

**MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FÉ COUNTY
COUNTY OPEN LAND TRAILS AND PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
(COLTPAC)**

Thursday, October 2, 2013

1. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the Santa Fé County Open Land, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee (COLTPAC) was called to order on the above date at approximately 6:00 p.m. by Chair Judy Kowalski at the Santa Fé County Commission Chambers, County Administration Building, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Judy Kowalski, Chair
Devin Bent, PhD
Melissa Houser
Ernesto Ortega
Zach Taylor

Members Absent

Coleman Burnett
Michael Patrick

Staff Members Present

Robert Griego, Planning Manager
Stephen C. Ross, County Attorney
Carol Branch, Volunteer Coordinator

Others Present

Bill Baxter
Jerry Rogers

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Bent didn't know if they had time.

Chair Kowalski recognized Dr. Bent.

Dr. Bent said under Matters from the Committee, there were a couple of things they couldn't take action on at this meeting but could discuss. When they got to the minutes, it was quite clear from the minutes that the Committee had never done an audit review and the Committee should do that sometime this year. He thought they needed to start talking about that.

Secondly, they needed to discuss the regular meeting time. Their regular meeting time was never set by the BCC. They had what he thought was the regular meeting time but now staff insisted they didn't have

a regular meeting time.

Chair Kowalski asked if he was proposing to amend the agenda to add those two items.

Dr. Bent agreed.

Chair Kowalski accepted that as a motion by Dr. Bent to amend the agenda by adding those two items under Matters from the Committee.

Mr. Taylor seconded the motion.

Mr. Taylor asked if the members needed to be that specific or if members could bring up things in that portion of the meeting. Specific topics should have been on the agenda beforehand.

Mr. Griego agreed if it was not for action.

Dr. Bent acknowledged that no action item could be added. "We can't surprise people."

Mr. Taylor reasoned that procedurally, if there were no matters on the agenda under that item the Committee would skip Matters from the Committee.

Chair Kowalski said as she understood it, the Committee could discuss things but not have any action. And then they could be put on the next agenda to vote on.

Mr. Taylor asked then if he could bring up something for discussion at that time after the Committee had already approved the agenda.

Chair Kowalski agreed.

Dr. Bent believed, however, that those items actually listed on the agenda would take precedence over those not identified on it.

There was no further discussion on the motion and no vote was taken on it.

Chair Kowalski asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Dr. Bent moved to approve the agenda as amended. Mr. Ortega seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. [4-0]

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A. August 22, 2013 COLTPAC Meeting Minutes

Ms. Houser requested a change on page 9, second to last sentence to delete "having had" and replace

it with "would have."

Dr. Bent said, "I just wanted to extend the courtesy to our guest, to ask the County Attorney if he had any changes."

Chair Kowalski asked if there were other changes in the meantime while Mr. Ross looked at them.

Chair Kowalski had a couple of comments. In the minutes on page 15, the minutes said Mr. Baxter introduced himself as President of the Agua Fria Village Association. That should be deleted. And later on down that page, Mr. Leigland should be Mr. Mee. She said she didn't see any other corrections needed.

Chair Kowalski asked Mr. Ross if he saw the item Dr. Bent was referring to.

Mr. Ross referred to page 3, and said it was not marked as final.

Chair Kowalski understood.

Mr. Ross suggested replacing, once the agenda is out, with the final agenda showing it as "final."

Chair Kowalski asked Mr. Boaz to repeat the statement as it should read.

Mr. Boaz read, "A final agenda has to be posted on the bulletin board and the web site 72 hours before the meeting."

Dr. Bent said he had a correction of his own. At the very end when the Deputy County Attorney was speaking and he asked her about the audit by the citizen's oversight committee. She acknowledged that she couldn't find any record of that. He couldn't remember her exact wording. It was at the end of her testimony.

Chair Kowalski thought that might be on page 8.

Dr. Bent agreed - an annual independent review. It is actually an annual audit and review by a citizen's oversight committee. He thought there was agreement that such a review could not be found. Then he asked if COLTPAC had a practice of doing that. He would say, "annual independent review by the Citizen's Oversight Committee." He thought Ms. Brown had said that had not been done.

Chair Kowalski asked if it was in the resolution.

Dr. Bent said it was in the 1998 bond ballot language and also in the 2000 Open Lands and Trails Plan. It appeared a couple of times in there.

Chair Kowalski thought it would be helpful to find the actual words.

Dr. Bent said it was in Appendix A on page 67 and provided his copy to her.

Chair Kowalski read it as, "An annual audit and review by an independent Citizens' Oversight Committee."

There were no other changes to the minutes.

Mr. Ortega moved to approve the minutes of August 22, 2013 as amended. Dr. Bent seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote. [4-0]

5. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR

Dr. Bent nominated Mr. Taylor as Vice Chair.

Mr. Taylor asked what the duties of the Vice Chair were.

Chair Kowalski explained it was to fill in if the Chair was not present and the term would be until February.

Chair Kowalski asked if there were any other duties Mr. Taylor should be aware of.

Dr. Bent said the Chair could delegate to him some of her duties if she didn't have time.

Mr. Taylor accepted the nomination. He nominated Mr. Ortega.

Mr. Ortega said he was reluctant to accept the duties and responsibilities. They were a board of volunteers and did not seek election for this board. He added that he had experienced in the short time he had been on this committee that they were not always collegial in what the Committee did and there were times when they were contentious and adversarial. He didn't think that was necessary for the functioning of this Committee. So he respectfully declined.

Dr. Bent raised a "question of order." He said he was contentious only one time. He acknowledged that they had argued but he, on the other hand, had voted most of the time with the majority of the Committee.

Chair Kowalski told him the Committee didn't need to go there. The issue was that they needed to elect a Vice Chair. Mr. Ortega had declined so Mr. Taylor was the nominee. She asked if there were any other nominations and there were none. She asked for a vote on approving his election.

The motion passed by 3-0 voice vote with Mr. Taylor abstaining.

6. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

There were no matters of public concern.

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

A. Discussion of the process for COLTPAC to review its mission

Chair Kowalski said she had asked that this be on the agenda. This particular year of the Committee's activity had not had much time to develop a track record and experience to gain much of a sense of any contribution to the mission for the County. There had been a lot of personnel changes and changes in the program. And the mission in the resolution focuses pretty heavily on land acquisition. There are other items in the resolution that the Committee has responsibility for but we haven't had any experience with those. Two of them are plans for management of County property and also the Open Space Plan. "We don't have a lot of time left in our tenure to get much done. So how can we accomplish something in that regard before some of us have to leave?"

She asked, "Should we have a separate sub-committee meeting with other volunteers as part of it? Any thoughts on the matter?"

Dr. Bent said he did a search on trails and another resolution in 2009-206 affirms our commitment to build trails and \$2 million was set aside at that time for that purpose and it dealt with principles for setting trails. He gave a copy to the Chair.

Chair Kowalski thought that was a good suggestion.

Mr. Ortega said in response to her question on the Committee's thoughts about a subcommittee. He thought it was a good idea but the timing may not be right. He said that because the County was going through reorganization and the staff who were working with COLTPAC had changed. They are under new direction. He suggested that once they finished the orientation and the review of the charter and responsibilities of this committee, and begin to work with new staff, then they could begin to identify areas to focus on and then establish a subcommittee(s).

Mr. Taylor appreciated the suggestion, especially in light of the reorganization. The members had been waiting for the dust to settle and then hop on it. They might have other matters brought to them that would be valuable.

Ms. Houser noted in Resolution 2011-04 that the language talked more about how open space could be implemented and things opened up to the public. That was what the community asked about. But then it was removed in 2011. There have been many resolutions to govern COLTPAC and the most recent one chopped those other things and was heavy on acquisition. "If acquisition was not as important, why is it so prevalent in our resolution?"

Dr. Bent added that since 2011 the County had not acquired that much. They also had a lot to maintain at this time and needed to look at it. He was not an enthusiast of the 2010 plan but felt they needed to look at it. As he remembered, a key point in there was that a lot of places were destined to be more densely populated. But we need to plan before putting lots of people in there, like parks and trails. We don't have a single park in Pojoaque Valley for instance. He thought through an annual review they could identify those things.

Chair Kowalski wanted to go on the record and she had conversations with other members who agreed that there was a disconnect between the role of COLTPAC as stated in the resolution and what was really needed at this point and time. The committee must be doing something that is truly valuable in their contributions to the open space program. They might want to let people who are interested join in. She appreciated what was said about waiting until the dust settled. But if people were going to be able to determine if they should participate on it, they needed to know it would be a worthwhile investment of their time. And at present, she was having questions if it was a worthwhile investment of her time with all the confusion they had been subjected to.

Chair Kowalski invited the two former members in the audience to comment.

Mr. Jerry Rogers said for the four years he served until he left the committee in December, this committee worked collegially with great respect and got work done and he gathered that had not been true in the last several months.

Dr. Bent raised a point and said, "My reputation has been trashed. Someone actually went before the Commission and it was actually on TV. People have written to the Board of Commissioners about me. Okay? You were not here, Mr. Rogers at either of the meetings. But if you look through those minutes, you will find me making motions. My original motion I made was seconded by Zach Taylor in those minutes."

Chair Kowalski said okay. This was not on the agenda.

Dr. Bent said, "I would like to keep talking about this a while.

Chair Kowalski said it was not on the agenda and she didn't think it was germane to the subject.

Dr. Bent asked, "Why don't we talk about it?"

Chair Kowalski reminded him they were talking about the Committee. They were talking about whether to have a discussion about the goals of the Committee.

Dr. Bent was talking as she spoke.

Mr. Taylor asked for a point of order.

Chair Kowalski recognized Mr. Taylor.

Mr. Taylor said he thought the point was understood about charges that the Committee faced. He said, "Maybe this is an opportunity to examine how to go forward from here. Let us not pick on anybody any more. In those moments it is also less pointed to take up time defending anything at this point. Because not everybody feels the way you might think. I'd be happy to have those conversations later and to address those things later after the meeting."

Chair Kowalski agreed.

Dr. Bent said regarding Mr. Taylor's point, "I've have offered repeatedly to meet with any member of the committee or staff over cover to discuss how to move forward. I extended that same offer to Mr. Hutchinson and I would extend it to you, Mr. Rogers."

Mr. Ortega said, "I think we need to go back to looking at the title of the Committee - County Open Land, Trails and Parks Advisory Committee. Advisory Committee. We are not a direction setting committee. We are advisors to staff. And as I said, I really appreciate your thoughts about how best to organize as a committee to best carry forward with the mission and the charges that we have as a Committee. But I still contend we need to get direction from staff, from the County in terms of where are we and what is it that you want us to do? What kind of advisory positions could we take at these meetings? Maybe I'm wrong. I don't see ourselves, even though our County Attorney said last time that we are a policy making committee."

"But again, we are advisory. That is my basic understanding. With the work I did previously, we had advisory committees. And Staff was setting direction. They were identifying areas that committee members could offer their perspectives. We have a collective array of expertise and experience we can share. That is what I volunteered to do. So I don't want to get into managerial situation. To a certain extent we have to be reacting to the needs of staff that have the responsibility for open space, for trails and for parks. What is it that we can do to help you to carry forth with the mandate that staff has?"

Chair Kowalski commented that "instead of taking it upon ourselves to offer suggestions, we should just wait for staff to tell us ..."

Mr. Ortega said the Committee could offer suggestions but should not be taking the lead. From his perspective, staff must lead. The Committee should hear what staff needs. "What is it that we, with our collective expertise, can do to assist?"

Dr. Bent said, "I have to disagree. I think it is predicated in our charter that we are advisory to the BCC. Robert [Mr. Griego] is our liaison. Every time a motion came up and staff asked for assistance, I always asked what we could do - what are you looking for - what motion do you want us to pass? If you all will remember that. And I think we should do that and we should work with the staff. But we are advisory to the BCC."

Mr. Ortega said, "The point that I'm making is that we are advisory in nature. And we don't work directly with the Board of County Commissioners. We work with staff of Open Land s Trails and Parks."

Dr. Bent said, "I believe that the County Attorney in his presentation made the point that the Chair of the Vice Chair are supposed to go to the BCC meetings. And we've not been doing that. And we need to. We can ask the former members for the institutional memory here whether or not in the past did staff go to the board meetings and made recommendations when they wanted to purchase a piece of property? Did the Chair go or anyone go, or was it always staff?"

Mr. Baxter said it has always been staff.

Chair Kowalski said, "The Chair has often gone with staff however. Ms. Houser and I were there at the meeting on the selection of the Volunteer Coordinator."

Mr. Taylor said in his perspective that in the first couple of meeting he was surprised at how effective the Committee was. Then things changed. He looked forward to get back to that place again. There was good energy on the Volunteer Coordinator position to create something and to help staff with it. He looked forward to that, especially with liaisons of staff with the community. He suggested that the Committee needed to figure out what that would look like – a way for the staff to communication with the community.

Chair Kowalski said maybe they should invite that on the next agenda.

Chair Kowalski noted the members were very cognizant to not burden staff but to see what they could contribute. To her there were some glaring needs. They could put those on further agendas. It sounded like the subcommittee didn't have much support.

Dr. Bent said he would be happy to serve on a subcommittee.

B. Ethics Training

County Attorney Stephen Ross came to the table and provided a handout on topics of some of the pitfalls committees could fall into. The handout had three documents: including County Ordinance 2010-12, the County Code of Conduct, an amendment to that ordinance 2011-9 and a copy of the Financial Disclosure Statement which he encouraged everyone to sign and get notarized at this meeting. He explained that some of items in it didn't apply to this volunteer committee but some of it did.

He noted that COLTPAC had an unusual history. Its primary purpose when created was to provide advice on land acquisitions which created whole set of potential issues and now was changing its vision and there might be another set of issues that might pertain.

The most important section was on land use transactions. This ordinance was first adopted in 1982 and updated numerous times including in 2004 and 2010 ordinance adopted made other changes and then 2011 was a tweak. Since then, around the time of 2011 ordinance, the state changed governmental conduct act regarding staff and volunteers.

This ordinance addressed most of those issues prior to adoption of government conduct act. It dealt with rules on public trust and came in two different ways. In the 2010 ordinance, page 5, Section 10 was on conflicts of interest disclosure. If you have conflicting allegiances with a person that forces you to think in a way that is not impartial. In the Title it says "disclosure." That is something that must be disclosed and it is not a prohibition on taking action. If you have one, it needs to be disclosed so everyone knows about it. No other thing to it. So we use the tool in a disclosure form. A secondary purpose is to state a conflict.

Section A states the general principle. Section B is a provision pointed at personal relationships so if you have a personal relationship, you are to refrain from rewarding our friends or family members. And you

don't use your position to influence people. Section C is an analog and Section D sets forth the proposition that you should be interested in fairness and communications. Section D is on a perception of conflict.

Dr. Bent said, "This is why I would agree that it is important that we do follow procedures and not create an impression of favoritism. That was my original concern. I know many people do find this destructive but that was my concern that we not create the perception that we favored somebody. I said that regarding the site visit before we received the application."

Mr. Ross said Section E is a complicated revision and an analog of D. We have opportunity to seek favors from people like lunch or dinner, whatever, and that is a conflict and suggests unreasonable influence. So it forbids gifts of value which is defined under definitions. If someone gives you money - that could be a conflict because it is money and would have to be disclosed on this form. Elected officials must disclose contributions to the Secretary of State. Section 6 says a lunch under \$25 doesn't need to be disclosed. You can look down the list. So you could go on a trip with someone who wants to sell land to the County. This is a good place to look for the answer. There are 23 examples.

Mr. Taylor reasoned that a committee member could accept some things but would have to disclose that.

Mr. Ross agreed. Beyond that, Section F is another example of types of relationships that might come before this committee.

Back to Section 9 on financial interest in county business. If you don't follow these rules it could be a felony. A financial interest does prohibit you from taking any action on something - page 3 has the definition. (L). You have to remove yourself entirely from the action. What that means, if it comes up, is up to you. So you have to go out and sit in the audience and not comment on it at all.

In the smaller document are some rules for recusing yourself. If you have a conflict (not financial) that makes you uncomfortable you should recuse yourself. You don't have to give a reason although you can be asked to give one. Sit in the audience or leave the room.

You will get a Financial Disclosure Form every January to sign.

Also, if something changes during the year for you, get another form (from the County web site) and turn it in. You are appointed officials and these forms are kept on file but almost no one ever looks at them.

Dr. Bent had two questions. One thing that had troubled him was that when the Committee might make a recommendation to acquire property. The Committee had a fairly good track record and it would have an impact on adjacent property owners. The word might dribble out of the Committee but not much to the public. He asked if the Committee should have some quicker process like having the Chair let the Santa Fé County news know about it.

Mr. Ross said that was not an ethics question - unless you have a strong interest in it. Let's say your Dad wants you to vote against it. Then that would be a conflict. The broader question on advertising it broadly - the County didn't have a choice on that. Everything done here is out in the open. You don't have

authority to make acquisition but you can advise on acquisitions. Your recommendation has to be acted on by the BCC and they can discuss that in closed session. He would not advocate an advertising campaign but everything done in the meeting is out in the open. The Committee didn't need to do anything else on it.

Dr. Bent commented that three years ago a proposal came to COLTPAC where Matt [Chair McQueen] said they couldn't consider it before an application was before them. It was an ethical issue. He raised the point and now believed it was ethical to raise that objection.

Mr. Taylor asked how to raise that.

Mr. Ross said there were a number of ways to do that. You could raise it at the meeting. Or you could come to the County Attorney. Or Section 23 on page 12 gives you a vehicle to formally report. Basically you would prepare a complaint alleging facts that created in your mind an ethical issue. Get it notarized and bring it to my office and he would submit it to the Santa Fé County contract complaint lawyer and she would conduct an independent investigation.

Mr. Taylor reason that it was okay to bring it up at the meeting and the Committee could deal with it there or refer it to you. That is good to know.

Dr. Bent said if he had been aware of those procedures he would have followed them. The County Attorney was out of town at that time so he brought it up with his Commissioner and then it was out of his hands.

Mr. Ortega said that was a matter that the Committee needed to work closely with the staff on. They individually might not have the basic understanding process of acquisition that was employed by the County. He served as Associate Director for Park Operations with NPS Southwest Region for 5 years and land acquisition was under his purview. They had a protocol to follow. Information was in the open and they contacted other people in the area that might be affected and developed a plan for acquisition. So from his perspective the members had to be careful not to become staff and to be assured that they knew the process for acquisition. They would have to work closely with staff and attorneys to make sure the process was well laid out.

He was confused when he started attending COLTPAC as a member and at the second meeting they started talking about an application on a parcel of land. So in his mind he wondered if they were clear on that process. They needed to be clear on that and not assume it was all in keeping with policies and procedures.

Mr. Taylor appreciated that. Also he hoped members could feel free to ask question here. He was glad they were not talking into mikes now and then if they felt that something was not quite right. He appreciated Dr. Bent saying it didn't seem quite right. Some of Dr. Bent's reactions might come from a feeling that he was not being respected. That is something the Committee could work on to respect each other. And so we should be able to ask questions and we have resources. He would like to have that kind of a culture.

Dr. Bent said, "I've had been told my manner was unnecessarily abrasive on that first day and I am sorry about that. I think though, that we don't serve any good purpose if this meeting is for the purpose of

people taking potshots at me. That's not the way to get things done. I, too, have the experience and know as much as you [Mr. Ortega] in my experience with purchasing. I actually used to purchase computers for the Department of Defense. A couple of things strike me. One is this procedure which is our procedure and our Deputy Attorney said, is actually fairly simple. As I warned you at the first meeting, I read documents. Maybe I'm aggressive or abrasive or a know-it-all and everything. But I used to be paid good money to come in and tell people what they were doing wrong. I would make \$300 an hour giving advice about it. So I am kind of qualified to do this. I feel like I did understand this process. I feel like the County Attorney has laid it out quite succinctly. And it is not complicated. It is a fairly simple process.

The intriguing thing I find about it is that it doesn't apply to the BCC. They can make a purchase just – boom, you know. So it is not really the County process. This is power process; power resolution.

I really hope all of us – Mr. Rogers, I'd like conversations with you. Colleen and I had a very long conversation. She told me I was abrasive. I can take that, you know. I'm used to it. Maybe my manners are different. But I think we can try to work together and put this behind us. And be a collegial group. Maybe you can forgive me too and we can be a collegial group. We can work together. If I'm abrasive - just tell me to shut up."

There were no other questions or comments about ethics.

C. Santa Fé County Growth Management Plan (SGMP) Presentation

Mr. Griego said he handed out an executive summary that summarized the overall plan and began to make his presentation.

Dr. Bent asked for recognition and Chair Kowalski recognized him.

Off Topic (regarding the changes to the August Minutes)

Dr. Bent said to Mr. Ross, "I sent you a list of things for which I thought you had been misquoted. And as I said, I am not blaming the Recorder because of the acoustics in this room. And that was after the one that I pointed out tonight was on there. I guess you didn't see that. You might want to look at that and see because it was just sort of garbled and didn't make sense.

Chair Kowalski asked Mr. Ross if he would like to bring those to the next meeting.

Mr. Ross said he would just give that to the Recorder.

Chair Kowalski said then they could re-approve the minutes at the next meeting.

Chair Kowalski asked Mr. Griego to continue.

C. Santa Fé County Growth Management Plan (SGMP) Presentation (Continued)

Mr. Griego said the Plan had an extensive process over a two-year period. It amended the 1999 Open Space Plan as part of the General Plan revisions. The resolution that established the Open Space Plan amended the 1999 General Plan. And the BCC approved the 2010 open space portion (chapter 6 of the SGMP). There were a lot of other internal things and he need to give the overall view of that portion. He wanted to share what was in Chapter Ten. There were other chapters that included open space - open space, agriculture and such.

The main purpose, from the Executive Summary, was to establish a framework for planning land use facilities and services and fiscal responsibility for the County. This is the County's policy road map to determine growth management. With it is the Santa Fé Growth Management Plan strategy. It identified areas where growth was going to take place, places where it wouldn't, how the county will grow, regulations in place for development to occur and future land use plans implemented through a land development code.

The idea was that the development for the county would support the county objectives. The elements of the plan included the elements in Chapter 2 of SGMP. It was a future land use map and showed where growth and development were anticipated to happen up to 20 years out.

Another part of Chapter 2 identified the official maps. That identified specific areas in a series of maps, including environment, open space and trails, (p 49).

Dr. Bent said he had trouble with this at the public hearings. He mentioned Mixed Use areas. He said his own 5 acres was surrounded on three sides by pueblos and his road was the corridor - a beautiful corridor. And it was identified as high density and then another map showed his property as "residential estate." So he asked which map governed.

Mr. Griego said the sustainable plan was on page 45 and identified the areas they anticipated would have reduced high density and have areas of mixed use. That wasn't a land use map and it wasn't a zoning map.

He referred to the future land use map. With that map they looked at existing development and hydrologic areas, whether it was state or federal land, and looked at a number of sustainable factors used for the future land use map. To do that, it was not definitive or zoning. Page 48 was the future land use map.

Dr. Bent reasoned that the map on page 48 was a map that had no legal force.

Mr. Griego agreed. It was not a regulatory document but informative.

Dr. Bent said Mr. Griego was beginning to lose him.

Mr. Griego restated that it was not a regulatory document but it was informative.

Mr. Ortega appreciated this information but for him, it became very convoluted and confusing. What he expected was that if they were looking at a specific parcel or land form that staff would provide information to the Committee to show how the SGMP looked at that area and that it was found on such and such a page. He didn't have energy to delve into them in great detail. So knowing this existed, staff could provide the background information so the Committee could look at it and share their collective expertise.

Chair Kowalski agreed. The only way they could do it was on a case-by-case basis.

Mr. Griego clarified that he was just giving a basic overview. The open space and trails map was an official map and a county policy document. So the open space and trails element of SGMP was in Chapter 6 that identified the key issues involved. It went into critical findings and provided important things to consider in open space and spoke to the mission. Part of SGMP recognized COLTPAC's involvement. On page 108, it spoke of creation of COLTPAC and how it had evolved and shifted with cultural, historic preservation, trails, open landscape, and partnerships.

The need (page 109) discussed what COLTPAC was doing right now. It identified levels of service in Chapter 12 and how the County could maintain those levels of services. The aim was to have a half mile of trails per thousand residents, so they needed to maintain these levels of service going forward.

Dr. Bent said one of the things was that these levels were meaningless. Pojoaque has 6,000 residents and the closest parks were in Los Alamos or Española or Santa Fé. But there was equity called for in this plan.

Mr. Griego said all of the parks and open spaces were identified there per thousand residents. The map identified their locations. So they could then identify where they wanted them to be located in the future. Within the open space plan it talked about the trail network and how they were moving forward with that and with the goals and strategies for open space.

Chair Kowalski said it did mention the mission of COLTPAC so that needed to be examined by the Committee. Here is the recognition that it needs to be done.

Dr. Bent asked if this 2007 COLTPAC plan was repealed or still in effect.

Mr. Griego said he didn't have an opinion on that. But the resolution adopting the COLTPAC plan was an element in the 1999 General Plan and it was replaced by the 2010 plan.

Chair Kowalski asked then if the open land and trails plan was no longer relevant.

Mr. Taylor thought it appeared to be absorbed into this.

Dr. Bent pointed out that their mission was adopted in 2011 but this plan was from 2010. So it seemed this plan was still alive and still relevant. The two trails maps were very different. He liked this one (fold out map).

Chair Kowalski asked if there was any place it said that it was absorbed in to this plan.

Ms. Houser understood that it was still in effect.

Chair Kowalski asked for staff confirm that for the Committee. They needed that clarification.

Dr. Bent asked the County Attorney if the 2011 resolution was still in effect.

Mr. Ross said he wasn't going to rule on that. These were just resolutions that memorialized the BCC at a particular period of time and they have no legal significance. But it was clear there was obvious confusion. The official map for code and plan were upcoming. The function of the official map was to indicate future infrastructure. That was important in future developments because without it they could mistakenly approve a development which would not allow for a trail or other amenity to be considered. In planning they needed to identify where trails and parks would be located. They needed to have some time on these topics. That was an immediate item for COLTPAC - to present some recommendations. They didn't have it anywhere.

Mr. Ortega proposed that this would be a good time to work with staff at developing a clearly stated mission for COLTPAC and bring into play the SGMP and the relevant resolutions about that. This would be the time to search and do a comprehensive mission statement for COLTPAC so members would know what their role and responsibilities would be.

Chair Kowalski asked how that would be turned into an action.

Mr. Ortega said they could turn it into a motion "that staff begin to develop the basic elements necessary to establish the goals and mission of COLTPAC so that the Committee would have a clear understanding of what their roles and responsibilities are."

Dr. Bent didn't believe this was an action item on this agenda.

Chair Kowalski left it remain as a suggestion.

Ms. Houser said, the County had been working on this map since 2007. That was what she did for the Santa Fé Conservation Trust and she had a conservation map completed. So if anyone asks about what it is that we really need for a county map she had one. She thought that was why she was asked to be on the Committee in the first place. GIS mapping was what she did. She thought that was something this committee needed.

Mr. Griego said chapter 6 was developed in coordination with Open Land Staff. But the discussion now was that they could call it the old open space plan but now they needed to know where future corridors, trails, open space and parks needed to be located. Staff was working more on doing the planning element here for operations of Public Works. So whether it was an amendment of the old plan or the new plan, the Committee needed to put those on the map. So the County was taking that seriously and looking to COLTPAC to accomplish that.

Dr. Bent started to speak and Chair Kowalski reminded him that she was chairing the meeting and had

a comment to make first.

Chair Kowalski agreed with Ms. Houser and that says that COLTPAC members were an incredible resource but were not providing as much as they could. That meant the members were not being used as much as possible.

Dr. Bent said there were two trails maps and the fold-out map was still in effect and spreads trails out throughout the County. The other one has trails just to open space and didn't go anywhere. The fold out was from the 2006 ordinance and did a much better job of connecting places like Madrid and Cerrillos. This was done by a 30-member citizen's committee and had good support from staff and Santa Fé Trust.

Chair Kowalski asked if he was suggesting for their work, the Committee should pay more attention to this map.

Dr. Bent agreed - especially segment one of the pink trail. They had actually worked more on the secondary trail. It was supposed to go the full length of the County. With the one out of Jacona, people could go all the way from Los Alamos through the County.

These were proposed to be five-mile corridors and they would do a lot of the work through easements. In 2006, \$2 million was dedicated to it and for some reason it didn't work out. Although he was not a fan of the 2010 plan, if the Committee decided to go with it, they should do it right.

Chair Kowalski asked if Mr. Baxter had a comment specifically on this map. He did and agreed to wait until after Dr. Bent had finished.

Dr. Bent said the other map was a map of parks and more general. The big pentagons were community blocks of 20-50 acres and the smaller parks were 3-7 acres. This plan called for 535 acres total between the two types of parks. It was a high powered committee and included one of their Commissioners and a Mayor. They did a great job and he didn't see any reason to throw it away.

Mr. Baxter remembered the creation of it although he was not one of the 30 who worked on the project. That was the funding that came from the first bond issue and they had 30 people getting together but they did not take into consideration property owners and their attitudes. There were unwilling land owners and the way the trail system has evolved was always with willing owners. That is a great template but never meant to reflect reality but the ideal.

Mr. Taylor clarified that they were offering help about where trails should go so here was a great template to start with. Maybe it should become their first project and they should use the template to do it.

Dr. Bent said to Mr. Baxter, "One thing, Mr. Baxter. I know you and I have talked about this. This is your opinion and this is my opinion. However, six years later, the County Board of Commissioners sat down and had someone do an excellent study and they came out and said we want these trails. So six years later, they said that. And I don't know why but people seemed to have forgotten that."

Mr. Baxter replied but it was inaudible.

Mr. Griego said that was something they had to do - to identify where these trails should go and what the best way was to come up with that. That was an immediate need for the purposes of making it functional and implementable. That was something the County would like COLTPAC to do.

Chair Kowalski asked if the map he was working on now was in response to 22.3 where it said "adopt and maintain an official map."

Mr. Griego agreed absolutely. There was a preliminary map and maybe there were some other things to be done to get it out as the official map.

Chair Kowalski asked if he was going to present that to the Committee at a future meeting. She wanted to know how they could facilitate this.

Mr. Griego said the amending of that plan would be to get to an official map. The County didn't have everything there yet. He agreed to bring the official map to the next meeting.

Chair Kowalski asked how the committee felt about it.

Dr. Bent said in Pojoaque, water was now coming in so that development was possible and they could see where some of the water rights were going to be. He asked where they wanted the parks and trails. Easements needed to be established. Otherwise the trails and parks couldn't be done. Some of these trails were in arroyos. So the Committee did need specific direction on where the County wanted them.

Mr. Taylor thought they should use part of the next meeting to get to the map and address it. That would be great to work on. They needed to get that going at the next meeting to start working on it.

Chair Kowalski asked if there was anything else on SGMP. There was nothing else.

D. Introduction of Santa Fé County Volunteer Coordinator Carol Branch

Ms. Branch thanked the COLTPAC for their work to establish her position. She reported she was doing 30% community services and 70% on open space and trails. She offered to answer any questions.

Dr. Bent welcomed her.

Chair Kowalski asked what projects volunteers were working on.

Ms. Branch said she was becoming a member of the Trails Alliance, the Watershed and she volunteered with the Conservancy, the Watershed and was trying to organize a volunteer project in every one of the county districts. She did one in La Cieneguilla - a 2-day project wrapping trees with Youthworks. She worked on the Dale Ball trails. She did volunteer projects in some of the schools and she was getting into the community.

Mr. Baxter asked about developing a database so that she would be able to contact people like him.

Ms. Branch said she did need people in the area and had started her database. She said she grew up in Santa Fé and went away for a few years. Her father ranches down south. She was a graduate of NMSU with a degree in government. It was also a passion of hers to do a lot of hiking.

Mr. Taylor said he would love to have a report on what she was working on at COLTPAC meetings. Maybe she could email members with such a report and maybe the Committee could help her with some of them.

Ms. Branch said they were fixing trails in Arroyo Hondo and the Rail Trail as well as parts of the Los Porteros up north. Those are three they were working on right now. She wrote a narrative on them and could share it with the Committee.

Dr. Bent thought they needed to have some idea of usage on the trails. To him that was the simplest feedback and he didn't know if the volunteers could survey at the trail heads on a Saturday and could prioritize them.

Ms. Branch said they had a very small staff. But that was a good idea. Every Saturday she was either volunteering or going to school. But as she got acclimated to the trails she could tell the Committee more. Right now it was the squeaky wheel that got her focus.

Dr. Bent said he had driven around the trail heads and there was great variation from one trail head to another. The trees were dying and they were not being taken care of by the County. If she had any time to water stuff it would help.

Ms. Branch said they did transplant a lot of trees along Arroyo Hondo and technicians went out as much as possible to water. Unfortunately it was a rough year. Scott Kaseman has unofficially taken a job in another department. With Dr. Mills gone and Colleen Baker reassigned, it had been a daunting task. She thanked the Committee for their patience. Mr. Kaseman wants to help with the transition. So there were two maintenance technicians and herself. She was under Rachel O'Connor in Community Services.

Mr. Griego said they were going to try to begin reporting regularly with interdepartmental coordination. A new Open Space Planner would be on board next week. It does require cooperation.

Ms. Branch provided a handout of her work.

8. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

1. Annual Audit Review

Chair Kowalski wondered if in light of the time they could defer the annual audit review item to the next meeting.

Dr. Bent said he just wanted these two items to be on the next agenda. He said it was really BCC's responsibility. Maybe they should ask the BCC for a little money to do the surveys. And they did need an evaluation to see where the Committee has done well and where it hasn't.

Chair Kowalski asked Mr. Griego to put that on the next agenda for consideration.

Mr. Griego agreed to draft an agenda for the next meeting to include the Annual Audit Review.

Dr. Bent pointed out that it was the Chair's decision to put it on the agenda.

2. Regular Meeting Time Discussion

Dr. Bent said this location was not a good situation for him and he tried not to bring up his personal situation. He said he had a bad foot and had to park in the back and the back door was locked. Where the Committee met before was a great place to meet and not so intimidating. And parking was there. But when Indian Market or Christmas comes, parking was going to be hard. He wanted them to meet back there. And once out of this room he assumed they could meet on Thursday again.

Chair Kowalski said next month the third Thursday would be November 21.

Dr. Bent said "We can't set the meeting time. The meeting date has to be set by the BCC. So we need to make it an action item and we need to make a recommendation to the BCC about our regular meeting date. I think Robert and I went through all the resolutions and the meeting time was never set. We moved into that room in 2009 and it was Thursdays since 2009. And then last year it went out the window."

Ms. Houser said the Committee meetings were moved here because staff were now here.

Mr. Griego agreed that the staff offices were in this building.

Ms. Houser said they needed some consideration for disabilities.

Dr. Bent said, "There is a federal law that I should get some consideration."

Mr. Taylor wasn't sure but did want to make sure the members' needs were addressed.

Dr. Bent said, "The problem is with parking and also the fact that - I said nothing at the first meeting but tonight that back door was locked so that meant I had to walk around the building and back to the rear to this room. And I need to get here. I can walk so much a day and I try not to be difficult about it. But it is a reality I must face. This is an evening meeting and I don't understand the intransigence of staff on this. Not all of the county meetings are held in here."

Chair Kowalski said, "Dr. Bent you didn't bring it up before so please don't accuse the staff of being intransigent on it. Let's just discuss it and find something that works for you."

Dr. Bent said he sent an email.

Chair Kowalski reminded him that it was already determined that email wasn't an appropriate way for them to communicate. She asked, "What are the options for location? Is there a public place where we can meet? I have no preference for this particular room. I am perfectly happy to meet in another location. I don't know how anyone else feels about it. But it would be fine for me to meet in another location. Could staff work on it and maybe check with Dr. Bent to see if that would meet his needs and then determine the location at the next meeting?"

Mr. Griego reminded the Committee that this item was discussed at the last meeting and they tried to make accommodations but they did discuss that last time. At the last meeting the Committee discussed and identified where and when they would meet.

Chair Kowalski agreed and the Committee did agree to meet here but she didn't think it was clear that there was an access problem for Dr. Bent.

Mr. Griego noted there were other facilities. He asked if they were talking about changing dates again or the week.

Mr. Ross explained that the staff couldn't meet on a Thursday.

Chair Kowalski agreed and thought everyone agreed this time was a good time for everyone. The location was another question.

Dr. Bent said he was okay with the date and his only concern was with the room. He understood the attorney couldn't meet on a Thursday. But the public needed to know when and where the Committee was going to be meeting.

Mr. Ortega asked if there was another conference room here.

Mr. Griego agreed. They could meet in the Legal Conference Room. If they parked in the back and the door was locked they needed an alternative. The parking gate was open for the members to make sure of parking and the door in the back was open for them.

Mr. Taylor thought they could make this work. If it was locked they could make sure it was open and they needed to make sure a projector was available.

Dr. Bent said that parking location was good. One of the attendants found him looking.

Ms. Houser added that there were two county and city lots less than five blocks away.

Sandoval parking was on block away and the convention center was two blocks away.

Mr. Taylor pointed out that the County was reserving this parking for the Committee. He would make sure a parking space was available for Dr. Bent there. It was better than anyplace else.

Chair Kowalski added that the parking at the previous location was dark and dangerous (Casa Solana).

Dr. Bent said he would yield to the Committee.

Chair Kowalski said it sounded like the Committee would like to accommodate Dr. Bent better and this place and time worked for the Committee. "So if you could agree to be here at 5:50 one of us could wait there to accommodate you. I think that is a reasonable request."

Dr. Bent thought she was angry with him. He would try to make this work.

9. MATTERS FROM COUNTY STAFF

There were no matters from County Staff.

10. ADJOURNMENT

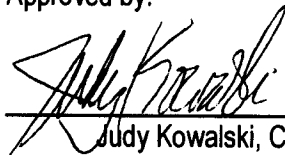
Ms. Houser moved to adjourn and discuss this at a later time.

Chair Kowalski asked if everyone could be here on first Wednesday of November - November 6. Everyone agreed.

The Committee would make every effort to accommodate Dr. Bent and if it didn't work they would find another solution.

Dr. Bent seconded the motion to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Approved by:



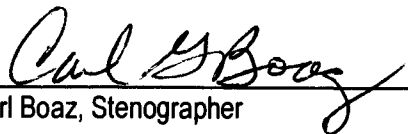
Judy Kowalski, Chair



Attest:

Geraldine Salazar, Clerk

Submitted by:



Carl Boaz, Stenographer

COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

COLTPAC MINUTES
PAGES: 20

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 3RD Day Of December, 2013 at 02:32:14 PM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1724525
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

Witness My Hand And Seal Of Office
Geraldine Salazar
Deputy 
County Clerk, Santa Fe, NM