

Town of Portola Valley

Trails and Paths Committee Meeting Minutes — October 16, 2018

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 8:20am.

Roll Call: Present: A. Doherty, B. Eckstein, S. Gold, M. Rothrock, J. Shefren, J. Bourne, Conservation Committee, K. Stromeyer, Portola Valley Ranch Rep., Jeanette Hansen, Guest.

J.Aalfs, Town Council Liaison, Howard Young, Public Works Director.

Approval of Minutes: With the following change: The sentence reading “The Ranch will be putting up wildlife cameras as well as signs” will be changed to: “The Ranch is considering putting up wildlife cameras as well as signs.”

M. Rothrock made a motion to approve, Joyce Shefren seconded, all in favor.

Oral Communications: J. Hansen inquired about the bridge replacement on the Hayforks Trail. H. Young explained that the bridge repair will cost about \$9,000. Since machinery for the repair had to be brought in through private property written permission to secure that access needed to be obtained. This is now in place and the bridge should be replaced within the next month.

J. Hansen also mentioned that there needs to be some No Bikes signs on Portola Trail across from Santa Maria and Hayfields.

Old Business:

A.) Monthly Trail Conditions, Work, and Budget Update:

Howard mentioned that there are a few places on Hillbrook Trail in need of repair; this work will occur in stages and will be long term and ongoing.

The homeowner whose property borders Veronica and Hillbrook Trails is considering erecting a low fence for delineation purposes, similar to what the Ranch has on some of their trails. B. Eckstein cautioned that this type of fencing can be hazardous to horses, especially as they round corners.

Mention was made of the great in-house repair done on Bay Laurel Trail by Chuck.

Also routine work such as clearing the water bars will take place prior to the rainy season.

A new app, PV Connect, will go live by November and is another way to reach the Public Works Department and report trail issues.

B.) Community Hike, Saturday 11/3/18, 9am. — The route for the hike has been finalized. It will begin at Triangle Park, go up Sweet Springs to Deer Path and then back along Indian Crossing.

The Town will manage publicity, posting on the Forum, Facebook and Twitter.

Members of the Committee will bring water and snacks.

Banners have been ordered and will be put in place at both ends of Town.

Thanks to Barb for taking care of so many details!

S. Gold will email all Committee members to remind them of November's hike.

C.) Trail Signage @ Major Trailheads/Parking: The sub-committee (Alex, Susan and Joyce) agreed to meet prior to the November meeting and the corner of Alpine and Willowbrook and look at the PV signage at that corner and then walk over to the Open Space signage at the entrance to Windy Hill's Meadow Trail to compare and brainstorm ideas for improving our sign board.

Members might also look at signage at Arastradero Preserve.

New Business:

Site Development Plans: No new ones to report. Mention was made of (previously discussed and commented upon) 99 Hillbrook which is back with the ASCC.

Accolades: None in particular, just general praise for trail conditions.

Other Business:

A. Doherty mentioned that the gate at the far end of Toyon which was positioned to discourage bicycles looked as if it had been tampered with as a few boards looked to be removed.

K. Stromeyer stated that the signpost at Sunrise/Blue Oak connector was missing a usage indicator.

H. Young informed us that PG&E will be removing approximately 30 to 40 trees in order to mitigate fire danger along Portola Rd between Wyndham and the Town limits.

Adjournment: M. Rothrock made a motion to adjourn, A. Doherty seconded, all in favor. Meeting adjourned @ 9:15am.