

TRAILS AND PATHS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, February 14, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8.15 am.

Roll Call: Present: J. Coleman, B. Eckstein, E. Ferrari, A. Doherty, S. Gold, G. Hanning, T. Lee, J. Shefren, M. Rothrock, H. Young: Public Works Director. Guest: J. Dennis, Town Manager.

Oral Communication: a) Town Manager check in: J. Dennis was impressed that our Committee is at full contingent as some Committees are not. A suggestion was made to send out a letter from the town to new residents, giving them some history of our town and impressing on them our all-volunteer town government and committees, and also soliciting volunteers to serve on our committees.

S. Gold expressed concern with the fact that our trails are getting overgrown because of lack of spraying. Suggestion was to all-weather some trails to reduce spraying especially in view of the Town Council's desire to maintain as green a standard as we have sworn to uphold. It was pointed out that if this were enacted, the town would not have to spray with chemicals as the all-weather trails would not require it, thus complying with the 'green' element.

Comment made on the Westridge trails and their condition. There is a new Westridge Association President, Charles Zaffaroni. G. Andreini still heads the trails committee. J. Dennis says they have a website which is: WASC

J. Dennis expressed support for our committee and asked if there was anything he could do to help us, and to contact him if we had any need.

b) New committee applicant: Nick Cabell has expressed an interest in attending committee meetings, but not be considered an applicant. He has lived here in town since 2010 and mentioned he is very interested in the trails and their proper usage, and concerned about safety when that usage is compromised. The committee thanked him for his interest and suggested he come to meetings and give his input until such time as there is a vacancy and he can apply.

Approval of Minutes: J. Coleman made a motion, G. Hanning seconded and all were in favor.

Old Business: a) Trail conditions, work and budget update: H. Young stated that there were more than 20 problems around town with downed trees so staff is very busy. He will get to the trails damaged during the recent storms when things dry out. H. Young also stated that due to the Town Council's desire to 'go green', limits are being put on spraying. A suggestion was made by a member to spread wood chips on trails. H. Young pointed out that this material holds the damp and does not allow the ground to dry out. J. Coleman was going to check into this. E. Ferrari added that the head of the Woodside Trails had told her the same thing when she had suggested it for wet spots on the trails. B. Lipman was pulling star thistle from the trails and in keeping with acknowledging members of the public for being good stewards, E. Ferrari will send a town 'thank you' card for her efforts. H. Young needs input from the committee re. spraying and exploring what other

agencies do.

b) Trail Signage Update: E. Ferrari and J. Shefren will put up temporary signs saying No Bikes in a few spots on the trail posts around town. S. Gold put two up which lasted two weeks.

New Business: a) Committee roles: It was agreed that the committee will stay as it is with T. Lee remaining as Chair, S. Gold Vice-Chair and E. Ferrari as Secretary. Praise was given to these members for doing a good job and they were asked to continue for 2017. B. Eckstein made a motion to approve, J. Shefren seconded and all were in favor.

b) Council update: see below

c) T. Lee says we have to set a change of time for the meeting if that is what the committee wants. J. Shefren requested a change of meeting date to the first Tuesday of the month, subject to the confirmation of the Town secretary.

d) Site Development Plans: T. Lee said that the committee's collective feedback on the Rossotti's CUP Renewal and Update, pertaining to the hitchracks and trail, has been submitted to the town.

e. Accolades

Other Business: B. Eckstein says planning has started for the Portola Valley Horse Fair which will fall on Saturday, May 20th, 2017, from 12 to 3 pm and the Trail Ride which will be on Sunday, May 21st, from 9 – 12 am. Participants will be solicited and having a vendor will be explored to see if possible. A. Doherty suggested having a vinyl sign trail map with markers which are erasable. This idea was welcomed.

Adjournment: J. Shefren made a motion, B. Eckstein seconded and all approved. The meeting was adjourned at 9.35 am.