



County of Los Alamos

BCC Meeting Minutes

Parks and Recreation Board

1000 Central Avenue
Los Alamos, NM 87544

Melanee Hand, Chair; Paul Cook, Dana Dattelbaum, Robbie Harris, Stephanie Nakhleh, Dina Pesenson, and John Russell, Members

Thursday, April 13, 2017

5:30 PM

1000 Central Avenue
Room 110

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. STAFF AND OTHER ATTENDEES:

Chris Wilson, Parks, Recreation, Open Space Division Manager
Linda Lindstrom, Board Secretary

Other Attendees:

Erik Loechell
James Whitehead
Neal Harvey
Lewis Harvey
Vint Miller
Mari Jorgensen
James Michel
Reid Priedhorsky
David Holtkamp
Emily Schulze
Peter Schulze
Bruce Warren
Bart Daly
Justin Jorgenson
Eric Witt
June Wall
Ryan Smeltzer
Allison Chan
Andrew B.
Kristin Pederson
Neal Pederson
June Fabrka-Marin
Anthony Pollington
Liz Aicher
Angelo Cartelli
Dan Erickson
Eli Feinberg
Lesla Reader
Brad Xlyenhus
Alex Adams
Karen Kruse
Craig R.
Robert Hull

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

David Holtcamp commented on the lack of RV storage spaces in Los Alamos and White Rock and asked the Board to keep this issue on their radar for a solution.

James Whitehead, President of the Los Alamos Stable Owner's Association, commented that they recently held a membership meeting. The group would like to request a meeting in the future with the Parks and Recreation Board about creating a subcommittee for equestrian owners.

4. BUSINESS

9270-17 Approval of Minutes from March 9, 2017 meeting

Presenters: Melanee Hand

Attachments: [March 9, 2017 Minutes.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Member Pesenson, seconded by Member Nakhleh, that the Minutes be approved as presented. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

I move that the Board approve the attached Minutes

9273-17 Chairman's Report

Presenters: Melanee Hand

Member Russell talked about the Manhattan National Historic Park Project. He shared that the County is working on trail maps to tie the three National Parks together and the use of Golf Carts at these parks will be available for handicap individuals.

Chris Wilson updated the Board regarding the wayfinding RFP and said the first tour and meeting has been completed. The selection committee is working on finalizing the tourism strategic plan reviews and are forwarding vendor selections to Council. Work will begin after it goes to Council for approval.

Member Hand highlighted the Boards & Commissions meeting minutes as follows:

- Fuller Lodge Historic District Advisory Board is changing name to the Historic District Advisory Board. They will select a Board Member to work with the Parks and Recreation Board for the Ashley Pond and Historic District Master Plan.
- Transportation Board has a Bicycle Subcommittee that is working on creating a multi-use trail and urban bike path network.
- A Political Advisory Committee (PAC) has been put in place for 2017 Recreation Bond. PAC is working to market, promote, and educate the community in support of the 2017 Bond Project.
- A required Code of Conduct training will be held in the near future and she encouraged the new Board Members to sign up.
- A discussion of a Board Member Orientation in the near future was discussed among the Members.

9271-17 Bicycle Transportation Plan Update

Presenters: Christopher Wilson

Attachments: [Bicycle Transportation Plan](#)

Desirae Lujan, Engineering Project Manager with the Public Works Department, presented an update to the Bicycle Transportation Plan.

Desirae took questions from Board members and the public. Questions and comments included:

- Bob Hull asked that the plan be viewed from a safety perspective, due to the older drivers and those that are not as cognizant on bikes.
- Member Harris asked about best practices about crossing Trinity Drive and future implementation plans.
- Member Dattelbaum asked about the grant application and funding for the Bicycle Transportation Plan.
- Sriram Swaminarayan, a Transportation Board Member, speaking as a private citizen expressed concerns about the plan being incomplete and asked about the future plan for riders from White Rock to Los Alamos. Ms. Lujan mentioned that a future meeting in White Rock will be held for additional public input.
- Member Hand mentioned the importance of including White Rock, not just Los Alamos.

9323-17

Consider Support of National Bike Month

Presenters: Christopher Wilson

Chris Wilson asked the Board to support May as National Bike Month. A motion was made by Member Pesenson, seconded by Member Russell, that the motion be approved as presented. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of 6-0.

I move that the Parks & Recreation Board support May as National Bike Month as sponsored by the League of American Bicyclists.

9272-17

Flow Trail Project Presentation

Presenters: Christopher Wilson and Eric Peterson

Attachments: [Los Alamos County Flow Trail Project](#)

Eric Peterson, Open Space Specialist, provided a Flow Trail Project presentation and answered questions from the public and Members of the Board regarding the following:

Member Pesenson - clarification on design wording, contractor specifics for funding, and public meeting dates. Chris Wilson discussed Council's direction, design and procurement process.

Member Harris asked about the development of the Flow Trail and the friendliness of it for families.

Member Dattelbaum asked whether consideration for shuttle service and/or parking space at the top of the trail has been considered.

Member Nakhleh asked about the location of the two ends of Bayo Canyon and about the plan with horse traffic.

Member Pesenson confirmed that there would still be a crossing for horses.

Member Nakhleh requested clarification on the wording "Opposition User Forces and Forgiveness and Consistency". She also asked to discuss the use of the ski hill for a flow trail. Chris Wilson gave some background on Council's direction regarding the ski hill and how the funds were allocated.

Bruce Warren recommended not building any new trails but maintaining the existing ones. He shared concerns on the impact to the community and research he has done on building a flow trail. He feels if a pilot project needs to be done, it should be on the ski hill.

Brad Xlyenhaus- addressed the comments about using the town and ski hill for a Flow Trail. The ski hill isn't running every day and it is steep. In town is a perfect place to build it and keeps people in town and put [Los Alamos] on the map and will help bring Mountain Bike Tourism to Los Alamos. He also gave an example of a trail in Tennessee that gained a lot of attention. The trails in Los Alamos are great for hiking, but not as great for biking.

Katharine Chartrand - Wanted to thank Brad for his comments and encourage the community to take the Flow Trail seriously. She also commented the ski hill is too steep and the opportunity for the economic opportunity is huge.

Member Hand asked the audience for a show of hands on how many were in agreement with the previous presenters. Chris Wilson asked if anyone would like to shed some light on a different perspective other than those in support of the Flow Trail. Everyone was invited to speak if they wanted to share their comments. Member Russell asked for a show of hands for those that don't support the flow trail.

Mary Jorgensen expressed that she is excited about the flow trail and they travel around to find other areas in search of these type of trails. She feels there is economic value for the town.

Bob Hull mentioned he hasn't heard discussion about the concern and liability to the County in regards to accidents and possible engineering lawsuits, and wondered if there was any consideration on covering legal liabilities. Chris Wilson responded that they are good points and will be taken into consideration if the project moves forward.

James Whitehead doesn't recall a stakeholder notification as a member of the equestrian community. He also feels there are more bike and less horse trails for the equestrian community. He reiterated that a subcommittee is needed for the equestrian community and added that the equestrian community that he represents is in full support of the multi-use trail.

Anthony Pollington fully supports the Flow Trail but had a question about shuttle service not running on weekends and holidays and if it is proposed to add extra routes.

Christine Peterson explained the downhill on Pajarito Mountain are too steep and only have two cross country trails (which are intermediate trails), but none for beginner. She mentioned that she trains kids to mountain bike and feels the Flow Trail will help kids learn to ride and gain interest. She feels that when the trails are too hard, kids lose interest in mountain biking.

Reid Priedhorsky addressed Walnut Canyon stating it would create a delay in continuous biking having to cross Diamond Drive. In addition, it is a quiet and undisturbed canyon

and if the Flow Trail was successful in this canyon, it would create more traffic behind his house. He worries that kids playing outside could be hurt by high-speed mountain bikers.

Member Pesenson commented about the feasibility of Walnut Canyon being low and asked whether engineers had made any comments about Bayo vs Walnut Canyon. Chris Wilson mentioned engineers had not been contacted. She also inquired about the stakeholders meeting that James Whitehead discussed. Chris Wilson clarified that stakeholders, from the mountain bike community, were notified.

Member Nakhleh questioned if anyone looked at White Rock as a location?

[A break was taken for the community to exit from the meeting.]

5. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

9274-17 Recreation Program Report

Presenters: Christopher Wilson

Attachments: [Recreation Report](#)

Chris Wilson provided the Recreation Program Report.

9275-17 Parks and Open Space Program Report

Presenters: Christopher Wilson

Attachments: [Parks Report](#)

Chris Wilson provided the Parks and Open Space Program Report and mentioned the Ancestral Pueblo project has begun and the Little League season has started. The opening ceremony is April 22.

9276-17 Open Space Advisory Subcommittee Report

Presenters: Stephanie Nakhleh

Member Nakhleh updated the Board that the subcommittee discussed the Canyon Restoration pilot project. She mentioned they did a walk through Graduation Canyon, which is a possibility as a candidate for the FY2018 work plan, but that funding was still needed from the County. They are also updating the trail map.

Member Harris asked about the location of Graduation Canyon and confirmed they were doing restoration.

9277-17 Ice Rink & Recreation Advisory Subcommittee Report

Presenters: Paul Cook

Member Pensenson mentioned the subcommittee discussion was around concerns with the layout of the picture for the Recreation Bond. Chris Jefferies went and calculated the dimensions and confirmed it would work. He will be on KRSN and will address the drawing then. Chris Wilson mentioned that the drawings are conceptual. Member Pesenson commented on concerns regarding what would happen with the outdoor ice

rink.

Member Russell asked if we had usage numbers for the Ice Rink from the winter. Chris Wilson mentioned that he didn't have them at the present time, but would have them for the County Council meeting.

9278-17 **Golf Course Advisory Subcommittee Report**

Presenters: Christopher Wilson

Golf Course Advisory Subcommittee meeting was held March 22. The following items were discussed:

- Golf Course is only partially open, but the additional closures have made a dramatic improvement on the Golf Course. Covering the greens with tarp material has helped.
- Full opening will be April 1 with a tournament on April 8.
- Tournament schedules have been moved to Friday, to help with citizen's access booking tee-times.
- Atomic City Invitational is scheduled for July 4.
- 80% of golfers are booking on-line and if they are an LAGA member, they will receive a 10 day advance on booking their tee-times for Saturdays.
- They are working on implementing a youth golf program to get kids involved, as well as free clinics for women in the spring.
- Easter Eggstravaganza is being hosted by the LAGA this Sunday.

9279-17 **Aquatic Center Advisory Subcommittee Report**

Presenters: Paul Cook

Member Cook was not in attendance. Member Hand mentioned the Aquatic Center is hosting swim lessons for grades 4 through 9, including McCurdy in Espanola.

9280-17 **Council Liaison Report**

Presenters: Pete Sheehey

Pete Sheehey wasn't present. No report provided.

6. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

9281-17 **Action Items for Next Month**

Presenters: Melanee Hand

Member Hand suggested the following items:

- Work Plan Status on FY17 accomplishments and next steps.
- Budget Update
- Future meetings addressing Camping and RV spaces
- Equestrian subcommittee

Member Hand requested separate agenda items for Manhattan Subcommittee and Bond Project Updates.

Member Nakhleh asked about a stable update. Chris Wilson presented an update on the

status of the stable plan.

Member Pesenson inquired about the spring pesticide use schedule for the parks. Chris Wilson gave an update, including the website and the Integrated Pest Management Plan.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

8. NEXT MEETING - May 11, 2017

9. ADJOURNMENT

If you are an individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or any other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing or meeting, please contact the County Human Resources Division at 505-662-8040 at least one week prior to the meeting or as soon as possible.

Public documents, including the agenda and minutes can be provided in various accessible formats. Please contact the personnel in the Recreation Division at 505-663-1781 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.