

**GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL
TRAILS COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

March 17, 2015
4:00 pm

7th Floor City Hall, Room 7096

Old City Hall (Fifth and Marquette NW, Albuquerque, NM)

Members Present: John Thomas, Valerie Cole, Tyler Ashton, Warren Wild

Members Absent: Guy Miller (resigned), Ian Maddison, William Schimberg

Advisory Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Barbara Taylor (COA – Parks and Recreation), Matt Schmader (COA - Open Space Division), Christina Sandoval (COA - Parks and Recreation), Carol Dumont (COA – Parks and Recreation) Carrie Barkhurst (Planning), Gabe Campos (COA – Legal)

Staff Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: Diane Dolan (Councilor Benton's Office), Chris Sylvan (Councilor Gibson's Office), Jill Mosher (NMDOT), John Barncastle,

Call to Order and Introductions

Chairperson John Thomas called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

Approval of March 17, 2015 Agenda

Motion to approve made and approved.

Approval of February 17, 2014 Minutes

Motion to approve made and approved.

Approval of January 20, 2015 Minutes

Motion to approve made and approved.

General Announcements: Guy Miller has resigned from GARTC. Chairperson Thomas stated that the Committee now has two vacancies, one for active elderly and one for physically challenged.

New Business/Update Items/Presentations (None scheduled for this month)

Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:

- *Discussion of the Bosque 6' trail* – Barbara Taylor provided the Committee with a copy of the SWCA Environmental Monitoring Report. The Report identifies the Bosque as a human altered landscape. The trail provides for preservation with management. It meets the needs of the public and keeps people on a trail to get to where they want to go, which is the river.

Trail starts at Central at the parking lot. The path was scraped, leveled, and base course and crusher fines with stabilizer were laid down. The two other components of the Bosque project are shown on the map. Green represents existing trail to be pedestrian use only. The red represents trails created by users that will be closed. The green “blobs” are restoration areas that are near the siphon then to river. The Principle is to manage use and access, preserve wildlife and habitat area. The principle is to manage use and access while preserving wildlife and habitat. Comments and discussion followed regarding the design and construction of the trail.

- *Crusher fines OK but 2% cross slope and 7-8% running slope (NMDOT)*
 - *Project did not require NEPA, City was using existing trail and making it accessible, using local funds which don't require NEPA.(BT)*
 - *April 1st is date to get motorized vehicles out and after April 1st handwork to restore sides of trail is OK.(BT)*
 - *US Forest Service standards are trail tread 2-3' wide, cut brush 4' from edges plus maintain 12' vertical clearance (JT)*
 - *Slope from parking lot (JT), Engineers are redesigning and will find solution. (BT)*
 - *....user conflicts on wilderness trails have no set standards, what about multi-use trails or pedestrian trails... consider eliminating cyclists? Ionic soil as a possible tread surface? (TA)*
- *Long Term Viability of the Albuquerque cottonwood Bosque – John Thomas read “Short History of the Rio Grande Valley” which he will send to members.*
- *Paseo/I-25 & environs Ped/cyclist safety issues – Scott Hale (GABAC) (leave on agenda for next meeting)*
- *Meeting time change – Motion was made and seconded unanimously to change to 3:30-5:30 pm beginning with April meeting.*
- *Piedras Marcadas/Golf Course Midblock crossing update. – Christina Sandoval informed the Committee that they had not arrived yet but are scheduled to arrive sometime in April. John Thomas asked about engineering review and Christina explained that they were designed by on-call engineering firm and reviewed by the Design Review Committee (mostly comprised of engineers as well).*
- *Tyler Ashton concerns – The PDN Bridge multi-use trail needs to be swept to remove cinders from trail. The El Pueblo/Jefferson stop signs are confusing, clarification of where the trail goes is needed. Future extension from Headline after crossing Jefferson, then where?*

Sub-committee Updates/Actions – None

Staff Reports and Project Updates

- *Carrie Barkhurst (Planner/COA Planning Department) – Updating all trails on GIS so need names either official or unofficial. Go to Interactive Bike Map on Trails Plan website to get names. Bikeways and Trails Facility Plan was heard at City Council last evening (3/16/15). Councilor Benton presented 2 floor amendments: 1. regarding bicycle access across I-40 and I-25 and , 2 – Adoption of Complete Streets Policy so B&TFP must comply with that Policy. The Council decided to defer to April 6th so the Councilors could read and consider the floor amendments.*
- *Christina Sandoval reported that the Amole Arroyo Trail pavement will be inspected Thursday. DMD is filling in gaps in the expansion joints on the Montano Bridge where horse was stuck. A restroom is being installed at Montano Open Space. Bike to Work Day will be May 15th*

Public Comment

Adjourn: Move to adjourn at 5:34 pm. Seconded All in favor, (motion passes 4-0)

The foregoing GARTC minutes from the December 16, 2014 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on February 12, 2015.

Chairperson – John Thomas

John Thomas 5/19/15

Date

Prepared by: Christina Sandoval

CSandoval 5/19/15

Date