

## **TRAILS AND PATHS COMMITTEE MINUTES** – Tuesday, December 17, 2019 8.15 am.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 8.15 am.

**ORAL/COMMUNITY COMMUNICATIONS:** There were 2 resignations from the Committee: Chair, Terry Lee, and Meredith Rothrock. The procedure for membership usually occurs in Nov/Dec when members are asked to confirm their continuing service, and then in January of the New Year, the Committee votes to elect the Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary.

**ROLL CALL:** J. Coleman, A. Doherty, B. Eckstein, E. Ferrari, S. Gold, G. Hanning, F. Leach. C. Hughes, Town Council Liaison; H. Young, Public Works Director; John Donahue, Stanford Representative.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Regular meeting of November 19, 2019. A motion to approve the Minutes was made by G. Hanning, seconded by J. Coleman and all were in favor except B. Eckstein, who was not at the meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

- a. **Stanford Subdivision Subcommittee:** Gary – (Update/Discussion): Since the last meeting, there has been no response from Stanford regarding the comments from the subcommittee concerning trails and where they are going. No comment either about the request that the development be moved south away from the Canyon trail. H. Young and G. Hanning did a site visit recently. They found the southern border and noticed there is a lot of room to move the subdivision south from the northern border, as there is only a 20 foot setback. The project is dense and out of keeping with Portola Valley's character. Looking at the Alpine dirt trail bordering their property on the eastern edge, we would ask for an easement through there. Suggested proposal is to move the entire Alpine trail onto Stanford property to get away from the noise of the heavy traffic. The trees could be cut back. The new trail could fit into this area by Golden Oaks to make a loop.

A deeded trail on the 1962 town map was found which connects from Canyon trail. It may have serviced horses. A public trail easement was recorded and this would connect to other trails on the property. Need to get the northern border of Stanford property surveyed as most of the land is on private property, until it comes to the old Woodside Trail Club gate at the bottom. Also need to survey western border along Minoca to find recorded trail easements. Did find a recorded bridle path easement on Canyon so the upper portion of Canyon is here to stay. In the future, will get this item on the Agenda to formalize Upper Canyon trail as Canyon trail.

G. Hanning re-addressed the above issues with John Donahue, who came late to the meeting. G. Hanning said he submitted the subcommittee's comments to L. Russell. G. Hanning repeated the recommendation to move the Alpine Road trail portion onto Stanford land. Should consider moving the entire Alpine Road trail along the Stanford parcel back onto Stanford land for screening purposes, and away from the busy road. Would have Stanford re-do that and put in. J. Donahue said it would depend on not disturbing drainage patterns. The Town has retained an Environmental Consultant. H. Young was asked what the next step would be in moving a town trail. It has to go through a process, G, Hanning asked if trails need to be in place when the application is filed. H. Young says the concept can be incorporated on the map but not have them built. Easements would be recorded at the same time as the final map approval.

- b. **Alpine Trail Road Remnant Subcommittee:** Ellie – (Update/Discussion): E. Ferrari attended the Town Council Meeting re. Open Space and Housing Issue. She read the Trail Committee's statement in favor for not developing the Frog Pond area. F. Leach also helped

prepare the statement. The Open Space and Conservation committees also read their statements in support of preserving the Alpine corridor and Frog Pond from development, in perpetuity. The Council agreed to this.

**c. Coal Mine Ridge Open Space, Maps and Signage:** Susan – (Update/Discussion): S. Gold said the posts and map boxes were up and looked very nice. The public has been using the maps and none were discarded on the ground.

**d. Seasonal Trail Closures:** Update: E. Ferrari asked if the Sequoia trail was on the list for some all-weather restoration in some areas where there are drainage issues. It is supposed to be open all year.

**e. November Trail Conditions, Work, and Budget:** Howard – (Update/Discussion): Work has commenced on the Cervantes trail; also water bars are being cleaned. Started fire mitigation on Shady trail and Escobar. G. Hanning and E. Ferrari brought up construction vehicles parking on Fawn. H. Young will ask the Building Inspector to address. Regarding the 'unofficial' trail on Frog Pond Preserve, it has to go through a process before it is designated as 'official'.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

a. **Development Plans:** Gary – (Discussion, if applicable): None.

b. **Accolades:** (Discussion, if any applicable): E. Ferrari will send thank-you notes from the committee to Terry Lee and Meredith Rothrock for their past service.

**Other Business:** H. Young said Town Hall will be closed December 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020. H. Young said corrections to October minutes re. J. Coleman and F. Leach on subcommittee have not been made. E. Ferrari will look into it and report at the next meeting.

**Adjournment:** J. Coleman made a motion to adjourn, E, Ferrari seconded, all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10 am.