

**Pojoaque Valley Planning Committee Meeting Summary**  
**Thursday, September 29, 2005 6:30pm – 8:30pm**  
**Sammy Quintana Community Board Room**

*(Note: This is a meeting summary and is not intended to give the meeting contents in its entirety. If you would like to get more details about the meeting, please contact another committee member that was present at the meeting, or the SF County Planning staff.)*

The meeting started at 6:40pm. David Dogruel chaired the meeting and was assisted by Jack Kolkmeyer and Renee Villarreal from Santa Fe County. The meeting began with discussions and reports of events since the previous meeting.

**Gathering for Mother Earth**

Diane and Jan Boissevain, and Mary Lou Williams put up the PVPC tent at about 6:30 AM on Saturday. Carlos Ortiz helped set up the posters, etc. Amelia Garcia, Carlos, David D., Chuck Berger, Mary Lou, Renee and Diane took turns manning the booth. There was a light turnout at the booth, but all agreed that it was worth doing. People who came to the booth filled out questionnaires. Mary Lou said that the booth looked great, and thanked Diane for the tent and the other components of the booth.

We also heard people's impressions of the gathering. Mary Lou said there was already a fire going when she got there at 6:30. Runners came around the fire and were blessed in Tewa and sent off. Renee was a runner, and reported that they ran from Tsankawi near White Rock to the Gathering site, with different runners each taking a segment. Renee said that it was a very nice event. Various people told us about the various events that took place on the open mike throughout the day. There was also free food and free massages

**Art Tour**

Elaine Best and David D. had each gone to the Art Tour. It appeared to have a good turn-out.

**Trail, COLTPAC**

We want to present our request for a trail to the next COLTPAC meeting, which will be next week on Thursday, October 6th. In preparation, Levi recently scouted the area. He brought in a map which he and Mary Lou studied to get an idea of where the trail is. It was agreed that we could present a rough idea of the trail location at the upcoming COLTPAC meeting, and get more specific later. Jack commented that the County has aerial photographs of the area from 2002. The County also has a GPS system, and people who could use it to map the trail more precisely. Renee will work with Levi to get a map together showing the tentative trail boundaries, and she will put together a short presentation for the COLTPAC meeting.

**School Board Meeting**

Many members of the PVPC attended the School Board meeting Wednesday night. All agreed that David D's presentation was superb. Renee commented that we should use the presentation for the public hearings to the County Commissioners when we finish the plan draft. The Board was very positive about the idea of having the community use the buildings slated to be demolished. David said that of course this would not be a primary focus for them.

Whether this plan can go through will depend on whether the land and buildings can legally be used for something other than a school. The land was donated, with covenants. We need lawyers to interpret these. Carlos was surprised that the Board estimated Attorney fees of \$5000 - \$10,000 to do this interpretation.

Jack commented that even if the land reverts to the donors, the donors may be willing to have the land used for community purposes. David O. said that the school has property in Nambe with the same covenants, and leases it to the church. Perhaps the schools and County could have a similar agreement for this land.

David D. remarked that the reason for the plan to demolish the buildings was to relieve the school district of the burden of maintaining the property. We will need a strong community voice to pressure the Legislature into agreeing to support this.

Jack said that we need to move quickly on this, and get the top level of the County involved, namely Commissioner Montoya and Speaker Lujan.

### **Wastewater**

Jack said that Governor Rivera gave a presentation to the Board of County Commissioners about a wastewater system to serve the Pueblo and the schools. The Pueblo will be a driving force for this system. The Pueblo had been planning a wastewater system, and the school also needs one. The cheapest solution was to have the schools hook up to the Pueblo's system. We know that the community has a preference for wastewater treatment rather than a public water system, so this is timely for us. Elaine remarked that the community is not unanimous in the need for a centralized system. Some members have felt that smaller local systems might be a better solution.

### **Tennis Court**

Don Wilson announced that the tennis court striping was just completed, and now the court is ready for use.

### **Speed Bumps**

Mary Lou reported some difficulties with getting speed bumps on a stretch of CR 84. James Lujan of the County seemed to feel that the request was for speed bumps on all of 84, and that therefore there were not enough signatures on the petitions. The petitions have a large number of signatures from people who live on the affected section of the road. Lujan left Mary Lou feeling that they would need to start over with fresh petitions. Commissioner Montoya arrived at our meeting at this point, and agreed to try to straighten out the confusion.

### **Potluck**

We discussed possible dates for a community potluck, but did not agree on a firm date.

### **Certificate for Marissa Stone**

Amelia showed us a beautiful frame, made by her son, which she will donate to hold the certificate. David D. had printer problems and was unable to print out the certificate. Renee agreed to print it out for Amelia to finish the complete framed certificate in time for the next meeting. We agreed to invite Marissa to our Oct 13<sup>th</sup> meeting, so that we could present it to her.

### **Discussion of Comments from the Community Forum**

Regarding the proposed Community Council, Harry remarked that in a recent meeting with the Pojoaque Basin Water Alliance he learned that they saw the need for an entity to oversee issues with water in the Valley. The Community Council might be able to provide that.

Under the **“Grow the Local Economy”** section, we discussed the following:

- A Flea Market
- Community Center

Having the community center give courses on xeriscaping, drip irrigation, alternative energy, and serve as a clearinghouse for solutions for agricultural problems.

Jack said that the Traditional Community allows for commercial development, but that explicitly zoning areas for commercial or mixed use might encourage commercial development where we think it is most appropriate. Since 502 was widened, it is probably less desirable as a residential area. The stretch of 285 north of Pojoaque is probably in the same situation.

Carl Berney commented that 285 from Pojoaque to Espanola is slated for redesign next. This would impact whether businesses would be appropriate there. Harry said that the planning for 285 North is not complete, so we could still have an impact on the design as it relates to access to current and future businesses off of 285. David Ortiz said that we should designate where we want commercial development and where it should not be. Mary Lou said that our community has a strong emphasis on keeping young people here, and commercial development would help achieve this goal.

Under the **“Ensure a Clean Water Supply”** section, we discussed:

By putting this goal in our plan we can help the acequias get grant money. For example, there is a problem with the diversions for some of the ditches. The level of the Nambe River is dropping because vegetation on the edges is narrowing the channel, causing a faster flow. The lower level means the diversions need to be moved.

### **Plans for Upcoming Meeting:**

As the meeting ended, at about 8:45, we agreed that the next meeting would be October 13. We will try to cover the rest of the comments, ending with Land Use. That will give us a transition into discussing land use issues as it relates to the traditional communities and the Land Use Code.

Notes by E.B. and R.V.