

Pojoaque Valley Planning Committee Meeting Summary
Thursday, April 20th, 2006 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.)

David Dogruel opened the meeting at 6:40pm and was assisted by Renee Villarreal.

Announcements

Agricultural Initiative:

Lynne Velasco announced that she and other individuals have been working on an Agriculture Revitalization Initiative for the Valley. The purpose of this project is to preserve and revitalize agricultural “land-at-risk” which was historically used for subsistence level or entrepreneurial farming and/or ranching systems. Lynne said that they will be working with the NM Acequia Association for this initiative and there would be an educational/youth component to this project as well. Her group is also planning on having a conference regarding this topic in May.

For more information, please contact Lynne at: lynnenambe@cybermesa.com.

A few questions were posed for Lynne about the project:

- **How many student studies have been conducted to get feedback about the level of interest in agricultural preservation from a youth perspective?** Lynne stated that none have been conducted concerning youth interest at this time.
- **What has been the response of the Acequia Association to your proposal?** Lynne stated that they were supportive of their ideas.
- **What areas are you targeting specifically and how did you come to the conclusions that these areas were “land-at-risk” areas?** Lynne stated that the NMSU Agricultural Extension studies have shown that Tesuque and the Pojoaque Valley are areas at risk.
- **What are some of the reasons that agricultural land has been fallow in the Valley?**
 - No time to irrigate or farm
 - Lack of money and too expensive to start it up again
 - Lack of interest
- **How is the group getting the word out to engage people that are currently disengaged or disconnected from agricultural initiatives in and around the community?**

Lynne said right now they are mostly working through the Farmer’s Market Inc., the Acequia Association, and by different people in the agriculture circle. David said there should be another mechanism for those that aren’t currently involved in farming and/or related initiatives. Renee suggested making contact with Miguel Santistevan with the Acequia Assoc. to learn more about some successful models of youth agricultural initiatives.

High-Speed Internet:

Chuck announced that the Qwest petitions are now in Ben Ray Lujan's possession for submittal. There were 451 signatures collected. Qwest will then have 30 days to respond to the request of looking into infrastructure and costs associated with supplying high speed Internet access in the Valley.

Luncheon for Diane Boissevain:

The group also talked about the details for the going away luncheon for Diane Boissevain. The group decided that the gathering would take place at on Sunday, April 30th at Rancho de Chimayo starting at 1:00pm. If you need more information, please contact Renee at 986-6236.

Land Use Table

The group finished up the last round of questions and concerns regarding the Pojoaque Valley Land Use Table. The questions on the table involved explaining definitions about residential uses and what should be permitted for these categories. To get a copy of the completed land use table, please email or call Renee Villarreal at renee@co.santa-fe.nm.us or 986-6236.

Notes by R.V.