



County of Los Alamos

BCC Meeting 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, July 11, 2024

5:30 PM

1000 Central Avenue, Council Chambers
Zoom (see agenda for the link)

**Members of the public wishing to attend and /or provide public comment can do so via
Zoom or by calling the conference call lines in the agenda.**

NOTE: This meeting is in person and open to the public. However, for convenience, the following Zoom meeting link and/or telephone call in numbers may be used for public viewing and participation:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86252119734>

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 253 205 0468 US +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma) +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston) +1 669 444 9171 US
+1 719 359 4580 US +1 720 707 2699 US (Denver) +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC) +1 305 224 1968
US +1 309 205 3325 US +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago) +1 360 209 5623 US +1 386 347 5053 US +1 507
473 4847 US +1 564 217 2000 US +1 646 558 8656 US (New York) +1 646 931 3860 US +1 689 278 1000 US

Webinar ID: 862 5211 9734

1. CALL TO ORDER

Present 3 - Member Marsden, Member Cowan and Member Teter

Absent 3 - Member Watkins, Member Zollinger and Member Schaufler

Remote 1 - Member Wernicke

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Public comment was made by Lisa Reader thanking Parks for putting in a sand bar, Melissa Arias concerning the reuse of asphalt materials in the community, and by Wendy Burke-Ryan.

3. BUSINESS

A. [18951-24](#) Approval of Minutes from the June 13, 2024 Meeting

Presenters: James Wernicke

Attachments: [A - Minutes from the June 13, 2024 Meeting](#)

Vice Chair Cowan - Moved, Member Teter - 2nd. Minutes were approved 3-1, with member Marsden Abstaining.

B. [18952-24](#) Notice of Discussion for Working Groups and Possible Adoption of Charters

Presenters: James Wernicke

Attachments: [A - Equestrian & Livestock Working Group Charter](#)
[B - Open Space Working Group Charter](#)

Chair Wernicke introduced the Work Group and Charters discussion. Thomas Wyman gave a brief presentation on the Working Groups and charters. He explained the rules and procedures on the Working Groups. Questions from the Board were answered. Cory gave more information on Work Groups and charters. The charters would need to be approved by Council. Discussion was had by the Board. Member Teter went over some tasks for the Work Groups. The Equine and Livestock Work Group was assigned 3 tasks.

1. Recruit new ELWG members to ensure that the group represents a wide range of perspectives on Equestrian and Livestock issues
2. Review all official county publications pertaining to the North Mesa Equestrian Park (arenas, trails, programs, events) and suggest correction and/or, clarifications
3. Review operation and maintenance plans for all arenas and suggest corrections and/or clarifications.

A date for progress made on actions will be discussed in the September meeting. Updates will be in the agenda as attachments.

Public comment was made by Lisa Reader, Wendy Burke-Ryan and Melissa Arias.

Chair Wernicke went over the tasks for the Open Space Working Group. The Open Space Working Group was assigned 8 tasks.

1. Recruit new OSWG members to ensure that the group represents a wide range of perspectives on open space and trails issues
2. Seek public input for the Trails and Open Space Management Plan update
3. Submit recommendations for open space and trail maintenance projects to the Open Space Specialist if appropriate
4. Identify any user conflicts or conflicts with other County facilities, activities, or projects
5. Monitor open-space zoning issues
6. Inventory locations of invasive species on County land
7. Monitor conditions of the County's open space and trails
8. Identify open space and trail projects suitable for volunteers

Updates will be given in the September meeting.

Discussion on tasks and yearly review was had by the Board. Tasks were also discussed further.

No motion was made.

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4. **BOARD/STAFF COMMUNICATIONS**

A. [18953-24](#) Chairman's Report

Presenters: James Wernicke

Chair Wernicke provided the Chairman's report. He gave updates on:
Thanked people for the trail clean up
4th of July show received good feedback
Community member petition for dog park near the Bluffs

B. [18954-24](#) Staff Report

Presenters: Cory Styron, Katherine Hudspeth and Wendy Parker

Attachments: [A - Project Updates](#)

Katherine Hudspeth and Wendy Parker provided project updates on the projects provided on the attached spreadsheet. Questions from the Board were answered.

- BMX Listening Session is on July 31 at 6pm on Zoom.
- Stable inspections were done and letters went out for violations.
- No gopher update at this time.
- Recreation, Aquatics and Public Works met about the Olympic Pool. Spoke with contractor on the dates the pool renovations could be done. No date has been decided on, but they would like to do it during the summer so they can partner up with the outdoor pools. No solid decision at this time.
- Firework drone show update. 11,700 attendees.
- Location change for 2025 4th of July due to field renovations at Overlook Park. There may be only a drone show in 2025.
- Triathlon on July 20th
- Feedback for the Open Space Management Plan will have updates on the Trails page.
- CAPRA update will be coming later.

C. [18955-24](#) Work Group and Task Force Assignments and Updates

Presenters: Parks and Recreation Board

Vice Chair Cowan will go with the 3 tasks assigned to the Equine and Livestock Work Group. Member Watkins will be doing the Open Space Work Group updates.

5. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Chair Wernicke provided Council updates for Councilor Ryti from an email sent by Councilor Ryti.

Highlights of recent or future Council meetings:

June 25 - Council got a briefing on the economic vitality strategic goal. We also had an update from our Intergovernmental Affairs Manager on regional, state, and Federal initiatives. We also approved State Infrastructure and Capital Improvement Plan (ICIP) and noteworthy that it includes a social services hub in the top five projects.

July 9 - One presentation was by Pat Vanderpool Exec Director of the Regional Development Corporation or RDC. He discussed the history of the RDC and the Northern New Mexico Regional Economic Development Initiative (REDI) plan. The REDI plan has 7 themes to include regional collaboration, business development, and workforce. The region is Los Alamos Co, Rio Arriba Co, Taos Co, and Santa Fe Co. The plan will provide support to individuals and local businesses to help address some long standing issues like unemployment and housing.

A presentation by Cascadia and our Environmental Sustainability Manager Angelica Gurule on the draft Climate Action Plan was made. This plan presents some options over the near, medium, and long term to mitigate CO2 [or equivalent] emissions from County residents and operations. Two of the options presented are ev charging infrastructure and green building codes. This plan is available for review and comment by the public through August 9th. The ESB meeting on July 18 will do a deep dive and ESB will have a presence at the Farmer's Market for the next two weeks.

Introduced an ordinance to raise gas rates. Public Hearing with possible approval will be July 30 so you have time to review and send your comments to Council. This rate increase is needed to address the solvency of the gas fund. More information is available in the meeting package.

Other items coming to are future Council meeting are the operational excellence strategic goal update on July 23. Also on July 23 is a placeholder for review and possible adoption of Council and Boards and Commissions Rules Revisions [addressing working groups and related changes]. The bear resistant roll cart purchase is currently scheduled for July 30.

6. PREVIEW OF NEXT MEETING - August 8, 2024

Vote to cancel October meeting due staff being out.
Potential discussion of tasking for previous subcommittees.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 7:01pm.

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 Community Services Department at 505-662-8241 if a summary or other type of accessible format is needed.