

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL  
TRAILS COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

November 20, 2012  
4:00 pm

1801 4<sup>th</sup> Street NW, Albuquerque, NM  
Large Conference Room

**Members Present:** John Thomas, Ian Maddieson, Gary W. Kelly, Anita Kelly, Warren Wild, Guy Miller, Bill Schimberg

**Members Absent:** None

**Advisory Members Present:** None

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

**Staff Members Absent:** None

**Visitors Present:** Manh Tran (DMD), Stephen Verchinski, John Barncastle

**Call to Order and Introductions**

John Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:05.

**Approval of November 20, 2012 Agenda**

John Thomas moved to approve the agenda, with one amendment/correction noted by Anita Kelly to “remove Eileen Arellano’s name under Active Elderly and replace with newly appointed member Guy Miller”, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Anita Kelly, Unanimously Approved 7-0.

**Approval of September 18, 2012 Minutes –**

John Thomas moved to approve the minutes with no amendments needed. Anita Kelly second; all in favor. Motion passes 7-0. Minutes unanimously approved.

**Announcements**

John Thomas drafted and finalized a letter via GARTC’s amendments through emails regarding the North Diversion Channel notches to the heads of DMD, AMAFCA, Parks and Recreation, and the Mayor commending the outstanding work performed. James announced that Director of Parks and Recreation, Barbara Baca, pass along a “thank you” to GARTC in regards to the letter. John announced that he is willing to resign as “chair” for the coming year and let another member step up.

**Public Comment** – John Barncastle commented about 311 app for I-Phone. Discussed bollards and that he is persistent. Many bollards have replaced and/or reflectorized. Wants reflective tape on the bollard collars. Discussed fence issue at South Pino Trail.

He is also upset about landscaping and gravel near Journal Center area. Maintenance is lacking and John B. wants more staff to maintain trails. Warren Wild commented that an “adopt a trail” program should be started.

### **Discussion – Stephen Verchinski/Manh Tran – Academy Trail along Wyoming:**

Stephen noted that AASHTO doesn't work and European trail (CROW Report hired by the Netherlands) items should be implemented. He noted that bridges should not be constructed and rather underpasses should be implemented in Albuquerque. One should be the Pino Arroyo. He does not support bridges going over the interstate at Paseo del Norte. Lights from oncoming traffic blinded him while riding the Academy Trail along Wyoming.

Manh Tran noted and handed out aerials that show the trail was repaved on the same alignment from before. Overall, except for Burlison, the trail alignment is the same as before and has not changed much. There is a spot where the trail was moved further away from Wyoming. Some spots near signals are closer to Wyoming and the meandering was straightened out as much as possible. Actually, the trail is further from traffic because bicycle lanes were added to Wyoming. Gary believes the trail is not a danger the way it is designed although the alignment could be better. John Thomas thinks otherwise. Gary noted that a bigger issue than this is maintenance and that GARTC should be concentrating on maintenance rather than these issues that are not proving to be dangerous. There was a brief discussion about bike lanes, curbs being 6-8 inches tall, and bike lane striping is 6 inches in width.

### **Staff Reports**

**Susannah Abbey – Open Space Report** – Reported that unauthorized trail work is being done in the foothills and is becoming a huge problem. Damage to the trail will ultimately create erosion problems. Anyone seeing unauthorized “trail work” is recommended to call 242-cops or Open Space dispatch. Day of the Tread Event did not go over well and OS is planning on not permitting it at Elena Gallegos in the future.

A monitoring station will be placed at Rio Bravo and the PdB Trail per MRCOG.

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

Trail projects

1. Bridge over 25 - Construction continues and is in progress. Will go out soon to take photos of progress. Lighting and ramps being worked on.
2. Piedras Marcadas Trail – Almost complete; A few signs, bollards, and rocks/gates still need to be placed. Gary spoke about the crossing at Golf Course and does not like the design of the mid-block crossing due to lack of crosswalk. Crosswalk was not supported per City Traffic Operations. **Gary made a motion that GARTC notices the Piedras Marcadas Trail does not meet ADA standards nor does the crossing at Golf Course Rd. Gary and John will meet with AMAFCA staff and compose a letter to be shared possibly by the January GARTC meeting. Second by Anita, motion passes 7-0, all in favor.**

### **Update Items**

GARTC Membership: Guy Miller was appointed November 19, 2012. He was in attendance and a voting member during this meeting.

**Discussion, Action Items:**

**Bollards/ADA Issues:** Three keys were given to Gary and Anita Kelly for their access to gates and bollards when needed but they can't get a lot of the keys to work to open the locks. James suggested swapping keys to see if a different set will work better. Dirt/sand may be getting into the locks making them hard to open.

**Trails Map and the 50 Mile Loop Trail Ad Hoc Meetings:** Ian Maddieson spoke about the costs and routes of the 50 Mile Loop Trail. Equestrian access was brought up and James mentioned the "stacked loop" system that is being proposed. A *bosque* loop would be great for equestrians. He recommended GARTC members attend the Town Hall meetings in early December. **Ian Maddieson moved to make a motion that GARTC undertakes a way to work with all City agencies to create a comprehensive map of all City trails in an internet based interactive format and be adopted with GARTC's help as a priority. Second by Gary Kelly, motion passes 7-0, all in favor.**

**Adjourn:** John Thomas made a Motion to adjourn. Second by Gary Kelly. All in favor; motion passes 7-0 at 6:27 pm.

The foregoing GARTC minutes from the November 20, 2012 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on December 18, 2012.

John Thomas  
Chairperson – John Thomas

Dec 18, 2012  
Date

Prepared by: James Lewis  
James Lewis

12/18/2012  
Date

