

**Candelaria Farm Preserve  
Technical Advisory Group**

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park • 2901 Candelaria Rd NW

Education Building

March 1, 2018 • 2:30pm – 4:30 pm

**Minutes - final**

**Participants**

**Members:** Brian Hanson, Chairman; Christianne Hinks, Judy Kowalski, Peggy Norton, Dave Parsons, Carolyn Siegel, Steven Cox, Christina Sandoval, Heather MacCurdy, Jeannie Allen

**Additional Technical Assistance:** Dave Hutton, Bill Pentler, Nate Todd, David Mehlman

**Community** – Kathleen Hall, Linda Shank, Kim Eichhorst

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**Review of Agenda – Brian** added a guest, Kim Eichhorst, Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP)

**Minutes February 8, 2018:** corrected spelling of several names, Approved

**Announcements from TAG Members**

- Carolyn Siegel mentioned that Brian will give a summary of Candelaria Farm Preserve (CFP) at a neighborhood meeting on March 24
- Brian mentioned that he wants to hand the future contractor a document that has the Vision, Principles, Recreation ideas for various areas, description of management actions and a map of management actions
- Peggy Norton completed her summary of the CFP trip to Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge
- Dave Hutton said the “Herbfest Event” will be May 12 and 13. One topic will be CFP
- Judy stated that the Rio Grande Trail Commission will be meeting at the Nature Center March 14 at 1 PM. They will be discussing the trail through Albuquerque.
- Brian mentioned that he would be inviting Wes Brittenham to talk at a future meeting. Wes was the manager of Plants of the Southwest.

**Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP) Kim Eichhorst**

Kim described the program. She is at UNM and is the co-director of BEMP. BEMP monitors 33 sites, 17 are in Albuquerque. BEMP is staffed at UNM and Bosque School, and has about 12 staff members.

- Kim suggested creating a mosaic of habitats
- UNM can help address questions about the bosque
- BEMP monitors restoration
- The bosque was cleared in 2004 just south of the hiking loop trails, west of the Nature Center
- Soil salinity and water table is important for plants
- Need more salt grass meadows
- Exotic vegetation removal without revegetation invites exotics again
- BEMP could help monitor CFP

BEMP mission according their website [bemp.org](http://bemp.org) is

Science, Education, and Stewardship of the Rio Grande and its watershed through long-term, hands-on student research of ecosystem response and function to inform public policy.

**Status of hiring contractor for the development of a Resource Management Plan (RMP):**

Christina said the Request for Letters of Interest (RFI) went out to 3 or 4 contractors and were due back to Albuquerque Open Space March 14.

**Definition of Commercial Agriculture for the Land and Water Conservation Fund**

Judy said she received a response concerning agriculture and sent it to Brian. Brian said it really did not say anything and Judy agreed. The group agreed to have a more detailed discussion in the future.

**Principles of Wildlife Management at Candelaria Farm Preserve** after much discussion -

- Create mosaic of habitats
- Remove exotic species while restoring native species in phases over time
- Keep vegetative cover for wildlife until new plantings
- Improve recreation while avoiding wildlife disturbance
- Improve pollinator habitat (Bee City designation)
- Improve bird habitat (Migratory Bird Treaty City designation)
- Improve habitat for native fauna
- Crops for wildlife only (PreDock Plan)
- Keep cropland near fence/boundary for wildlife viewing
- Monitor management actions

**Next Meeting:** March 15. Agenda: Contract for RMP, Recreation, Site specific management

**Questions or Concerns** - Contact Brian Hanson at bhanson5@comcast or 505-856-1386

Minutes and agenda can be found at <https://www.cabq.gov/parksandrecreation/our-department/boards-commissions/open-space-advisory-board/open-space-advisory-board>

Vision - To engage in a planning process that results in improved ecosystem health and increased biodiversity of Candelaria Farm Preserve, ensures compliance with Land and Water Conservation Fund guidelines by providing opportunities for wildlife oriented recreation, and fulfills the requirements of City Council resolutions R-16-147 and R-17-159.