

## Aztec Trails and Open Space August Minutes

The regular meeting of the Aztec Trails and Open Space Committee met at the Aztec City Hall on August 18<sup>th</sup>. President Kelly Townsend called the meeting to order. Introductions and affiliations were made. Those in attendance were President Kelly Townsend, Treasurer Eleanor Townsend, Secretary Tara Townsend, Sally Burbridge, Sandi Harber, A.J. Sanchez, Paul Merrett, Porter Smith, Dennis L. Carruth, Ed Cooper, Don Greenwood, and Joe Hubbard.

The approval of the minutes from July was tabled until more members could read and approve them. The motion was made by Sally Burbridge and Seconded by Eleanor Townsend. The treasurers Report was given by Eleanor Townsend. The checking account balance held at Four Corners Community Bank is currently \$471.85.

2009 Priorities were addressed as follows

### Pedestrian Bridge landing planning:

Sally Burbridge presented possible ideas in sketch form to the group. All members viewed the sketch. Utility availability was questioned by the group. Don Greenwood stated that utilities are available at the site. Eleanor Townsend questioned how the project would be funded. Sally Burbridge stated that it would be ideal for the group to attempt to fund it through donations etc. Lighting concerns were discussed by the group. Sally Burbridge suggested that we exclude lighting for now due to cost issues. Retaining wall costs were brought up by Ed Cooper and Don Greenwood. Don Greenwood was asked to cost out the price of the sketch. Does the sketch need to be more professionally rendered before presentation to possible donators and the City of Aztec?

### ATOS Website:

Sally Burbridge stated there was no news at this time regarding this topic.

### Riverside Loop:

Don Greenwood said that the project is moving along smoothly. Road base as been put down and clearing of brush has been accomplished.

### Recreation Area Trails:

It was decided by the group at large that a "Field trip" was needed to further explore the area and its possibilities. See Bicycle cruise nights topic for further information.

### Bicycle Cruise nights:

Sally Burbridge stated that Bicycle Cruise nights have been very successful. Six regulars have been showing up. It was suggested that a bicycle cruise night would be ideal to explore the new recreational area. Friday the 28th of August at seven PM was decided upon as the date for the cruise of the new rec. area.

### RTCA grant:

Sally Burbidge stated that the RTCA grant had been submitted and we are now just

waiting to hear back from them. Dennis Curruth stated that we should know if the accepted our proposal by the first part of October.

New Business was addressed as follows:

Oktoberfest Activities:

A simple booth at Oktoberfest was suggested by Kelly Townsend. Eleanor Townsend suggested that the group should ride in the parade. An idea of another raffle of a bike was suggested by Don Greenwood. Dennis Carruth suggested that he could contact Wal-Mart for a donation of a bike. Don Greenwood also suggested that it would be a great time to have a membership drive. He also suggested that the bike to be raffled could be ridden in the high noon shootout. Raffle ticket selling times and ticket options were discussed.

Request to Purchase Trees for Island Trail Area:

Don Greenwood stated that they are looking for good trees and native grasses to prevent dust and mud in the Island Trail Area. It was made clear that ATOS would be responsible for paying for these trees. Kelly Townsend suggested using sales from raffle tickets for this. Don Greenwood estimated that about six trees would be adequate to start.

Woodchips donated from Masons:

Joe Hubbard said that the Masons have donated wood to be chipped. Don Greenwood stated as long as it can be transported to Riverside Park we will be happy to use it.

Presentation to SJ County concerning Rail Trail Opportunity:

Joe Hubbard stated that we need to remind the county that as a community organization we would like to see the railroad grade used as recreational trails. This would be only to remind them that the right of way is still desirable for recreational use. The next county commission meeting is on the 27th of August (County.) 6-7.

New Mountain Bike Trails:

Steve Christenson spoke regarding the haul road currently adjacent to Navajo Dam road. With a little work part of this road could be used for a future mountain bike trail. The question was posed to the group: Do we want to, as a group, take responsibility for this trail? Discussion ensued. It was decided by the group that this is something we would like to consider. A motion was made by Joe Hubbard to make a commitment to this proposal. The motion was seconded by Ed Cooper. The motioned was tabled in order to investigate further during our bicycle ride scheduled for August the 28th. Joe Hubbard and Ed Cooper laid down their motion and the group moved on.

Autumn Bicycle Tour:

Joe Hubbard stated a tour would be a great opportunity for a fund raising opportunity. Ideas for different bike rides were discussed by the group. It was decided that this topic should be planned at least a year in advance.

Labor Day Moon Light Tour/Chaco Tour

Discussion regarding a moonlight ride on bicycles was discussed by the group. Kelly Townsend suggested that we could tie in the Chaco tour at some point. It was brought to

the groups attention by Dennis Curruth that Chaco is closed due to technical difficulties. Further discussion on this matter was tabled until Chaco is no longer under construction.

Open Discussion:

Ed Cooper stated that we may need to consider creating a map for area trails. Eleanor stated that they've gathered some maps. Sally Burbridge stated that we need a more all inclusive map.

Kelly Townsend stated that the group has received a letter from a Farmington area accountant wishing to receive nonprofit experience. Eleanor Townsend stated that she would call this accountant to ask further information.

Joe Hubbard stated that he has not got a bike rider with a GPS unit to ride the trail from Aztec to Bloomfield yet but will continue to attempt to.

There were no further topics for discussion and the meeting was ended. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15th.