



# County of Los Alamos

## BCC Meeting Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Board

1000 Central Avenue  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

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

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Thursday, June 8, 2017

5:30 PM

1000 Central Avenue  
Room 110

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#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- A. [9526-17](#) Approval of Minutes from the May 11, 2017 meeting

**Presenters:** Melanee Hand

**Attachments:** [A - May 11, 2017 Minutes](#)

A motion was made by Member Nakhleh, seconded by Member Harris, that the Minutes be approved as presented. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

**I move that the Board approve the attached minutes**

#### 2. STAFF AND OTHER ATTENDEES:

Chris Wilson, Parks, Recreation, Open Space Division Manager  
Linda Lindstrom, Board Secretary  
Pete Sheehey, County Councilor

**Other Attendees:**

James Whitehead  
Kevin Powers  
Robert Hull  
Tom Stockton  
Kirsten Laskey  
Ruth Schulte  
Dick Boudrie  
Jon Pyle  
Bill Gentile  
Dan Erickson  
Peggy Pendergast  
Kay Dreamtrader  
June Wall  
Brady Burke  
Cathy Walters  
Brad Nyenhuis  
Rob Gore  
Darren Meadows  
Donald Ulrich  
Danielle Marias  
Allison Chan

Andrew Bartlow  
Lisa Reader  
Amy Rogers  
Coene Schamaun

### 3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Kevin Powers, speaking as a citizen, expressed gratitude and appreciation to Jeff Humpton, Kim Trujillo and the rest of the Parks staff. They were instrumental in relocating an access gate in the Community Gardens.

Darren Meadows spoke about the Bond project. He wants to continue to advocate for the projects and does not want the projects to go back to ground zero. He also mentioned that he has put together options, which includes funding smaller projects and limited design on the larger ones.

Brady Burk commented that he voted against the Bond Projects because it will cost the property owners money and felt if the projects are worth having they shouldn't be a burden on the community.

### 4. BUSINESS

#### A. [9543-17](#) Bond Project Update

**Presenters:** Christopher Wilson

Chris Wilson asked Pete Sheehey, who was present, to speak on this item. Councilor Sheehey reiterated Chris Wilson's comment that Council will discuss Bond Project next steps on July 25th. He feels the desire for projects is clear, but how to fund them is the issue and invited the public to attend the next County Council session.

Member Hand mentioned the results showed that 47% were for the Bond. She is optimistic in finding a path forward for the projects.

#### B. [9544-17](#) Flow Trail Project Update Presentation

**Presenters:** Eric Peterson

**Attachments:** [A - Los Alamos County Flow Trail Project Update](#)

Eric Peterson, Open Space Specialist, gave an update presentation on the Proposed Flow Trail project, the procurement process and probable costs of the project. Members of the Board asked questions regarding the Flow Trail Project. Questions included topics such as:

- Increase or decrease pedestrian/equestrian interaction
- Location and length of crossing
- Steepness and removal of mature trees
- Width of the trail
- Location of parking at the trailhead

- Pickup/drop-off locations and parking at the Golf Course
- Concerns of the subcommittee

**Comments by members of the public included:**

- Hiking and equestrian trails have diminished as biking has increase. Would like to remind the County that the equine are an important, and historical, connection with the past and the town.

*Chris Wilson mentioned that Eric and Open Space Subcommittee will have a meeting regarding the mixed use and flow trail needs as a separate discussion in the next few weeks.*

- Concerns about communication, how the project came about and not informed about the meeting. Bayo Canyon is the only canyon that can be accessed without a trailer. Bicycles and equestrians are not a good mix. Concerned about compatible use.
- Concerns about cost and limited audience. Restriction of the users that aren't going to be able to use the trail, maintenance costs, additional liability of injured, recovery of costs, and transportation issues. Opposed to project.
- Limited target audience. Doesn't want to be left out of recreational opportunities because of the limited size. Equestrian community is feeling left out of finding a solution. In favor of multi-use.
- The flow trails are more difficult in Los Alamos [than in Minnesota]. They allow people to have a fun, safe time. Mentioned that Minnesota had police monitoring trails and riders can be ticketed and offered this as a solution. Feels we can find a happy medium.
- Liability and insurance was left off of comments. Thought there was a time frame for written comments. Rain will cause the runoff and erosion to go faster.

*Chris Wilson clarified the explanation for the written comments*

- Need to do a feasibility study because of environmental impact and cost before moving further, which includes the possible use of Pajarito Mountain.
- Trail would fill the need for beginner riders which is lacking in this town.
- Concerns with a section going down the trail that is steep and has drop-offs. Will cost a fortune and major impact. Not a simple thing. Trail can't be accessed when a tree falls and will incur a lot of maintenance. Can't accommodate parking.
- Concerns with the expectation of having trail policed. As far as the Stable Owners there would be a benefit of separating the activity. Would appreciate more communication and appreciates accessing the Open Space Subcommittees. The information regarding the Gantt chart is limited in time, without the ability for more discussion because people have not been heard.
- Concerned about maintenance costs, allowing for vehicle access and how long it will take to maintain if not vehicle accessible. In Florida, built and maintained by volunteers.
- Part of the goal with this is to eliminate user conflict. Mountain bikers are already sharing the trails. National Forrest is looking into single use trails in

Santa Fe to remove the traffic. Very few places will have a crossing. Maintenance and erosion issues are why a professional company would build it. This trail wasn't designed for Los Alamos, but for tourism and bring people to the Flow Trail. Clarification of the \$500K wasn't for this project. Discussed the reason why Rendija and Pueblo Canyons won't work.

- Suggestions made to review documents and reports on the operations of the canyons.

Chris Wilson reminded the Board, and the public, that all the comments and questions will be part of conversations with the consultants.

- C. [9546-17](#) Review and discussion of the North Mesa Stables Management in regards to neighbor complaints.

**Presenters:** Christopher Wilson

**Attachments:** [A - Los Alamos Projects](#)  
[B - North Mesa Stables Area Water](#)  
[C - North Mesa Stables Agricultural Test Report](#)  
[D - Overlook Park Agricultural Test Report](#)

Chris Wilson elaborated on some highlights from the Staff Report.

A motion was made by Member Russell, seconded by Member Nahkleh, that the that the Board accept the staff report as presented and no further testing be done. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

**I move that the Board accept the staff report as presented and that no further testing be done as we are in compliance with health codes, environmental standards and our own County requirements.**

- D. [9545-17](#) FY18 Work Plan

**Presenters:** Melanee Hand

**Attachments:** [FY18 Work Plan w/ Council Changes](#)

Member Hand mentioned that the Work Plan was approved by Council on the 6th of June and was pleased to see the additions from Council. She reviewed Council's changes with the Board.

Public comment was made by Jody Benson. She asked for clarification on the splash pad and multi-Generational pool, as it was in the Work Plan and if these projects were still moving forward. Member Hand clarified that it was in the Work Plan, but the Bond didn't pass so it will be discussed by Council.

A motion was made by Member Harris, seconded by Member Russell, that the that the Board accept the changes made by Council to the FY18 Work Plan. The motion was passed by a unanimous vote of 4-0.

**I move that the Board accept Council changes and adopt the FY18 Draft Work Plan**

## 5. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

**A.     [9527-17](#)     Chairman's Report**

**Presenters:**     Melanee Hand

Member Hand updated the Board on the May 18th Boards & Commission's luncheon. Updates included information from the following Boards and Committees:

- New Tourism Master Plan Steering Committee developed and the Board will have opportunity to work with them.
- Manhattan Project National Historic Park Committee update
- Lodger's Tax Advisory Board update
- New Mexico Tourism Department update
- Wayfinding Public meeting on June 16th, 2017
- Art Dedication at the Aquatic Center on June 16th, 2017
- Planning and Zoning Committee update
- Member Hand mentioned she attended a meeting on June 1 with Harry Burgess and the Ski Club about future Ski Hill operations. The Board had discussions regarding negotiations and property transfer.

**No Action Required**

**B.     [9528-17](#)     Parks, Recreation, Open Space Program Report**

**Presenters:**     Christopher Wilson

**Attachments:**   [A - Parks, Recreation, Open Space Program Report](#)

Chris Wilson mentioned the PROS report was in the packet and is available to answer any questions. He also updated the Board on the 100 Days of Summer program that has begun.

**C.     [9529-17](#)     Open Space Advisory Subcommittee Report**

**Presenters:**     Stephanie Nakhleh

Member Nakhleh mentioned that no meeting was held. No report given.

**D.     [9531-17](#)     Aquatic Center Advisory Subcommittee Report**

**Presenters:**     Paul Cook

Member Pesenson was not present. No report was given.

**E.     [9530-17](#)     Ice Rink & Recreation Advisory Subcommittee Report**

**Presenters:**     Dina Pesenson

Member Cook was not present. No report given.

**F.     [9532-17](#)     Golf Course Advisory Subcommittee Report**

**Presenters:**     Dana Dattelbaum

Member Dattelbaum was not present. No report given.

**6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**7. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**A. [9533-17](#) Council Liaison Report**

**Presenters:** Pete Sheehey

Councilor Sheehey updated the Board and mentioned that Council will reevaluate the recreational projects. He discussed a high level view of meeting the needs of the recreation projects and finances.

**8. PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING - July 13, 2017**

**A. [9534-17](#) Action Items for Next Month**

**Presenters:** Melanee Hand

Member Harris commented about future issues by residents, cost involved and verifying information before spending money. Chris Wilson explained the proper process related to the Board Meeting Public Comment, written requests and subcommittees.

Member Russell asked whether vendors provide maintenance for a specified period of time in regards to the Flow Trail. Chris Wilson explained Council's explanation about vetting a consultant and their role in the design process.

Tennis Court Assessment

**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.