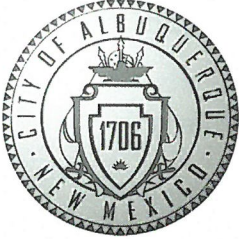


GREATER ALBUQUERQUE RECREATIONAL TRAILS COMMITTEE MINUTES



March 22, 2016
3:30 pm

City Hall, 7th Floor Conference Room, Room 7096



Members Present: Valerie Cole, Kathleen Rhoad, Ian Maddieson, Warren Wild, Tyler Ashton

Members Absent: None

Advisory Members Present: None

Staff Members Present: Carrie Barkhurst-Planning, Jason Coffey-PRD, Julie Luna-MRCOG

Staff Members Absent: None

Visitors Present: Jackie Bouker, John Barncastle,

Call to Order and Introductions

Meeting called to order at 3:37 p.m. Quorum is present.

Approval of March 22, 2016 Agenda

Kathleen Rhoad moved to accept the agenda, second by Val Cole. Motion passes with a voice vote.

Approval of February 16, 2016 Minutes

Warren Wild moved to approve the minutes, second by Ian Maddieson. Motion passes with a voice vote.

General Announcements:

Val Cole thinks her reappointment has cleared the City Council. Kathleen Rhoad points out that on the GARTC webpage it does not show the "new appointment pending" so that people can see what positions are available. There is a conversation about committee member recruitment efforts, some nibbles but no bites.

Discussion, Action Items, and On-Going Business:

- ADA presentation/training (We have contacted John N. McGovern, JD, President, Recreation Accessibility Consultants, LLC to provide training)
Scheduling Update: Mr. McGovern will be in New Mexico the week of April 19, 2016; however he is not available on Tuesday, April 19th, 2016. He is available Monday the 18th of April or Wednesday the 20th of April, does the committee want to reschedule the meeting or have a special meeting so Mr. McGovern could attend the meeting in person?

The committee discusses their schedule availability. The committee can meet on Wednesday, April 20, 2016 at 3:30 to 5:30pm. The committee would like someone from the Governor's Commission on Disabilities to attend the training on that day. Warren Wild motioned to change the next GARTC meeting to Wednesday, April 20, 2016, from 3:30 to 5:30pm, Tyler Ashton seconds. Motion passes with a voice vote.

- Committee Member Recruitment

Staff reports on some folks who have expressed interest in being on the committee.

- Proposed Trail Names

Carrie Barkhurst, Planning Department, I started looking into giving the proposed trails names, but found that there is more work than I first thought because many more trails than just the proposed need naming. Planning is too busy with ABC-Z project so DMD is going to take charge of the data without all the proposed trail names. But I now I realize we need to work on making sure all the existing trails have the correct names. So, the next steps for the committee are to review the existing trails, so the proposed trails will often connect to an existing trail and keep the same name. Carrie, is this approach satisfactory? There is conversation between the committee members and Carrie regarding the trail names. Ian has been working on the names and will send his work to Carrie for inclusion in the DMD GIS data. There is a question regarding whether or not GARTC members can get access to the online mapping tool to make changes or flag trail name issues. Carrie can see if she can get them access and then send the committee members a link. If the committee can get the work done in the next 4-5 months then it should fit in with the Parks signage program project. Carrie, one question is how to make decisions when there is a disagreement? Jason, one thing that would be helpful is criteria for how to make decisions regarding trail names. Once the Bridge and Trail Evaluation Study (BaTES) has moved on to trail names then I think it will come back to the committee. There are rules of thumb in the Bikeways and Trails Facilities Plan, the remaining copies of the plan will be awarded to the future in-coming members of GARTC. (Jason has shared that there are only three left in the whole world.)

- Trail Count Locations

Julie Luna, MRCOG, explains how a count program functions and that MRCOG is working with Parks on starting the non-motorized count program. The existing permanent counters and the technology involved is described. The pedestrian counters all also described and the limitations and capabilities are discussed by the committee. The main two types are video and infrared, and both can be used in conjunction with induction loops imbedded in the ground. Short duration counts are also described. Julie hands out maps for the location of the proposed permanent trail count locations. The criteria for where to install permanent counters is discussed, because funneling the users is an important factor to avoid undercounts caused by a parallel route. Specific locations negative and positive characteristics are discussed and whether or not unpaved or paved facilities are a factor is discussed by the committee. The committee reviews and marks up a map provided to show locations of interest for trail user counts.

- Interagency Coordination

Kathleen Rhoad introduces the March 9, 2016 weed workshop and reads the sign-in sheet. The workshop is then described, including the paper and the presenters. Keeping the clear zone free of grasses is discussed as an issue that is handled differently from agency to agency, but in general keeping the recovery zone even and very shortly mowed was a goal, and therefore presents a problem for growing native grass right against the pavement edge. The content of Judith Phillips' presentation is described as well. Issues with current maintenance practices are discussed by the committee.

Staff Reports and Project Updates –

Jason Coffey, Parks and Recreation Department.

- Unser Trail, cost estimated has been requested to renovate the Unser Trail from St. Josephs north to Dellyne.
- We are working on the contract for the Bridge and Trail Evaluation Study. CIP has requested a few changes and I made the changes and resubmitted it to DMD CIP.
- I continue to participate in the Alameda Drain and Trail Mater Plan, and the steering committee had another field review (3/7/16) for team members and the master plan is going to include some well thought out options.
- The maintenance workshop took place March 9th, 2016 and we had a good turnout, a good presentation and a discussion about native grasses and forbs as weed control strategy for non-irrigated trail ROW.
- Since I was here last, both North Diversion Channel and Paseo del Bosque at Montano projects have been completed.
- Parks is going to do a slope stabilization pilot project because we want to explore some low impact and lower cost techniques for stabilizing slopes adjacent to trails. No projects have been picked yet but we are working to get a list of options generated.
- We are going to have a third phase of bollard project to get the remaining location we are identifying and to have a few on hand for Parks Management and Parks Construction to use as needed or as part for repairs.
- I am still waiting on the contract from NMDOT for the rail crossing upgrade on the North Diversion Channel Trail just south of El Pueblo. Once we get the contract it will need to go through the city's review process, so it could be another month or two before we get moving on building the new crossing.
- I am working with MRCOG on increasing the number of permanent trail counter locations, and on performing short duration counts during the summer and fall.
- Chelwood Park Blvd at Indian School Road intersection improvements are a DMD project. All four corners of the intersection are being improved and medians are being installed. The project duration is 30 days and at the end of last week it was half over. The trail should be reopened by mid-week (3/23) and was closed so the ramps could be worked on. The light pole in the trail is being relocated and there will be some intermittent trail closure as the new lighting is installed. The new lighting will be installed by PNM and the timeline was not known yet for that work.
- National Trails Day is June 4, 2016 and Parks and Recreation is in the process of picking a site for a trail stewardship project.

Carrie Barkhurst, Planning Department

The planning /Department is working of the final draft of the Comprehensive Plan and is going to have a public review and then see if the Com Plan is ready for the EPC. The ABC-Z project website has the dates for these public meetings (abc-zone.com)

Public Comment-

None

Adjourn: Meeting is adjourned at 5:35pm.


The foregoing GARTC minutes from the March 22, 2016 GARTC meeting have been approved as written or with noted comments on April 19, 2016.

Chairperson – Ian Maddieson



Date April 19 2016

Prepared by: Jason Coffey

4/19/16 
Date _____