

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL
TRAILS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

October 15, 2013

4:00 pm

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

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

Members Absent: Valerie Cole

Advisory Members Present: None

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

Staff Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: Carrie Barkhurst (COA-Planning), Petra Morris (COA-Planning), Scott Hale (GABAC), Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle

Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson Ian Maddieson called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

Approval of October 15, 2013 Agenda

Ian Maddieson moved to approve agenda with a second by Bill Schimberg, (Motion passes 6-0).

Approval of September 17, 2013 Minutes

Motion: Gary Kelly moved to approve the minutes with no amendments needed.
Second by Bill Schimberg. (Motion passes 6-0).

General Announcements:

Carrie and Petra from the Planning Department announced dates for public meetings regarding the Coors Corridor Plan.

Staff Reports

Susannah Abbey – City Open Space Division – Susannah described Open Space's next volunteer event Dia del Rio is on October 19th at Durand Bernalillo Co. Open Space. Susannah also described repairing trails from the summer monsoons.

James Lewis- Strategic Planning and Design- James explained that 2,261 people bicycled and valeted to the 2013 International Balloon Fiesta. James will try and get MRCOG data regarding the total user count (which could possibly add pedestrians to the count). He will continue to work on the Maintenance map for multi-use trail facilities. James started working on the design guidelines for the Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan. The Boca Negra Dam Trail is in the works. The on-call utility contractor is on board and James will start working to repave a couple potions of the Paseo del Norte Trail.

Public Comment –

John Barncastle discussed the weeds and bushes growing onto the North Diversion Channel Trail that need trimming. He noted that GABAC meetings have an APD officer outside the door.

New Business/Update Items/Presentations

Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan Update (Carrie Barkhurst - Planning):

Carrie discussed the Plan process and provided a hand out that provides the background, goals, and planning process. She discussed the background of the Plan and how it will move forward in the next several months. Carrie also spoke about the project timeline, what the Plan will do and why the City is combining the on-street and off-street facilities. The goal is to have a draft by February 2014 and move forward to adoption of the updated Plan by October of 2014.

Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:

- **Discuss Pedestrian “Improvements” for the 25/Paseo del Norte interchange:**

Motion: Ian moved for GARTC to state a position regarding the pedestrian/bicycle component as part of the design/build I25/Paseo del Norte project. The following statement will be written by Ian Maddieson and sent to the heads of the agencies involved in the project: "The Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee (GARTC) is disappointed that the planned southern alignment of the pedestrian/bicycle bridge over I-25 has been abandoned. We feel that this change has been cost-driven and has resulted in unacceptable compromises to safety and utility. GARTC advises that the new construction should include separation between cyclists and pedestrians to the extent practicable by using lane markings, distinctive surface textures or other markings on all street and bridge crossings throughout the project. Efforts should also be continued to minimize the number of at-grade street crossings." Motion seconded by Gary Kelly. All in favor 6-0. Motion passes.

- **Equestrian Comments/concerns within *bosque* improvement corridor:** Valerie Cole sent a letter out to GARTC members that she had presented to the NM Horse Council. Valerie can discuss in more detail next month when she is present. Jackie Bouker stated that equestrians do not have a problem with future proposed trail improvements within the *bosque* from Central to I-40, however, the equestrian

community has issues if improvements were to extend to Montano. Ian discussed that he is trying to get UNM biologist, Phil Tonne, to come and speak regarding the ecology as a whole of the *bosque* in November.

- **GARTC Letter to the Mayor and City Council on Piedras Marcadas Trail:** Gary discussed that the improvements proposed are safer than before but still not safe enough. GARTC wants to move forward drafting a letter to the Mayor and City Council in regards to their opinion of Golf Course Rd. being an unsafe mid-block crossing regardless that improvements will be made at a considerable cost. GARTC plans to have a letter ready for committee review by November.

Sub-Committee Reports:

- **Trail Naming:** Nothing new to date.
- **Bollard:** John Thomas spoke about his “bollard policy” and the study he asked DMD to hire Parsons Brinkerhoff to conduct regarding bollards. Parks and Recreation was not informed of this study and many of the locations that Parsons looked at were already being taken care of internally through Parks and Recreation. Gary stated that he was working on merging and/or editing both James’s bollard recommendations and John Thomas’s bollard policy.

Adjourn: Ian Maddieson made a Motion to adjourn at 6:15 pm. Second by Bill Schimberg. All in favor; motion passes 6-0

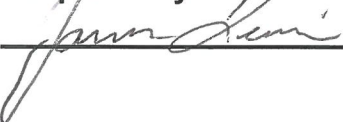
The foregoing GARTC minutes from the October 15, 2013 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on November 19, 2013.

Chairperson – Ian Maddieson



12/17/13
Date

Prepared by: James Lewis



12/17/13
Date

