

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

**Thursday, May 17, 2012**

**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 Sam Pallin at the Santa Fé County Community Projects Conference Room, 901 West Alameda, Santa Fé, New Mexico.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Roll Call indicated the presence of a quorum as follows:

**Members Present**

Sam Pallin, Chair  
Judy Kowalski, Vice Chair  
Melissa Houser  
William Hutchinson  
Michael Patrick  
Jerry Rogers  
Scott Stovall

**Members Absent**

Sandra Massengill  
Matthew Montoya

**Staff Members Present**

Beth Mills  
Colleen Baker  
Megan Bayer

**Others Present**

Bill Baxter

**3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

The agenda was accepted unanimously as presented.

**4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 19, 2012**

Ms. Houser requested a change on page 5, 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph; "Conservation" is missing in "Santa Fé Conservation Trust."

Mr. Rogers said on page 7 in the middle of the page, "National Historic Lands Act" should be "National

Historic Preservation Act.”

The minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

## **5. MATTERS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no matters from the public.

## **6. MATTERS FROM OPEN SPACE AND TRAILS STAFF**

Dr. Mills reminded the Committee of the two tours of the Petroglyphs at Thornton Ranch. She was also arranging a tour of the Kennedy site and then out to petroglyph site nearby on August 18<sup>th</sup>. This Saturday would be a program at Cerrillos Hills State Park as they open the new building at the park. Speeches would be made from 10-12 and then until 2:00 they would have food and music. The County Open Space staff would have a table set up on their programs and offer opportunities to sign up for tours. The building was very nice and the County might be able to use this space if needed.

On June 1 at 2 pm at the Dale Ball trailhead off Hyde Park Road would be the ribbon cutting for La Piedra Trail and then hikes up the trail. The Santa Fé Conservation Trust would do a more elaborate trail tour on Saturday, June 2. Folks from the City, from BTAC and from the Commission would speak.

Chair Pallin asked if she needed RSVPs.

Dr. Mills said it would be good to have them.

### **A. Update on FY 2013 Open Space Budget**

Ms. Baker said they had a scare at midyear budget review from not spending our budget so staff were bringing things forward, not for action but to refresh everyone on all the projects so she thought it would be good to update the Commission on where those projects were and where accounts stood.

They brought Edgewood for an approval at this meeting. All the rest had been seen by COLTPAC

The Arroyo Hondo Trail System account had \$254,000 and they had an RFP for design ready for release. About 6 miles of it was to be paved with another 10 miles of soft trail from 599 to SFCC. The main track went by Amy Biehl School between Vista Casa and Rancho Viejo with a spur to the Petchesky Ranch and Oshara Village. It was a major bike way in the MPO MP and would be down in four phases.

The Santa Fé Rail Trail had some other funding. She mentioned the other projects.

Chair Pallin asked if this was the first major project to the south.

Ms. Baker agreed. Rather than wait they were trying to use what funding was available now for phase one.

Mr. Stovall asked how much of that was bond money.

Ms. Baker said it was only for the last two. The rest was GRT funded. GRT was coming in at about \$1.2 million last year. This was all holdover from past years so she had a handle on it to budget for projects. She explained that it was 15% of the ¼% through FY 2011. In FY 2012 they passed a new ordinance.

Mr. Stovall asked if going into the bond sale, most of the prior bond money had been spent.

Ms. Baker said all but the GO bonds in 2008 and 2009 that were just for Santa Fé River had been spent.

They got enough procurement out for the ROW Acquisition Specialist so we could move quickly through this money and by fall a lot would be spent.

Mr. Patrick asked if staff had a plan for the Mt Chal acquisition.

Ms. Baker said yes. They had a meeting scheduled for next Tuesday and she would sit down with Steve Ross and two others to figure out what was needed to complete the voluntary remediation program application. That was important to do before moving forward.

## **7. ACTION ITEMS**

### **A. Request Approval of Construction Plans for Edgewood Open Space**

Chair Pallin asked what the maintenance contract was and if they were taking it over entirely.

Dr. Mills said they were pretty much. She did a preliminary draft of responsibilities with staff to send to attorneys. There was a question on how to handle actual permitting of events. The question was if it a stewardship group or the Town of Edgewood.

Chair Pallin asked who would provide the insurance. That was big for horses. They usually created a document that made the County an additionally insured. It was usually cheap as a one-shot deal. If they didn't have it we don't want them there. They needed to put in signs too.

Dr. Mills asked if he would review the draft. Chair Pallin agreed.

She had to have the draft to Edgewood by June 6.

Dr. Mills went through the construction documents for the Edgewood Open Space and displayed a map of the property. She pointed out the grey area where construction would take place and the ground would

be disturbed. The outline trees were all going to be removed. They would be doing some reseeding.

She showed the outline of a trail plan. The outer one was for equestrians and pedestrians and the inner was pedestrian only. She didn't know the exact distances. Then she showed the grading plan for the arena that was 100x200, the car parking area and the horse trailer parking. It was a fairly small arena. She didn't have plans for permaculture stuff. There would be 14 pull through slots. The area would be handicapped accessible. Apparently there was an equestrian need for Special Olympics.

Chair Pallin thought there would have to be a lot of cut and fill to make the arena bigger.

Ms. Baker said it was either compromise or scrap it. It was big enough to do a cutting event or a horse show. And the seating area had a ramada for spectators.

Chair Pallin said there should be a higher platform for judges or officials.

Mr. Stovall thought that could be added later. He asked if people could take horses off the interstate for boarding.

Chair Pallin said it was just a stopover and not for boarding. People in Edgewood thought that was a big deal but we didn't know if it would be profitable. That was phase 2 to see if it would happen.

Dr. Mills said they designed it so phase 2 could be accommodated. All retention and drainage was designed so that a roof could cover the arena sometime later.

Chair Pallin suggested if the locals wanted to do phase two the County should approach Walmart because that was where they would want to shop. People with horses on a long trip would spend a couple of hundred dollars to stop there.

Dr. Mills said it would have locked gates and faucets at night at minimum.

Ms. Kowalski asked about electricity.

Dr. Mills said there was none planned - no lighting at all.

She showed where the base course would be placed. The arena materials would be compacted subgrade and 4" of compacted aggregate and 5" of washed concrete sand. This was decided after lots of discussion.

Dr. Mills showed the reseeding plan. Piñon and Juniper and a few fruit trees would be planted. They had irrigation hooked up to a hydrant. It was a portable irrigation system. She didn't bring the details.

Chair Pallin said every group that contracted for it would need judges so it did need a judges' stand.

Dr. Mills didn't know how many posts for tying horses were included.

Ms. Baker agreed to ask about plan changes like for a judging stand.

Chair Pallin considered the picnic area by the arena a waste of space.

Dr. Mills thought they might not be ready to make a recommendation.

Ms. Baker said all of this was \$700,000 for phase 1 completion. Overall it had 3 miles of trail.

Mr. Stovall thought that was pretty good.

Chair Pallin asked for approval with the ramada being a subject for discussion with the contractor.

**Ms. Kowalski moved to recommend approval of the design with the ramada being subject to discussion with the contractor. Ms. Houser seconded the motion.**

Mr. Hutchinson asked if the Committee would have a chance for further review on it. Dr. Mills agreed.

Ms. Baker said capital projects were usually not brought for approval. The scoring was limited to acquisitions.

Mr. Hutchinson commented that there was lots of expertise on permaculture in the room.

Dr. Mills said she could bring it back to the June meeting.

Mr. Stovall said they had talked about open space on the other side of the interstate.

Chair Pallin said there was an underpass but no cooperation from real estate for easements by property owners. He was on the I-25 committee from Sedillo to Moriarty and got that underpass put in. It was a possibility but they needed to get an easement from the owners. No one ever took it on.

Ms. Baker thought once this was built they would have a chance to move on that.

Chair Pallin was grateful for the support of COLTPAC to get this underway because south county had nothing.

Ms. Baker said they needed to make arrangements before the June meeting.

Chair Pallin asked if staff could email it out.

Ms. Baker said she would if it was not too big.

Dr. Mills said they could put it on the web site.

**The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.**

## **8. MATTERS FROM THE COMMITTEE**

Mr. Stovall asked what the take on the city bond for open space was.

Dr. Mills said they had too low a turn out for percentages to be meaningful.

Mr. Stovall agreed. It was only 21 %. The County's would go out with the presidential election for \$10 million. It should have a better turnout.

Ms. Baker said they did that on purpose.

Ms. Baker said they divided up \$35 million three ways. It wasn't perfect but they would end up with the level they had in the past.

Unfortunately there was nothing for acquisition. All capital projects get submitted and they came up with measures presumable without bias on priority. The top ones used bond and GRT funds. She added agricultural easements to the list.

Chair Pallin thought that was probably appropriate because many were not accessible. They had put everything into it except for Thornton Ranch.

Mr. Stovall said it was disappointing.

Ms. Baker said with the different people involved they were getting lots of push back now. Easements made more sense right now than acquisitions. She didn't know how they would get back to acquisitions.

Chair Pallin said they needed connectivity on trails.

Mr. Patrick asked for an update on the Rancho Valle easement.

Dr. Mills said the group met early this week and they wanted her to pull it off the BCC agenda for the 29<sup>th</sup> because they had not done enough outreach and education to BCC. They wanted it on the June 26 agenda and were putting together some explanatory information and meeting directly with commissioners.

They needed to put up signs soon because according to Charlie O'Leary people were getting lost.

Ms. Houser agreed. They had a lot of people asking for maps.

Dr. Mills agreed to send one she created for this weekend.

## **9. ADJOURN**

Having completed the agenda and with no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting

was adjourned at 7:20 pm

Approved by:

*Sam Pallin*

Sam Pallin, Chair

Submitted by:

*Carl Boaz*

Carl Boaz, Stenographer



COUNTY OF SANTA FE )  
STATE OF NEW MEXICO ) ss

OPEN LANDS & TRAILS MI  
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I Hereby Certify That This Instrument Was Filed for  
Record on The 25TH Day Of September, 2013 at 08:11:31 AM  
And Was Duly Recorded as Instrument # 1718884  
Of The Records Of Santa Fe County

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