

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

November 5, 2014

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 in the Projects, Facilities and Open Space Conference Room, 901 West Alameda St., suite 20C, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

Members Present

Judy Kowalski, Chair
Zach Taylor, Vice Chair
William Baker
Devin Bent
Patricia Conoway
Almudena Ortíz Cué
Ernesto Ortega
John Parker

Members Absent

Dave Dannenberg (excused)

Others Present

Claudia Horn, Design Office
Mark Tibbetts, SFMPO
Bill Baxter, Former COLTPAC member
Amy Lewis, Earth Analytic Team

Staff Members Present

Maria Lohmann, Open Space and Trails Planner
Erik Aaboe, Project Development Director
Erin Ortigoza, Community Planner

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mr. Baker requested to change the date of the minutes to approve to October 1, 2014.

Ms. Conoway moved to approve the agenda as amended. Dr. Bent seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – October 1, 2014

Dr. Bent requested a change on page 2, 2nd paragraph to change it from, “about as well as she could do” to read, “as well as I could imagine anyone doing.”

On page 8, Dr. Bent didn't think he said, “Land was received with the condition that it has to be used for recreation in perpetuity.” Chair Kowalski said she might have said that.

Chair Kowalski requested a change on page 5 in the middle where Dr. Bent said the work site lacks showing.

Chair Kowalski asked for a change on page 4 at the bottom that there is not much public knowledge about all the open space properties.

Mr. Parker asked for a change on page 4 which he probably said but it didn't make any sense to him.

Ms. Conoway suggested putting a period after “share” and strike the rest of the sentence. Mr. Parker agreed.

Mr. Taylor said two lines above that it should say, “asked for advice or feedback about the projects.”

Mr. Parker moved to approve the minutes of October 1, 2014 as amended. Ms. Conoway seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous voice vote.

5. MATTERS OF PUBLIC CONCERN

A. Presentation from Design Office on Pedestrian Master Plan, Claudia Horn

Mr. Tibbetts shared the background and purpose of the MPO to do transportation planning for all of the City and County out to Lamy and to Tesuque Pueblo. The MPO has a 25-year plan to be updated every five years. They updated it in 2010 and did a Bicycle Master Plan and now the Pedestrian Master Plan is being completed. It has been in development about a year and they hope to have it finished by the end of the year.

Dr. Bent thought the MPO area should include all of the County.

Mr. Tibbetts explained the federal requirements for urban areas. The Santa Fe MPO area includes Tesuque Pueblo because they might be affected by urban development. The major corridors are also included because they are all interrelated as well as trails

and other facilities.

Mr. Tibbetts said Santa Fé County is a member of the MPO with three Commissioners on the board as well as the Mayor and City Councilors. This Board approves the plans. He also explained that the Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) is currently being revised and that could affect ordinances or policy changes.

Ms. Horn presented the Pedestrian Master Plan using a power point presentation and said it is the first presentation of this plan. She noted it is one of three plans. The others are Public Transit and Bicycle. What she showed was just an overview of the plan and it would be available by the end of the year.

The Pedestrian Plan included a complete inventory of all sidewalks in the area using Google street view and cross referencing and it took a long time. They discovered that the average sidewalk gap is 200' and more gaps were in the traditional neighborhood where sidewalks had not been upgraded. 120 miles of streets have no sidewalks. The inventory will be used to determine the critical areas for planning.

Ms. Horn spoke about the citizen surveys undertaken for the plan and how they prioritized various factors in rank order.

In response to Ms. Conoway, Mr. Horn explained that "destinations per capita" was a formula for calculating walking destinations in an area. She said new developments will comply with codes for infrastructure so there should be no deficiencies in those areas.

Mr. Aaboe added that the City will look at the sidewalk curb cuts that don't connect to a crosswalk.

Ms. Horn agreed and there will be recommendations out of their analysis. She showed various maps that displayed the deficiencies with most of the dark spots being school hazard zones. She then showed the composite of improvement needs (very dense). They overlaid the pedestrian improvement areas as zones that needed more attention, looking at multiple modes. She showed the strategies used to get priorities established. 275 projects were shown on the map as pedestrian priority projects.

Dr. Bent asked if those projects were to be funded as part of the plan.

Mr. Tibbetts said the federal funds are relatively flexible and gave examples. He said much of the money would go to maintenance of failing bridges on interstate highways. It is all underfunded but there are other ways to fund projects like bonds. The funding question is pretty major and needs attention from more of the public. Public Works doesn't even have enough money for striping.

Ms. Horn pointed out the intent to shift the public's awareness of pedestrians on the streets. She identified the recommendations they would be making on the Plan.

Chair Kowalski thanked Ms. Horn and Mr. Tibbetts for the presentation.

B. Presentation from Earth Analytic on Resources Inventory, Wetherbee Dorshow and Amy Lewis

Ms. Lewis was the presenter. She said they gathered data and organized it as Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, Visual and Land Stewardship. And it would be either damaged or protected. For archaeology, an open space designation might protect but a park designation might not.

She highlighted the open space policies and said they would develop a map for each of those policies and might have secondary criteria. Then they would make a searchable web-based tool to and produce a map.

Mr. Baker said the weighting raised questions for him such as matching open space to population. He didn't know what the numbers should be, although he could understand why some were very high but the rest looked like random numbering.

Ms. Lewis explained that users could change those priorities on the web. There were many things that went into it.

Mr. Aaboe asked if the tool would accommodate that and weight the factors differently.

Ms. Lewis agreed. She shared the policies that would affect trails. She gave an example of things that relate to the policies. She next showed a map on streams, wetlands, water bodies and arroyos and then showed historic properties and slopes. She noted that 30% slopes 30% are not good for trails. They struggled with the matching of park area to population served. The map showed very north and very south of county were deficient and needed more parks. Then she showed scenic areas and scenic roads.

The Committee had brief discussion on view corridors or viewsheds and how to decide what needed to be preserved.

Ms. Lewis said they were almost finished with the models and they would create weighted overlays for each of three land types for the web-based tool.

Dr. Bent asked to what degree they would be made available to the public.

Ms. Lohmann said the tool was really for the county planners' use. Some interactive maps might be made available but that hasn't been determined yet.

SEC CLERK RECORDED 02/02/2015

Dr. Bent was very impressed with the project.

Ms. Lewis thanked the Committee members.

6. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE

A. Discussion of open space publicity options and examples, Zach Taylor

Mr. Taylor requested that this be moved to the next meeting.

7. MATTERS FROM COUNTY STAFF

A. Open Space Updates

Ms. Lohmann said she included the updates in the packet this time. She tried to share with the Open Space Staff that the Committee wanted more detail so Mr. Lease and Ms. Branch sent her everything they have done during the last month. Carol Branch has done a lot with the "Adopt an Open Space" program and listed all the trails that have been adopted. She also got a \$5,000 grant for replacing trail signs. They got some fancy signs and were now trying to figure out what structure could hold the signs for the Talaya Trail in the Dale Ball system.

Ms. Lohmann said she was working on another interactive map for trails for hiking and biking and had several meetings on it with Equestrian Coalition of Santa Fé. It is very interesting that horses are such a huge part of the economy here. They told her they really liked the mountain bike trails and want to be able to use those trails too.

Mr. Aaboe said both equestrians and mountain bikers like the trails but not each other on the trails. Ms. Conoway agreed.

Mr. Parker said it is really about talking with each other. A lot of trails near Galisteo were not made for horses. People on horses usually don't care about the condition of the trails so there are hoof prints in the mud that make it like a wash board for mountain bikers.

Ms. Lohmann said the horse people say the same about bike ruts.

Mr. Parker said they only have to do it once to realize they need to stay off when the trail is wet.

Mr. Taylor suggested they might need to put in signage on what this trail is meant for.

Ms. Conway noted that two weeks ago 30 people showed up to build trails near Galisteo just for horses and suspected the mountain bikers will use it.

Chair Kowalski said trail etiquette is a big issue and they have some of that issue in the state parks. They need to try to educate people.

Ms. Ortíz Cué said without enforcement it doesn't work. It is the same with picking up after dogs on the trail but it is not enforced.

Ms. Lohmann continued her update. She has been working on the focus groups but the new schedule probably wouldn't be done until January since it is difficult to do planning between Thanksgiving and Christmas and she will be out of town two weeks in November. She and Erin came up with a strategy for getting things turned around and will outline the strategies for the five groups so they could structure the focus groups to deal with. They will identify what is needed from the focus groups before doing them.

Dr. Bent asked if she was still looking for participants.

Ms. Lohmann agreed. She wanted to have about ten people per group.

Mr. Baker said about 10-12 were used for the SGMP. He noted that on the day before, the Bernalillo taxpayers voted for a tax that would generate \$2.8 million per year for open space acquisition and maintenance with 70% of the voters voting for it. He wondered if the same thing could be done by Santa Fe voters.

Mr. Aaboe said the GRT that was previously allocated for open space is now used for general capital purposes.

8. ACTION ITEMS

There were no action items.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Discussion of application revisions

Chair Kowalski recalled they formed a task force on this last time. She said they should table the work plan.

Ms. Lohmann said she spent time with the revisions to redo the application format with a phase 1 and a phase 2 process. It came out of last month's discussion and phase 1 is a little easier to complete. This is for the first look so the Committee can figure out whether it is worth our time to continue. There is still some weird language in here to

clarify and fix but the process basically is that people will fill out this phase 1, 3-page application.

Mr. Baker asked (page 1, first paragraph) if COLTPAC really has the final decision authority in these applications.

Ms. Lohmann said a lot of this language was from the last application. It needs to be figured out. So if COLTPAC says, "Don't continue with this. It's not what we want, can the applicant say 'Oh no. I want you to take my property anyway?'"

Chair Kowalski said the Committee could make a recommendation to staff.

Mr. Baker agreed. A recommendation was what he was searching for.

Ms. Conway suggested in Phase 2 that is okay but this is Phase 1.

Dr. Bent, in looking at the criteria, said there are no county trails north of Tesuque and the first criteria talks about linking to existing trails. But nothing connects in the north. He felt they should down play connecting and play up equity. That is on the first page under vision statement.

Ms. Lohmann said she would put a star by that.

Mr. Parker said first paragraph says "distributed equitably throughout the county."

Chair Kowalski suggested saying "serving underserved areas or a specific area."

Ms. Lohmann said her hope was that this would be easy to fill out and put in check boxes about the property and if they didn't know some of them, the Committee would figure it out in the next phase. Fitting in with the open space plan is the big thing and this gives space to respond to that.

The Phase 2 part is what County staff would complete. A homeowner probably doesn't know how to find out mineral rights and things like that.

Ms. Conway asked if this would apply to all of the county. Ms. Lohmann agreed.

Ms. Ortíz Cué asked what people would look at to respond to "fitting in with the plan." She thought this would be a lot of work for them to decide about going ahead with it.

Ms. Conway said if they had a question, they would call Ms. Lohmann for help.

Ms. Ortíz Cué suggested adding that sentence (that staff would help) in the application. If they had to go somewhere to look things up, they would become so

frustrated that they would drop the attempt.

Dr. Bent requested that they be given the criteria so they wouldn't have to go to the SGMP.

Mr. Taylor thought the Phase 1 application should be something the applicant could fill out without much assistance and there would be more technical assistance with Phase 2.

Chair Kowalski said Phase 1 will come to the Committee and she would rather see staff provide a little assistance.

Mr. Aaboe agreed and a brief conversation should take care of it.

Ms. Lohmann said she would make a few changes and the next step is to vet it through Legal and the hard part will be the writing the resolution.

Dr. Bent noted on page 3 it said the Chair of COLTPAC will be available and it should add "or the Chair's designee."

Ms. Lohmann agreed. She felt sure Legal will catch those things. She will start working on the resolution too.

Chair Kowalski asked if they might need Legal to come to the next meeting.

Ms. Lohmann said she was not going to promise anything because there was a lot going on in Legal right now.

B. Discussion Open Space Planner work plan

Ms. Lohmann reported that there were many other things she was working on. She was working on the management plans and would need help with that. She also asked for help with the petroglyph tours. Monitoring easements annually with the Santa Fe Conservation Trust is important to make sure they haven't been encroached upon. She would like some help with that also.

Mr. Aaboe explained that the SFCT holds an easement on some of the County's land.

Ms. Lohmann wasn't sure how it worked but the inspections were usually done in the fall. The last one she did was in the Ortíz Mountains in mid-August and it was awesome.

Mr. Baxter asked if she knew anything more about the county being able to accept the donation of property.

The Committee briefly discussed it and it is still being considered.

10. NEXT MEETING: December 3, 2014

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Approved by:

Judy Kowalski
Judy Kowalski, Chair

Attest:

Geraldine Salazar
Geraldine Salazar, County Clerk

2-2-2015

Submitted by:

Carl G. Boaz
Carl G. Boaz, Inc. by Carl G. Boaz

SFC CLERK RECORDS
2015



COUNTY OF SANTA FE)
STATE OF NEW MEXICO) ss

COLTPAC MINUTES
PAGES: 9

I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for
Record On The 2ND Day Of February, 2015 at 11:59:05 AM
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1756385
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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