

ECIA Conservation Committee Minutes
Feb. 7, 2017

Attendees: John Reynolds, Tom Bredenberg, Tom Brimacombe, Jerry Gulseth, John Parker, Rob Egemeier (secretary), John Henriksen (ECIA Board Liaison)

Guests: Cecil Rich, Paul Fink, Paul Butt

1. Minutes Accepted for Jan 3, 2017 meeting.
2. Reviewed Conservation Committee's 2016 Annual Report and recommended the following additions:
 - * CC member Greg Colello sponsored a project to improve access to greenbelt from Monte Alto Way.
 - * Committee worked with ECIA to resolve access issues to greenbelt from Cuesta Way.
 - * 5 ECIA Preserve Community Works days were planned and accomplished.
 - * Added to Goals for 2017 – Planning and site assessment to be completed for new trail in the 400 trails section for the Preserve.
3. April 29 has been set as a date for removal of Salt Cedar. Committee will also assess winter damage to 200 trails on the same day. Cecil Rich is a licensed applicator for Garlon.
4. Discussion of Jan Willams assessments of trails 201 and 301 was moved to the March 5 meeting.
5. Cleaning of Conservation Committee's tool shed and tool sharpening is scheduled for 2/14. John Parker will be contact person for those interested in participating.
6. Status of Greenbelt Trails Project – John Reynolds reported that a preliminary route has been mapped out and flagged. He said that the Kubota would most likely be needed to be able to complete the trail in a reasonable time period. Some residents in the area have also volunteered to help with the trail building. John will present the project to the ECIA board meeting Feb. 13. John Henriksen asked whether the Committee would want a brushhog for trail building. The Committee decided that a brushhog would not be needed for trail building, but would be useful for ongoing trail maintenance.
7. David Yard is willing to do a chainsaw training on a Sunday afternoon. Tentative date for training is March 12th at 1:30pm.
8. Jerry Gulseth presented an extensive handout covering Best Landscaping Practices. His subcommittee will be taking the information outlined in this handout to the ECIA Information Committee to put on the ECIA website. The subcommittee is also considering producing a card as a handout. The card will have basic information and will refer the reader to the ECIA website. John Parker recommended that we use the Master Gardeners Association to schedule a talk on the subject when this project goes live on the ECIA website.
9. The Committee approved a motion that Cecil Rich become a member pending ECIA board approval.
10. COLTPAC Update – County Rail Trail has been completed to Avenida Eldorado. Coltpac is planning trail routes on Thornton Ranch that will minimize impact on Petroglyph Hill.
11. Old Business - John Henriksen will check to see if ECIA has an active county permit to allow machine use on trails. Cecil has met with the ECIA road committee about trimming or removing Siberian Elm trees that are considered to be a nuisance.

12. New Business - Tom Brimacombe explained the horse damage to the 200 trails in more detail. He felt that the horse riders may come from the area surrounding the 200 trails and not from Eldorado. He will check with Mark Young to see if we have signs for deterring both motor vehicle use and riding in muddy areas. Tentative community work days were set up for April 29 and May 6. A 3rd work day will be planned with a date TBD.

Meeting adjourned at 8:58pm.