

**TRAILS AND PATHS COMMITTEE MINUTES** - Tuesday, May 21, 2019, 8.15 am.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 8.20 am.

**Oral/Community Communications:** None

**Roll Call:** J. Coleman, A. Doherty, B. Eckstein, E. Ferrari, S. Gold, G. Hanning, T. Lee, M. Rothrock, J. Shefren. C. Hughes, Council Liaison; H. Young, Public Works Director; C. Sanders and Dudley Carlson, PV Ranch Liaison; K. Stromeyer, Conservation and PV Ranch Liaison; J. Hansen.

**Approval of Minutes:** S. Gold asked that the minutes be amended to show, under 'New Business, a. Paso Del Arroyo asphalt path', that H. Young and G. Hanning collaborated on the new pathway and landscaping plans. B. Eckstein moved to approve the minutes as amended, J. Coleman seconded, all were in favor.

**Old Business:**

**a. Monthly (May) Trail Conditions, Work, and Budget: (Update):**

Trails opened for the season

Proposed tree removal obstructing fence on Possum Lane

H. Young stated there is a lot of mowing due to the rains, perhaps 20 days' worth. He will be starting with Coal Mine Ridge, continuing with the well-used trails first. Tree trimming will be farmed out. J. Coleman asked whether tree branches are trimmed upwards for equestrians and H. Young confirmed that. S. Gold brought up Minoca again which is very overgrown in parts and needs to be addressed with a view to rocking it. She also said that the top of Arroyo is quite overgrown. E. Ferrari said that the Sequoia trail needs attention in places. T. Lee mentioned that the trails have been open to horses and the recent rains were unexpected. E. Ferrari reminded H. Young that the trail up Hayfields to the entrance of Larry Lane is overgrown with thistles and needs weedwhacking. H. Young will be doubling the help in order to clean up the trails.

Regarding Possum, H. Young talked to Cindy, the engineer at Woodside. They will be removing the tree although it has not been done as yet.

H. Young said that the budget has already been submitted, and it is currently \$55,000. He will suggest Minoca as a capital improvement. It is overgrown because of no spraying. The committee feels it should be restored and all-weathered. T Lee asked the committee to bring their suggestion for all other trails needing attention to the next meeting.

**b. Paso Del Arroyo Trail: (Update):** The town will be removing the current asphalt and replacing it with a dirt path and also plant screenings to shield it from Ramies' garage. T. Lee asked why the town is paying for landscaping for a private property and it was pointed out that Ramies will be paying for

watering the trees, which the town will put in. H. Young said the residents have wanted this for some time.

**c. Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Study** (Discussion): The study and presentation will be made at a future council meeting. Please refer to the link.

**d. Horse Fair:** (Update): B. Eckstein said that the Horse Fair seemed more successful than ever with many families in attendance. Although the field and tennis courts had been reserved, there was t-ball on the field and people playing on the tennis courts ! Next year we will have to ensure the town reserves these facilities for the duration of the Horse Fair. B. Eckstein thanked H. Young and his crew for mowing the grass and smoothing the trail where the carriage goes. Also thanked the Trails committee for being so supportive of the event.

It was pointed out that the total budget for the hike and Horse Fair is \$4000. This was considered adequate for the committee's 2 events in the past. The expenses for the hike are negligible but this year B. Eckstein spent \$1,000 more for items including canopies and chairs as the town did not want to use their equipment. H. Young suggested that a realistic budget for the Horse Fair be submitted to the town. T. Lee suggested a budget of \$5500 for the 2020 events. J. Shefren made a motion to approve, G. Hanning seconded and all were in favor. A request will be made to town staff.

H. Young is working on the maintenance budget for trails and the capital improvement program. Asks committee to consider trails which they feel need attention. T. Lee noted that trails needing either maintenance or capital improvements should be agendaized for a future meeting.

**e. Coal Mine Ridge Trails:** trail head and trail signs and maps suggestions (Discussion): C. Sanders discussed replacing the current 2 kiosks with 10x16 signs at all entrances where there is no kiosk. He has walked these trails with S. Gold and noted that the red lines on the suggested signage is her input. He says that the board is happy to take away all the extra no dog and no bike signs. Although the committee liked the maps, there were some reservations with the wording. G. Hanning thought that there were drawbacks to the term Nature Preserve. He felt the committee could not approve the signs without running it by the town council. He felt that under the committee's charter, it was important all trails are treated similarly and there is confusion as to what the term Nature Preserve implies. J. Coleman and A. Doherty were favorably inclined to the term because it carried more weight than just 'open space', presuming there were no legal issues with this naming. M. Rothwell summed up the committee's reservations when she stated that the ranch is asking to be given special treatment in the use of this moniker when there are other parts of town to which it could also be applied. It would also set a bad precedent down the way. G. Hanning was concerned because Blue Oaks is given short shrift on the maps. The signage should show trails with dogs such as Blue Oaks and suggested a different color for that trail system on the map. He felt some collaboration is needed with them. S. Gold mentioned that the last part of Toyon trail leading to Lake allows dogs so that should be noted on the map. Other issues of concern were a) limiting trail use with a time schedule and b) enforcement. When asked what the ranch would do if users continue to ignore posted signs, C. Sanders said that rangers may have to be used to ensure compliance with the rules. The committee could not approve the maps as presented

because of the Nature Preserve naming and suggested C. Sanders present them at a future meeting with the changes. C. Hughes suggested members send their comments and suggestions to C. Sanders at [craig.sander@comcast.net](mailto:craig.sander@comcast.net) and cc T. Lee.

**New Business:**

- a. **Site Development Plans:** (Discussion, as filed and applicable). There were none.
- b. **Accolades:** (discussion, if any applicable): G. Hanning suggested thanking Bev Lipman who was pulling invasive weeds on Shady trail. E. Ferrari will send a thank-you card from the committee.

**Other Business:** None.

**Adjournment:** J. Shefren made a motion to adjourn, B. Eckstein seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 10.45 am.