

## TRAILS AND PATHS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES – APRIL 12, 2016

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

**Roll Call:** Present: J. Coleman, A. Doherty, B. Eckstein, E. Ferrari, S. Gold, J. Shefren.  
Guests: J. Hansen, C. Taylor

### Oral

**Communications:** M. Hufty spoke about plans to open up the redwood grove by Sausal Creek in front of Christ Church. She is talking with the church and hopes to have them open up the fence by the bridge so that access is given to move freely between the town's property and the church's. M. Hufty had also talked to T. Driscoll regarding re-instating the trail by the church fence which has been given over to parking for cars. The Trails Committee was enthusiastic about these ideas and also the Memorial Garden which will be on church property. As we are only an advisory committee, this should be addressed to the Master Plan committee.

C. Taylor mentioned that some of the signs on the Larry Lane trail had been taken down and showed photos of the trail conditions after the recent rains. It is also apparent that there are bicycle tracks on the trail as well as hoofprints. E. Ferrari will ask R. DeBenedetti of the Woodside Trails Committee to put out a memo asking that users please respect the town's TrailsClosed signs until they are officially taken down.

### Approval of

**Minutes:** J. Coleman made a motion to approve, J. Shefren seconded, and all were in favor.

**Old Business:** a. Annual hike/wildflower activity: J. Shefren suggested that wildflower seeds be scattered on the hike. We should also let the Conservation Committee know. A suggestion was made for the hike to be in the Fall, the end of October or early part of November.

b. Horse Fair budget: B. Eckstein gave an estimate which needs to be approved by the committee and then sent to the town. The estimate is \$2,200 and we have a committee budget of \$2,500 available this fiscal year (June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2015 – June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016) Any expenses for the hike would be covered by the budget for the next fiscal year, starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

**New Business:** a. Season trail openings and trail assignments: E. Ferrari will re-do the list of locked gates as there were some typos. Sometime before the next committee meeting, 2 or 3 members of the Trails Committee will decide whether to open the trails to equestrians if they have dried out sufficiently, and no further rain is forecast. E. Ferrari will not be at the committee meeting in May.

b. Bicycles on Portola Valley Ranch (and other PV) trails: A letter to the committee from the ranch complained about bicycle usage on ranch trails. This has been an on-going problem. Water bars do not deter bikers, possibly only telephone poles placed at various intervals to deter users as they would not be able to jump these posts.

C. Taylor suggested large boulders placed in various spots at each side of the trail to slow users and perhaps make it less likely they will use those trails. Drawback could be cost and labor. E. Ferrari will check with MROSD re. their strategy in deterring bikes on illegal trails and also controlling speed. C. Taylor suggested log stiles placed at the beginning and end of the trail. A temporary fix would be to use saw horses with signs on them saying NO BIKES and also explaining why (sight lines, tire tracks cause erosion).

This should be agendaized for the next meeting.

c. Possum Lane: E. Ferrari says we will hold off pursuing the restoration of the town trail at this time.

d. Nathorst: S. Gold asked committee to check town trail at 200 Nathorst. Homeowner is putting rocks on the trail. H. Young will check that this is an official town trail.

e. Memorial inquiry (John Boice/Larry Lane Trail) from Woodside Highland Homeowners Association: The town discourages memorial artifacts in town. S. Gold will enquire re. person requesting memorial and will ask C. Taylor.

**Other Business:** 468 Westridge: B. Eckstein says the homeowner has installed plantings (oak trees) on either side of the trail. As this is a Westridge trail, J. Coleman will talk to G. Andreini.

E. Ferrari sent a thank-you card from the Committee to MROSD for repairing the wire fence that was leaning over on the town trail at Alpine and Portola Road.

**Adjournment:** 9.32 am

**Date and Time**

**of Next Meeting:** May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016, at 8.15 am

**LIST OF LOCKED GATES:**

**Hayfields/Larry Lane:**

- 1. At Hayfields and beginning of Larry Lane trail system**
- 2. Hayfields and trailhead by Targ property**

**Ranch and Blue Oaks:**

- 3. Alpine Trail at Old Spanish**
- 4. Old Spanish at Bay Laurel**
- 5. Arroyo at Blue Oak (connector trail)**
- 6. Top Arroyo and Old Spanish Trail**
- 7. Bottom – fire road by Blue Oaks pool**
- 8. Bay Laurel (by Dot Nell)**
- 9. Deer Path above Valley Oak road**
- 10. Deer Path at Acorn road**
- 11. Sweet springs at Alpine road**
- 12. Sweet Springs at Valley Oak road**
- 13. Deer Path – below Acorn and just before going into the woods (where coyote sign is)**
- 14. Black Oak near Valley Oak road (bridge)**
- 15. Black Oak at Los Trancos**
- 16. Los Trancos fire road and Sunrise – near Buck Meadow trail**
- 17. Los Trancos and Buckmeadow road**
- 18. Sunrise at Arroyo (connector trail)**