

**Candelaria Farm Preserve  
Technical Advisory Group**

Rio Grande Nature Center State Park • 2901 Candelaria Rd NW  
Education Building

November 30, 2017 • 2:30pm – 4:30pm

**Minutes**

**Participants**

**Members** - Brian Hanson – Chairman, Peggy Norton, Christiane Hinks, Carolyn Siegel, Judy Kowalski, Steve Cox, Christina Sandoval, Kent Swanson, Nathan Todd, Alan Reed, Heather MacCurdy

**Additional technical assistance** - Matt Schmader, Dave Hutton, Kathleen Hall

**Community** – Linda Shank, Ann Dunlap, Melinda Moffitt, Richard Barish, unknown Albuquerque employee

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2:30 Introductions

Approval of Agenda – agenda was approved and several items added – summary of Open Space Advisory Board, Letter to Mayor Keller, Clarification of Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) requirements, notetaker, Assistant Chair selection (not discussed)  
Notetaker – Linda Shank agreed to take notes.

Announcements from TAG members – Some individuals are working on a ordinance to ban drones over the Candelaria Farm Preserve. Peggy and Matt mentioned that many cranes were in the farm fields.

Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) meeting of November 28 – Brian summarized the meeting. At the OSAB meeting Alan Reed was voted as the primary lead for OSAB, replacing Michael Jensen. Michael will be the alternate. The OSAB agreed with Brian Hanson leading the TAG.

Letter to Mayor Keller – Brian thought it would be good to send a letter to the Transition Team for Keller and/or meet with the Mayor to inform him of this issue and ask for his support for the TAG and the process of writing the Resource Management Plan. Alan Reed thought it might be good but suggested delaying since the first few weeks of the Mayor’s term is chaotic and he might not remember the briefing now. Alan said he could arrange a meeting later. Brian said he would draft a very short briefing paper for a future meeting that would be reviewed by TAG.

Clarification of LWCF requirements – Judy Kowalski stated that safety is key. Judy Kowalski stated that clarification is needed on the issue of “accessibility” as it relates to LWCF guidelines and requirements. LWCF guidelines specifically require that the public be provided “reasonable access” to LWCF encumbered properties. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) access is only addressed by LWCF guidelines in that they require compliance with ADA regulations. These are two separate issues. The issue of ADA access to Candelaria Farms should be addressed by the new plan, but it would be most appropriate to do that toward the latter part of the planning process, once the larger issues of land use are decided.

Carolyn noted that the Alvarado Gardens Neighborhood Association is working on a “gathering spot” along Veranda Road north strip (south of the fields) and this plan should coordinate with that group. Brian suggested that a viewing area could also be constructed on the east side of the farmland. However, there is a Middle Rio Grande Conservancy ditch there and they would have to be included in discussions.

Public Comment – Two individuals commented that it seemed the TAG was making progress.

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Scope of Work for a contractor to complete a Resource Management Plan (RMP) – Kent Swanson passed out a 3 page draft scope of work. Since no one has seen this, it was suggested that we review the document individually and comment on it at the next meeting. The TAG wanted to be involved in the contractor selection and writing the scope of work. Christina furnished information about the process.

Next meetings – We agreed to 2 upcoming meetings; December 7 and 14 at the Nature Center, 2:30 PM. Both meetings would address terms of the contract and develop 3 alternatives for the RMP.

4:30 Adjourn

If you have questions contact Brian Hanson [bhanson5@comcast.net](mailto:bhanson5@comcast.net) 505-856-1386

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