

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL
TRAILS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

March 20, 2012
4:30 pm

1801 4th Street NW, Albuquerque, NM
Large Conference Room

Members Present: John Thomas, Ian Maddieson, Gary W. Kelly, Eileen Arellano, William Schimberg

Members Absent: None

Advisory Members Present: Loren Hines – guest speaker from AMAFCA

Staff Members Present: James Lewis, Parks and Recreation; GARTC Staff Liaison, Susannah Abbey (COA Open Space)

Visitors Present: Warren Wild (application submitted for off-road bicyclist member position- awaiting appointment), Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle, Anita Kelly

Call to Order and Introductions

John Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:30.

Approval of March Agenda

John Thomas moved to approve the agenda, as amended, Eileen Second. Unanimously Approved 5-0.

Approval of January 17, 2012 Minutes –

John Thomas moved to approve the minutes as amended. Gary Kelly second; all in favor. Motion passes 5-0. Minutes unanimously approved with amendment/changes. Add Anita Kelly to “visitors present”.

Public Comment—John Barncastle commented on landscaping next to Tramway Trail at High Desert Subdivision, NMDOT removing bollards along Tramway Trail. Discussed looking into getting the bollards put back on trail.

Announcements

James – announced that Bernalillo County will be placing 8 or more bicyclist/pedestrian monitoring systems around town to get accurate counts of bicyclists and pedestrians. This will include in ground sensors and above ground cameras. Data will be sent to MRCOG.

Staff Reports

James Lewis- Strategic Planning and Design- explained the current projects in design and going to construction:

- The three North Diversion Channel Trail notches are in construction and AMAFCA requires the contractors to be out of the channel by mid May. Comanche and Candelaria will be completed prior to Menaul. Detours are in place and safety is of the utmost concern.
- The Piedras Marcadas Trail is in the final design phase and the City has finalized all Right-of-Way/easement issues. There was discussion of the mid-block crossing at Golf Course. Project not federally funded.
- La Presa Dam design is complete. Bid opening in early March. Went to Salls Brothers Construction. Construction to begin early April.
- Bikeways and Trails Master Facility Plan; meeting with consultants in late March or April after the Planning Department sends additional comments to DMD. DMD will progress with setting up the meeting.
- La Orilla Trail- La Orilla is being widened; mainly a County project with only 400 feet of trail within the City of Albuquerque.
- Bear Arroyo Bridge over 25 freeway – the ramps on both sides and pilings are nearly completed. Project could be finished earlier than expected.
- Singer Bridge widening coming use. Still in design.

Susannah Abbey – Open Space Report -

- Hilldale trail building demonstration took place in early March. Low impact equipment that can split boulders if needed. Spring Clean-ups to begin at route 66/Tijeras Arroyo property last Saturday of March and then each Saturday in April, Open Space will host different foothill trailhead clean-ups. National River Clean-up day event to be May 19. National Trails Day is June 2nd. Flyers were distributed to group.

Discussion, Action and Update Items

GARTC Membership: James- Quorums have been hard to obtain due to membership. There are four people who have applied to be on GARTC. Their appointments will hopefully be approved by City Council soon. Haven't an exact answer regarding husband and wives being on the same committee. More research is needed.

Chair Voting Update: James found that the chair can vote since it was removed from the previous ordinance.

Appointment of Ian Maddieson to 50 mile loop steering committee: Two meetings regarding 50 mile loop trail. The steering committee will most likely be internal public employees. James mentioned to the steering committee that Ian would like to represent GARTC for this project. It is still unclear if GARTC and other advisory groups will be included in the 50 mile loop trail project. GARTC discussed that the name should not be "bike" specific. GARTC as a whole is favoring a different name for the loop project and may write a letter to the Mayor requesting the name change. **Motion: Gary Kelly moved to make a motion that GARTC writes a letter to the Mayor in favor of the concept and also recommending the name and design of the trail is intended for multiple users. John to draft the letter and will be edited by Gary. Second by John Thomas. Vote is**

5-0, all in favor. Ian would like to become part of the 50 mile loop steering committee and GARTC members agree. **John Thomas moves to appoint Ian Maddieson to represent the Mayor's ABQ: The Plan, 50 mile Loop Steering Committee. Second by Gary Kelly. Motion carries 5-0, all in favor.**

Quorums and coordination with GABAC Members:

John Thomas is annoyed that quorums are hard to reach every month. He spoke to GABAC chair Don Simonson to find out if swapping members (chairs and co-chairs) would be a good idea. GABAC has had quorum problems as well. Since the County pulled out of GARTC, the Equestrian Representative position is hard to fill because most horse owners live in the County and not within the City limits. GARTC members want Jackie back on committee as equestrian position. John Thomas to ask Boards and Commissions staff if any way Jackie or a County person can be on the committee since the ordinance states that "members are normally residents of the City".

AMAFCA – Trails and Hahn Arroyo Improvements

Loren Hines (guest speaker) from AMAFCA gave a detailed synopsis of AMAFCA and how they have been incorporating more recreational facilities with new construction projects on their lands. He spoke about the Hahn Arroyo improvements which everyone seems to agree that these improvements have greatly enhanced the area.

Multi-Use Trails in Greater Albuquerque- A motion was moved to table this topic until next meeting. **Move to table topic by John Thomas, second by Eileen, motion passes 5-0.** James to bring a map with all trails to April meeting.

John Thomas made a Motion to adjourn. Second by Gary Kelly. All in favor; motion passes 5-0.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

The foregoing GARTC minutes of March 20, 2012 have been approved as written or with noted comments on May 15, 2012.

John N Thomas Aug 29, 2012
Chairperson – John Thomas Date

Prepared by: James Lewis 8-26-12
James Lewis