

MEETING MINUTES

Merced de Santo Tomas Apóstol del Rio de Las Trampas

Board of Trustees Monthly Meeting, Escuelita in Las Trampas, April 11, 2024

Present: Alex Lopez, Arnold Lopez, Sam Lopez, Ruby Lopez and Pat Aguilar

Purpose of the Meeting: to approve a revised membership application form and to discuss the annual preliminary budget.

Meeting called to order by Alex Lopez at 10:00 a.m. Five Board members present constitutes a Full Quorum.

Key Actions:

Reviewed agenda. Revised to add approval of the March 16, 2024 minutes. **Motion by Sam, seconded by Pat that the agenda be approved as revised to include approval of the March 16, 2024 minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed March 16, 2024 Draft Minutes. **Motion by Arnold, seconded by Sam that the March 16, 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed April 1, 2024 Draft Minutes. **Motion by Sam, seconded by Ruby that the April 1, 2024 minutes be approved as presented. Motion passed unanimously.**

Reviewed progress by Board Members on 2024 Action Plan items:

1. Gravel the Plaza Area – Alex: Waiting for reauthorization from State regarding excess allocation for the Wood Splitter. Expect to hear after new fiscal year begins, perhaps by September.
2. Entering Las Trampas Land Grant signs on Highway 76 – Pat: The sign south of Ojo Sarco has been installed. Chamisal sign not yet installed. Arnold stated that the sign south of Ojo Sarco is far from the actual boundary. He will contact the local State DOT staff and ask them to move it.
3. Land Grant sign for the Plaza Area – Alex: Needs to draft wording and present to the Board.
4. Obtaining wood and managing distribution of firewood – Arnold: Forest Service has decided that they will provide wood Ojo Sarco, Las Trampas, Truchas, Santa Barbara and Picuris. Wood delivery is planned for some time in the Fall. Pat expressed concern that Ojo Sarco is part of the Las Trampas Land grant and should be included as part of Las Trampas by the Forest Service.
5. Obtaining land in Las Trampas for a Headquarters Office – Alex: No land is currently available for purchase.
6. Managing and Coordinating Legislative requests for tours and meetings – Ruby: No requests.
7. Developing a posture size map of the Land Grant – Alex: Surveyor stated he could not provide a posture size map. This item will be dropped from the Action Items List.
8. Sharing knowledge of Land Grant corners and boundary lines on-the-ground with Land Grant Board and members – Arnold: Arnold will schedule a date for Board Members to view corners on the ground this coming summer/Fall.

9. Developing a posture size map of the Land Grant by the State Forester's Office--Pat. Pat presented the second version of a map drafted by the State Forester's Office in Santa Fe. Board reviewed the map and suggested letters be of smaller font size, lines be thinner, show Rio Trampas and lighten print to make it lighter like the NW areas.
10. Development of a Website – Pat: The website is available at lastrampaslandgrant.org. Additional information will be added. Pat requested suggestions of what information to include. No additional information was provided during this meeting.

Reviewed the Draft membership application form. **Motion by Ruby, seconded by Arnold, that the Draft application form be approved. Motion passed unanimously.**

Discussed the need for renewal of our surety bond which is in place for the President and Treasurer. Current cost is \$995 per year for each. Our 2024 preliminary budget will need to be adjusted to show this expense. Arnold will look into quotes from other providers to see if we can reduce the cost.

Arnold suggested that we revise our bylaws to include an effective starting date of August 1 for newly elected board members and a term expiration date of July 31 for outgoing board members. This would ensure continuity of activities, especially for required reports. Currently, an outgoing Board Member's term ends upon the election of new Board Members on the first Monday in April with elections held every two years. **Motion by Arnold, seconded by Pat to propose this change during our next annual meeting. Motion passed unanimously.**

Motion by Pat, seconded by Arnold, that meeting be adjourned. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 11:31 a.m.



Pat Aguilar, Secretary