

TRAILS AND PATHS COMMITTEE MINUTES – Tuesday, August 20, 2019, 8.15 am.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8.16 am.

Oral/Community Communications: Terry Lee said Joyce Shefren has officially retired and we have applications from 3 interested parties, 2 of whom are present today. Rebecca Lynn has been a resident for 8 years. Fred Leach has lived in Portola Valley for 2 years. Both candidates use the trails extensively, Fred for trail running and Rebecca and her family hike, run, bike and ride. Randy True was the 3rd candidate but was unable to attend the meeting. All candidates' applications are on file for committee review. G. Hanning asked how they would deal with user conflict. F. Leach felt education helps and feels most people understand why some trails are restricted. R. Lynn thought etiquette for trail use is important. She gave Tahoe as an example of trail etiquette working well. Terry Lee says the Council will make a decision in September re. the new committee member. Will review the applications with the Committee and then refer them to the Mayor.

Linda Lhosie lives on Portola Road and reported a tree down on the Portola town trail. H. Young will investigate. S. Gold brought rocks which are being put down on the trail at 20 Minoca. She thinks they are too big. H. Young felt they may be temporary for the passage of construction vehicles.

Roll Call: A. Doherty, B. Eckstein, E. Ferrari, S. Gold, G. Hanning, T. Lee. C. Hughes, Council Liaison; H. Young, Public Works Director; C. Sanders, Katherine Stromeyer, PV Ranch liaison; Rebecca Lynn and Fred Leach.

Approval of minutes for regular meeting of July 16, 2019: T. Lee had suggested some changes to the minutes and they will be approved by the committee next month.

Old Business:

- a. **Monthly (July) Trail Conditions, Work, and Budget:** Including seasonal wildfire mitigation and annual maintenance/signs review (Discussion/Update): H. Young has been working on the trails for the schools. Met with Fire Dept. re. Shady trail. The items to be removed are on private property and a town lot, which needs work. A study has been done on improving trail crossings and was presented at the last council meeting. It is a work in progress and is available on the town website. R. Lynn asked about the road conditions in winter on Georgia Lane, but this is a private lane. Paseo del Arroyo – the plantings are done. The footpath will establish itself. The slurry seal is finished around town.
- b. **Coal Mine Ridge Open Space/Trails:** (Update): The Ranch board wrote a letter to the town for a name change to Nature Preserve and the town has approved it. C. Sanders said the name will not entail restrictions to the trails, such as closing trails at certain times. C. Hughes also added the name would not change any legal restrictions now or in the future. G. Hanning said that as long as that is the rule – and duly noted in these minutes – he felt the committee will approve. H. Young suggested mentioning in the text for the maps that the Ranch granted easements to the Town of Portola Valley. He also suggested clarifying no bikes in both areas, Coal Mine Ridge

Open Space and Nature Preserve. Also remove all signs indicating no bikes, no dogs, at all 9 entrances to the Nature Preserve and put up a single sign which the ranch has prepared.

- c. **Potential Capital Projects:** (Discussion): Continue to submit suggestions to J. Coleman for extensive improvements. There are currently 6 suggestions. At the next meeting we will discuss these. K. Stromeyer brought up the poor condition of Bay Laurel from the junction with Old Spanish. Also members should send in any trail signs or posts which need replacing. E. Ferrari asked H. Young re. repairing the slide on Old Spanish but it is apparently on Ranch property. H. Young will follow up with them.

New Business:

- a. **Charter Amendment to Increase Committee Membership:** (Discussion): One slot available now. Shall we increase to 10? B. Eckstein said many committees have to cancel because there is no quorum but our committee does not have that problem. Discussion was tabled to the next meeting.
- b. **Site Development Plans:** (Discussion, as filed and applicable): None.
- c. **Accolades:** (Discussion, if any applicable):

Other Business:

Adjournment: T. Lee made a motion, A. Doherty seconded, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 9.40 am.