



# County of Los Alamos

## Minutes

### Parks and Recreation Board

1000 Central Avenue  
Los Alamos, NM 87544

*James Wernicke, Chair; Vice-Chair; Jerry Cowan; George Marsden; Summer Schaufler;  
David Teter; Brian Watkins; and Ian Zollinger, Members*

---

Thursday, August 8, 2024

5:30 PM

Council Chambers - 1000 Central  
Avenue

---

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Member Marsden arrived during Item 3.B. 19059-24.

**Present 7 - Member Wernicke, Member Marsden, Member Cowan, Member Teter,  
Member Watkins, Member Zollinger and Member Schaufler**

#### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Wendy Burke Ryan commented on the great job the County Staff did at the Rodeo.

#### 3. BUSINESS

- A. [18995-24](#) Approval of Minutes from the July 11, 2024 Meeting

***Attachments:*** [A - Minutes from the July 11th, 2024 Meeting](#)

Public Comment:  
None.

**A motion was made by Member Cowan, seconded by member Teter, that the Board approve the attached meeting minutes from July 11, 2024 as amended by the Board.**

**Yes: 6 - Member Wernicke, Member Cowan, Member Teter, Member Watkins, Member Zollinger and Member Schaufler**

**Absent: 1 - Member Marsden**

- B. [19059-24](#) Possible Cancellation of the October 10th, 2024, Parks and Recreation Board meeting.

Request for cancellation due to lack of staff availability.

Public Comment:  
None.

**A motion was made by Member Wernicke, and seconded by Member Schaufler, that the Parks and Recreation Board Cancel the October 10th, 2024 Parks and Recreation Board meeting.**

**Yes: 7 - Member Wernicke, Member Marsden, Member Cowan, Member Teter, Member Watkins, Member Zollinger and Member Schaufler**

**4. PRESENTATION, PROCLAMATIONS AND RECOGNITIONS**

- A. [19060-24](#)** Baling Twine working group presentation and discussion.

**Attachments:** [A - Baling Twine for PRB Aug](#)  
[B - Baling Twine Working Group Final Report \(1\) \(002\)](#)

Ms. Shannon Blair, Environmental Sustainability Board Member, presented. Mr. Cory Styron, Community Services Director, commented that specific language was not needed in the rules and regulations as long as twine was stored neatly outside the stable or indoors.

Public Comment:

Ms. Lisa Reader commented regarding stable rules and regulations lacking express permission for storing twine.

- B. [19061-24](#)** Presentation and Discussion on the Pinon and 37th Playgrounds

**Attachments:** [A - LACP-37th-and-Pinon-Improvements.pdf](#)

Mr. Will Moses, Principal Landscape Architect Groundwork Studio, presented.

Council Comments:

Member Zollinger commented regarding concerns with special needs children. Member Teter commented about shortcuts through switchbacks and suggested a possible playground special needs working group with Member Zollinger as the liaison.

Public Comment:

None.

**5. BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

- A. [19009-24](#)** Chairman's Report

Chair Wernicke thanked everyone who contributed and provided feedback for the working group that went to the council and commented on the grandstand being unavailable to the public.

- B. [19012-24](#)** Staff Report

Mr. Cory Styron, Community Services Director, reported on the Brewer Arena Improvement Project interactive virtual listening session. A copy of the meeting report is on the Los Alamos County project page. Mr. Styron also provided an update on the BMX Track Project an expressed concern that the BMX support turnout at the listening session was very low, and stated more conversation will come during the September Parks and Recreation board meeting. Mr. Styron also recognized staff for finding a solution to the grandstand issue in time for the rodeo. He also advised the Parks and Recreation Board concerning having a broader discussion of a park tour on a Saturday and, discussing at the September meeting what board members would like to see and picking a date for the tour to be held in November.

Ms. Katherine Hudspeth, Recreation Superintendent, reported on the fall activity guide, county fair and rodeo, golf course, provided an update on the Ice Rink chiller, an update on the aquatic center repair, and triathlon.

Ms. Wendy Parker, Parks Superintendent, reported on the athletic field renovations, open space volunteer projects, walking tour sign project, open space and management plan (for more information and to join the engagement session, visit the parks project page), Skate Park, and the Ashley Pond shade structures.

**C. [19013-24](#) Work Group and Task Force Assignments and Updates**

Member Cowan gave update that both working groups met last month and are seeking new members. The Open Space working group are reviewing the management plan and participating in volunteer trail work events. He also commented that No formal report or recommendation. The working group will have formal reports and updates at the September meeting.

**6. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS**

Councilor Ryti suggested to the board a new inclusivity task force could potentially include playground special needs analysis task as discussed during presentation. He reported on a possible use of standard green roll carts for the baling twine work group to follow up on, the Council approving a new task force interested in the topic of inclusivity, County investment performance report, operation excellence community survey, natural gas rate increase, the citizen position to establish a metropolitan redevelopment commission, and provided an update on his attendance at the Association of Counties. He also provided an update on Items coming to Council: The city of Espanola requests funding through a regional project fund, a social services clearinghouse Unite Us presentation, and a bear-resistant roll cart presentation.

**7. PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING**

Chair Wernicke restated to coordinate a park tour and a discussion on a working group or joining the council inclusivity task force. He also advised that the CAPRA assessment plan is online.

Mr. Styron informed the board of the BMX conversation, the end-of-year report, and advised that working groups should update at least a week prior to the next meeting to ensure they are included in the agenda.

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

Adjourned at 7:19pm.