

Village of Taos Ski Valley Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting November 19, 2024

The chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 am and noted that there was not a quorum so the approval of minutes was delayed. Present were K. Brokaw, and J Woodard. Present were Rick Bellis and Marlene Salazar from VTSV. Also present was Robert Corroon.

The chair reminded everyone that at the prior meeting it was decided to cancel the December meeting which would have been on December 24. The next regular meeting will be January 28th. Katherine Kett joined the meeting and the chair asked for approval of the minutes from September and October. The minutes were approved and committee members were reminded to review minutes and provide comments. It was suggested that in person meetings and field excursions are desirable. Any meeting or field excursion must be properly posted.

The chair reported on the winter closure of the vault toilet at hiker parking as well as the storage of the recreational equipment. Mr. Bellis reported that Public Works had explored construction fencing to protect the toilet during winter and there is none in inventory. He also will check about village staff investigation of repair of the cleanout hatch which has been damaged by the snow plows.

Mr. Bellis reported that Public Works is clearing dirt and rock from Kachina Vista Park. They seek a rock crusher to process the rock stored there. It was suggested that the rock and dirt might be used at the lower end of the park for stabilization, and at the upper end to create a flat area for a few parking spaces. It was also suggested that the village should consider replacing the Jersey barriers with gabion baskets at the lower entrance to the park. The chair also noted that avalanche signs are needed at both entrances. Mr. Corroon offered that Northside may have a sign that could be used. He offered to provide information on signs for avalanche warning.

The chair reported on the disposition of the recreational equipment. With direction from the village attorney, original and estimated value of each item is being developed. The monetary level is such that the posting process for the items is limited to the village website. The chair indicated that the disposition topic will be brought to the committee in January for approval to forward to the village council for approval. It was also noted that the tools which are in the PARC inventory have value to PARC and the village. It was also suggested that these tools might be forwarded to Public Works for management as a part of their inventory. The

chair noted that the committee may continue to provide support for disc golf until the recreation in the village core area is developed.

The chair drew attention to the material from Hart Howerton on a conceptual design for the hiker parking lot area. The committee discussed the design, noting that it will not create significantly more parking spaces, but rather created a more organized and welcoming parking area. The chair noted that a few questions remain regarding this design---how many handicapped parking spaces are needed; is overnight camping prohibited on village property and roads; and are long vehicles allowed in the parking area (or on village roads above the village core). Mr Bellis offered to provide information on these areas. It was also asked what the estimate for construction time is. The chair offered to seek this information as well as a general cost estimate.

Finally the committee discussed the Trails+ grant application. Loren Bell was unable to make the meeting. The committee discussed the idea of a bike trail from the Kachina basin area to the upper end of Kachina Vista Park. Mr. Corroon reported that Northside has created a plan for bike trails that includes a bike trail in this area. He offered to share the Northside plans. The chair suggested that a meeting with Kent Kiehl, Robert Corroon, Rick Bellis and Joan Woodard may be an appropriate next step, and offered to arrange that meeting.

Mr. Bellis noted that the village must undertake a comprehensive plan development which is required every five years and in that plan there will be a parks and recreation section. He also indicated that there may be state funds available to support such planning. The chair, Mr. Bellis, and Mr. Bell will discuss the scope and possible support and make appropriate modifications of the Trails+ application.

The chair noted that the plan is to submit the application before the end of December and if that is possible, it will require a special committee meeting to approve the draft before submittal to the council for approval.

Marlene Salazar reported that she is working on updating the village website and the PARC information on the website. The committee was asked to periodically review the site and provide comments and questions.

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan B. Woodard

Joan Woodard PARC Chair