

**Candelaria Farm Preserve  
Technical Advisory Group**

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park • 2901 Candelaria Rd NW  
Education Building

December 7, 2017 • 2:30pm – 4:30pm

**Minutes - final**

**Participants**

**Members** - Brian Hanson – Chairman, Peggy Norton, Christianne Hinks, Carolyn Siegel, Steve Cox, Christina Sandoval, Kent Swanson, Nathan Todd, Alan Reed, Dave Parsons

**Additional technical assistance** - Matt Schmader, Dave Hutton, Kathleen Hall, David Mehlman, Bill Pentler

**Community** – Linda Shank, Richard Barish, Jeannie Allen, Kathleen Hall

**2:37 Introductions**

Jeannie Allen from Rio Grande Compound, adjacent to South Candelaria tract (off Campbell), has a biogeography background and will be representing the Rio Grande compound HOA.

**Approval of Agenda**

Brian Hanson wants to add an item: wetland meeting January 18, 2018.

**2:33 Approval of Minutes**

16 November meeting minutes

Peggy Norton: wants to make a correction on discussion scope 3<sup>rd</sup> line: change “could” to “would”

16 November minutes approved

**30 November meeting minutes**

Christina Sandoval: under Clarification of Land Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) requirements -- believes that any federal property requires ADA access, which is not what minutes say. But, Brian Hanson said that Judy Kowalski told her to use that language for LWCF.

Dave Parsons moves the minutes be approved, seconded by Alan Reed.

**Announcements from TAG Members**

None

**Wetlands meeting, January 18, 2018, in Santa Fe hosts – New Mexico Environment Department**

Brian Hanson is thinking of presenting our work so far, might generate interest and maybe financial assistance; Brian will forward meeting info; Peggy Norton motioned, Dave Hutton seconded; approved that Brian should go.

**Public comment**

Rio Grande Compound happy to be here, Jeannie Allen will report to them; the neighborhood association meets regularly; WE decided early in this process that neighborhood association representatives should be officially members of the TAG. Jeannie suggested that she be placed in the additional technical assistance group. Christianne Hinks pointed out that Loren Hines should be removed since he’s no longer active and stated at the previous meeting that he would no longer be involved.

### **Discussion: Draft Scope of Work, Resource Management Plan prepared by Albuq Open Space**

Draft Scope of work for RMP Contract: the draft was sent out for review to the TAG; Brian read it and forwarded his comments to several TAG members and then sent it to Kent.

Kent had some responses to the review:

- in the second Whereas statement, the LWCF language used was taken directly from the Council measure, so either we keep that or take language from the LWCF itself. This was a misunderstanding about the purpose. The Whereas statement was the purpose of the LWCF and not the City Council Resolutions.
- proposal for contractor to attend TAG meetings, Kent said that could be expensive for them to attend every meeting. The intent of Brian's statement was to ensure coordination. As long as coordination occurs, then the number of meetings attended is not necessary.
- Dave Parsons—is there a date specified yet? Kent/Christina – really depends on what the Council wants, Christina estimates 3-6 months, maybe nine months to complete in her experience.
- Peggy Norton: do we get to see final scope? Kent—yes
- Kent: suggests that Contractor would be best to estimate cost options, and not to look for potential funding/grant sources because that could be very costly.
- Discussion on Page 1, paragraph 2 comment: Kent feels need more background research on LWCF needed.
- Page 2, paragraph 5: Kent thinks a baseline study has to be and should be done; Steve Cox suggests amending it to specify “using existing data” so it could be gathered quickly.
- Dave Parsons requested that in the spirit of collaboration set forth in City Council Resolution R-17-159, representatives of OSAB and TAG be included in reviewing and selecting the contractor. Kent agreed to that arrangement.

### **Draft Scope Discussion, issues**

Commercial farming – the Land and Water Conservation Fund prohibits “commercial farming”. The group discussed it in length. Thoughts from individuals include –

Farming for profit is an affordable, cheap way to deliver some food to wildlife

Commercial farming should be better defined, perhaps the contractor can do that

Judy Kowalski with State Parks will decide if a plan meets the requirements of LWCF

To farm and not be commercial, you could pay the farmer to farm and leave all the plants for wildlife use, no sale of crops

To fund farmers, alternative sources of funds may need to be obtained, present budgets may not be adequate

Present farming practices need to be researched to see what the costs are

Perhaps we need to define commercial farming ourselves

Alternatives – thoughts from individuals

Real budget numbers should drive the development of alternatives

Develop the alternatives, regardless of budget, then assess them later

Develop the alternatives in a general way, it can be guidance for the contractor

Develop realistic alternatives that can easily be accomplished

Develop alternatives, then address the “how” later

Public Assess – thoughts from individuals

We have to provide public access somehow, and the RMP needs to address this

Perhaps examples of other LWCF projects could help define public assess

Perhaps Judy can research this

Plan public access and have Judy determine if it is adequate to meet LWCF

Public meetings should be part of the contract

If anyone has a suggestion for a consultant please contact Kent by next week

The base plan (starting point) is the Predock plan. It would be good for TAG to look at that, and the contractor should also.

Summary per Brian Hanson:

Kent will revise scope of work and send out by Thursday, preferably earlier

We will briefly discuss that if necessary December 14

TAG needs to start developing Alternatives that the Contractor will dive into

We will work on alternatives next Thursday (December 14), which will be the major Agenda item

Brian Hanson is designated person to represent TAG for the Contractor selection process

On Dec 14 select an alternate for Brian if he can not make a meeting for the contractor selection process

Next meeting is December 14.

**4:27pm          Adjourn**