volunteer Coordinator, and Americorps Intern, Heidi Brandow.
 - Wildlife Feeding Ban Resolution - PDAWG Task Force
7. Possible Reports:
 - Tom Agard: Organized Youth Sports and Survey / Workforce Development / Trails to Schools
 - Jessie Esparza: Community Gardens
 - Marge VeneKlasen:
 - Anna Hansen: Art in Parks / MPO Meetings and the MPO Bicycle Committee meetings Disc Golf
 - Daniel Coriz: NW Quadrant / BMX (volunteering at
 - 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

JULY 20, 2010

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

TUESDAY, JULY 20, 2010

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 Frenchy's Field, Agua Fria Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

ROLL CALL

Roll call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Bette Booth, Chair
Tom Agard
Daniel Coriz
Oralynn Guerrerortiz
Anna Hansen
Joe Lehm
Sandra Taylor
Patrick Torres
Marg Veneklasen

Members Absent

Staff Present

Fabian Chavez, Parks Director, City of Santa Fe
Jesse Esparza, Parks Department

Others Present

Carol Schrader, Rail Yard Stewards
Heidi Brandow, AmeriCorps Intern
Denise Saccone, PDAWGS
Karen Schmidt, PNE
Charmaine Clair, Stenographer

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES-June 22, 2010

Chair Booth asked Anna Hansen to facilitate the meeting for the month of June and all references to Chair Hansen should be changed to Ms. Hansen.

Page 3 paragraph 5, Ms. Torres should be *Mr.* Torres.

Mr. Agard moved to approve the Minutes of June 22, 2010 as amended. Mr. Coriz seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Chair Booth moved that the agenda start with the Rail Yard Stewards and would then revert to the original agenda. Ms. Hansen seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS (Revised Agenda Order)

- Railyard Stewards: Carol Schrader, Railyard Stewards Volunteer Coordinator, and AmeriCorps Intern, Heidi Brandow.

Ms. Schrader said the Rail Yard was on the cover of the July issue of Landscape Architecture magazine with a huge article about the design perspective of the park.

A short slide show of the Rail Yard was presented. Highlights of the presentation follow:

- ❖ The Rail Yard Park was across from the Farmer's Market. The planning process took 10 years and had more community input of any city park in the country.
- ❖ The park was built in conjunction with city parks and the Trust for Public Lands. The Rail Yard Park stewards would be splitting from the Trust.
- ❖ The steward's mission was to provide advocacy and care for the park and the program. Their vision was to provide a popular, safe, community gathering place.
- ❖ Most of the employees were part time or volunteers and 1300 hours of volunteer service was received in care for the park. Stewards worked in partnership with the city crews.
- ❖ The park was similar to a botanical garden with an amazing number and variety of plants. A waffle garden was in the center and people could reserve plots to the south in a community garden.
- ❖ Educational programs and workshops were held each month on different topics of gardening in the Southwest. Youth groups visited and helped with work in the gardens; Santa Fe High School had a plot and herbs were harvested for Kitchen Angels.
- ❖ Funding was provided by the city, individual contributions and grants.

Chair Booth said the commission had discussed having friends for every park with a contact person. The Rail Yard stewards had offered to put that on their website. Ms. Schrader added they were also willing to be a contact point for other steward groups.

OLD BUSINESS

- Strategic Planning - Dominguez City Council Resolution Status

Mr. Chavez said Kathryn Raveling, in the Finance Department would work with the governing body on another bond extension. If what was proposed was what the governing body wanted, the proposal would go to the voters.

The committee discussed the proposal and that Councilor Dominguez had taken it to the governing body and asked for a vote and the resolution had passed.

- Parks Division Update

Fabian Chávez gave an update of the Parks. A summary follows:

Franklin Miles Park- ADA issues with the gate would be addressed. Kids from Warehouse 21 and the Santa Fe Art Institute would paint the skate bowl.

Ragle Park- would be turned over to the contractor in about 10 days. The sports field lighting was under separate contract that saved the city \$50,000.

Ashbaugh Park- documents were 100% ready to go. The trail through the park was started and build out would take about four weeks. The coordination of a new irrigation system had to be worked out.

Salvador Perez Park- moved forward with 100% construction design. A shortage of funds of \$250,000-\$300,000 could cause a delay. The parking lot and ADA had items to be done.

Sunny Slope Meadows, Frank Ortiz & Wildlife Park- were all completed.

Las Acequias Park- playground improvements and ball services were being finished; portions of the asphalt trail would be rebuilt.

Park at Del Rio- sections 1 and 2 had clearance from archaeology; the water meter hook up was needed. The tree selection would go to bid.

Via Caballero- improvements were being reviewed by Joe Lujan for ADA.

Larragoite Park- was 3 weeks from completion.

Frenchy's Field- received a 20 day extension and would be completed by August. A groundbreaking to feature the solar light installation would be done when fencing was taken down.

Prince Park- was in design stage. The Archaeology review was waited on costs picked up by David Rasch's office. A memorial with trees and some stone benches was requested by parents and others for the kids killed in the car accident. A decision was made to move away from the historic Native American area and have an archaeological monitor on site.

Galisteo Park- was \$50,000 over budget and being redesigned within budget.

GCC Park- the design was done. Prairie dog relocation had to be done first.

MRC- improvements went as planned. The concession stand area was currently being worked on and improvements were made to the parking lot to address safety, traffic and parking concerns.

Power Plant Park- would open in 6 weeks. Gates would be unlocked for viewing before the official opening.

Nava Ade- 50% construction document phase; the design was complicated and required give and take.

Patrick Torres entered the meeting at this time.

Pueblos Del Sol- a month from finished. The last change order would go before the governing body next week; construction and ADA issues should be finished within 30 days.

Colonial Prisma Park- the second neighborhood meeting was held. Drawings were finished and cost would be \$256,000. The designer moved forward with the construction documents.

Mr. Chávez said the kid's fountain would go in as a sculpture feature at the Southside Library and AIPP (Arts in Public Places) hoped to find the money. The cost to make the fountain functional was \$40,000 so it was decided it would be a sculpture.

Ms. Guerrerortiz asked if at some point the fountain could have water and electricity. Mr. Chávez replied the parts would be there for it to become a fountain.

Ms. Heidi Brandow was introduced as the summer intern for the AmeriCorps. She was a student at IAIA and volunteered twice a week at the Rail Yard. She worked with educational students as well as research for the watershed and the acequia that ran through the park.

- Wildlife Feeding Ban Resolution - PDAWG Task Force

Ms. Denise Saccone, founder and spokesman for the PDAWG Task Force, thanked the commission for letting her speak. She said the ordinance was defeated to ban wildlife feeding and the resolution was redirected. She would talk about a comprehensive approach to wildlife management and conservation.

Ms. Saccone said without prairie dogs there was no wildlife and every time a park was renovated the prairie dogs had to go. She said many of the relocations were unnecessary and Larragoite Park was an example. The task force was in agreement if the playing field was in league play, the prairie dogs should be removed but wouldn't advocate every prairie dog in Santa Fe being removed.

She said Councilor Calvert suggested each park be determined active or passive but the comprehensive piece had to be the other parks that were not playing fields. She asked Mr. Agard to work with her to develop a list of passive and active parks for Councilor Calvert.

Ms. Saccone said her concern was that the urban wildlife management and conservation approach had to be collaborated and coordinated with the parks bond and renovations. She was also concerned with the prairie dogs along the river. The community doesn't want them removed and there was no need to.

Chair Booth asked Ms. Saccone to explain the difference in the organizations involved.

Ms. Saccone explained she and Peggene Bishard were a part of the PDAWG Task Force (Prairie Dog Advocacy Watch Group) and their focus was more the prairie dogs and advocacy.

She said PDAWG wasn't part of PNE (People for Native Ecosystems) but PNE was a part of the task force. PNE ran the feeding programs and relocation and was instrumental in getting the ordinance passed.

She said PDAWGS doesn't participate in the feeding or the relocation and had nothing to do with funding. They strictly advocated for the prairie dog ordinance to the letter of the law; which was the humane relocation and treatment of prairie dogs.

Mr. Agard said it was unique for a city to have a protected species. He said the ordinance was incomplete and the ecosystem was valuable. He strongly supported the development of a wildlife and ecological management plan and thought kids playing on active use fields and an urban wildlife and conservation plan went hand in hand.

Ms. Hansen said there were many passive parks in the community she thought prairie dogs shouldn't be in.

Ms. Saccone said she advocated prairie dogs not be removed when they existed, from passive parks. She wanted a committee and conservation community to make those decisions, not just Parks or leagues.

She said a place for relocation existed in Galisteo with a 100 year protection of the land and habitat and enough room for any relocation of prairie dogs. The cost would have to be worked out.

REPORTS:

Tom Agard: Organized Youth Sports and Survey / Workforce Development / Safe Routes to Schools / Meeting Report

Mr. Agard said the State Softball Championships continued with 32 teams throughout the state. Girl's Fast Pitch was held at Franklin Miles Park and was great fun.

He said the championship brought in a lot of money with 14 kids per team, the parents and coaches and was good for the city. There were a lot of positive comments about Franklin Miles Park as top notch; and a few comments on how it could be improved. They would continue to bid for the tournaments with the goal to extend the season.

He said on workforce development, there was no money. He would meet with the Horticulture Department at Santa Fe High about kids getting into a summer program to work with the city and parks departments.

Mr. Agard thought on the sports survey, it would be better to wait until fall. He said then it should be sent on the city's letterhead.

Ms. Hansen said she spoke with Randy Grissom (?) at the community college and people had been hired and the program would be widened. She suggested Mr. Agard stay in touch with Randy about the things Parks needed.

- Jesse Esparza- Community Gardens

Ms. Esparza said Frenchy's had red ants. She passed out photos she took of the community gardens.

- Anna Hansen- BTAC

Ms. Hansen said Madeline Weiner was selected as the sculpture artist and she passed out photos. She said some redesign would be done for more diversity of the faces. She described the sculptures as huge stone features and said they would go in the middle of Ragle Park in the picnic area open space. Children could play on them and the sculptures would be graffiti proof and have a finished surface.

Ms. Weiner was from Denver and though the committee hoped to choose a local person; the local person favored wanted more community outreach and hadn't followed the request of the proposal.

She said she attended the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization) meeting and talked to numerous people about the end of the Acequia Madre Trail onto St. Francis, where she fell on her bike. She said it was recognized as a problem and was common that people fell there. A temporary solution was made on the trail to the Rail Yard so people wouldn't have to be on the sidewalk or ride over the rail road tracks.

- Daniel Coriz- Northwest Quadrant

Mr. Coriz said the final drawings were done for BMX Skate Park at Ragle Park to be donated by Western Summit. It would be started in a few weeks and would be two banks and a wall and all volunteer labor. A press release was suggested.

Mr. Coriz said there was a busted line at MRC, BMX track and the water couldn't be used. He also noted the Northwest Quadrant had a problem behind the Santa Fe Spa that was to be taken care of, but wasn't.

Ms. Esparza was asked to follow up on the problems.

Mr. Coriz said the Pearl Jam was planned for the 31 of July. Flyers would be done and information would be sent to Chair Booth to send out.

He said at Franklin Miles Park most of the damaged ledges were addressed but a ledge was missed.

- Joe Lehm: Bike Paths And Connections / Skate Parks

Mr. Lehm said Brian Drypolcher shelved the project until it was known how much money was available for the project. Mr. Chávez had mentioned \$100,000 was available and Parks hadn't initiated changes.

Mr. Lehm was unsure what Mr. Drypolcher meant when he said he waited on the estimates; possibly more money was available. He said it was frustrating to be told nothing would happen this year.

He said Mr. Drypolcher seemed concerned a design would be done and sit and had expressed he had too many projects and someone else should do the design.

Chair Booth said she would call Mr. Drypolcher and if needed, meet with Isaac Pino.

Chair Booth said she toured the Power Plant Park and it was beautiful and \$1,035,000 was needed to completely renovate the inside, with interpretation, finish the floor, close in the roof, etc.

The committee discussed funds and renewal of the current bond and possible extension of the existing bond.

Graffiti and other issues with trash, the homeless and drugs in the parks were discussed and would be discussed more in the future.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Karen Schmidt said she was with PNE and fed the prairie dogs. She said people stopped frequently because they liked to see them and many got out of their cars and talked with her about them.

Skateboarders brought up issues with repairs, the lack of notice when repairs were done and mulch that was everywhere on the ledges and bowls. The shade area was discussed and asked to be extended.

Chair Booth said Mr. Lehm was brought in as back up for communication. She asked Ms. Esparza discuss the repairs with Ben and Mr. Coriz to talk with Mr. Chavez and make a list of repairs.

DATE AND TIME FOR NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 17, 2010, at Frenchy's Field.

ADJOURN:

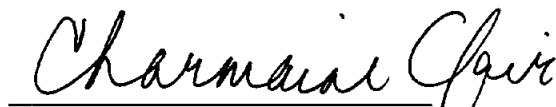
Ms. Hansen moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Torres seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

Having no further business to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 p.m.

Approved by:


Bette Booth, Chair

Submitted by:


Charmaine Clair, Stenographer