

Town of Silver City Trails & Open Space Committee Meeting Record

Wednesday, November 19, 2025 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM (MDT)

Members Present

Harry Browne
Bob Schiowitz
Martha Egnal
Marion MacDonald
Amy McLane
Patricia Stoller

Others Present

Jacqui Olea
Joe Hutto

Members Absent

Bruce McKinney

Call to Order 5:31pm

Approval of Agenda: Harry moves, Amy seconds, passed unanimously

Public Input n/a

Approval of Minutes October 22nd, 2025 Regular Meeting

Corrections:

- Allyson **Siwik** (spelling)
- Approval of minutes **Burro** (sp)
- Senior trails- Bruce **Coates** (sp)
- OMG Grant La **Capilla** (sp)
- Throughout document- replace commissioners with committee members

Bob moves, Patricia seconds passed unanimously

Staff Reports

- Town politics- Election happened, Rudy Bencomo (District 1) resigned
- DOT has funding for bike/pedestrian trail planning (RTP-Recreational Trails Program). The town is initiating the process to look at better ways to direct bike and pedestrian traffic around the HWY 180 and HWY 90 intersection- signage, routes, etc.

Committee Reports

- Review of F St. Trailhead Access- Bob spoke with Becky Smith (owns 2 of the properties involved, separated by the property owned by Cindy Rogers and Jerry Boswell). Becky indicated willingness to give the city easements through the property. Met with Cindy and Jerry- generally supportive, want time to think about it. Met with Mike Souter, who is not interested in people

being back there.

- Only feasible option is the existing trail on the N end of the retention dam that the field trip visited, tucked in along the toe of the slope- SE across the wetlands area, wind your way back up staying as far away from Mike Souter as possible, and as high up in the drainage to avoid flooding
- Bob will follow up with Jerry after Thanksgiving

Old Business

- Status of La Capilla Open Space trail improvements- Trails employee was out there for 2 weeks working on drainage issues. There is a trail design/engineering issue (built on the fall line). Might need to be redesigned; the employee did what was possible to mitigate issues.
- Spring Street Trail Head Plan Review-
 - Joe Hutto had two questions:
 - Can the trail be moved?
 - Is there a budget?
 - Potential for existing right of way to be vacated for construction project- would be taken up with the town council at the earliest, Jan 2026
 - Moving the trail would require fence modification, moving the kiosk, moving the water, and attention to the parking area (landscaping and fencing)
 - If this proceeds, the property owner has offered to contribute up to \$5,000 to help move the trail (no existing budget or plan yet)
 - The committee sees trail access at this point as a priority. The committee is open to entertaining the idea of moving the trail if it is financially and logistically feasible but does not want to jeopardize trail access.

New Business

- Outdoor Marketing Grant brochures and wayfinding- 3 brochures created through NMORD OMG grant + volunteer hours. Part of the rack program.
 - Birding Guide
 - Trails and Open Spaces
 - Parks and Rec
- Draft letter of support for the Community Forestry Management Plan - Just got plan forwarded to committee- Harry suggests that committee members read plan and provide input at the link provided
 - Note that the plan indicates that the committee is “developing a Master Pedestrian and Recreational Trails Plan,” which is not accurate. The committee is working on interpreting and implementing existing plans.

For Next Meeting- December 17, 2025

- Market St. Trailhead improvement status
- PA Creek Trail (new trail) status

Adjournment 7:00pm