

Minutes from April 4, 2017 Conservation Committee Meeting

Attendees: Jim Daniel (Chair), Gerry Gulseth, Mary Clark, John Reynolds (Meeting Secretary), Tom Brimacombe, Tom Bredenberg, Rob Egemeier, Cecil Rich, John Henricksen (Board Liaison).

Guests: Paul Butts (nominated committee member), Carol Biedleman, David Tyemeyer, Paul Wickstrum

1. Approval of March Minutes – Motion to approve made by Gerry Gulseth, seconded by John Reynolds. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Committee draft letter to Isabel formally requesting Mark Young to be assigned as liaison to the committee. Letter signed by the members who were present, and will be delivered.
3. Survey day for project planning will be on April 11th. Jim & Jerry plan to attend, but many members have conflicts.
4. It's been reported that the 400 trails have cattle loose. Mark Young has been asked to fix fence the fence, but moving the cattle is a problem. John Reynolds volunteered to help locate the cattle owners through his cousin who is on the Livestock Board.
5. John Reynolds presented an update on the Biblioteca project. The trail is open and being enjoyed by neighbors. There's minor work remaining that John & Tom Brimacombe will perform. John wrote an article for the Vistas that will be in the May issue (hopefully).
6. Paul Butt presented suggestions for the trailhead 2 gate to reduce non-Eldorodan horse traffic.

Big R tube gate 6 foot \$61. Round posts. V gate. All agreed that we need gates at both 2 & 3 trailheads. Install high enough to not drag. Tom Brimacombe suggested 8 feet for equipment access and all agreed. Paul will get the gates if they fit in his car.

The signs for these gates will be based on the Fat Tire signs that emphasize VOLUNTEERS maintain these trails. Please close gate. Pronto Printing makes aluminum backed UV coated signs.
7. Paul Butt presented info on Trail Maintenance Groups in the area (separate document).
8. Group Discussion on Future Greenbelt Projects. Discussed proceeding with Library Trail by avoiding county land. Cecil Rich presented his plan for Playground access from Fonda Road.

We will send plans and requests to Isabel and the board and ask if further approval is needed.

The question was raised "How can we get gates to State land?". Not sure, but we'll look into it.

Cuesta Lane trailhead encroachment is still embroiled in legal discussions with the offending property owner. Conservation Committee will ask for guidance.
9. Jerry presented his "Best Landscaping Guide, and feels that it is ready for information committee approval. Jerry will work with Joel Newman to design the card for the newcomer packet..
10. Forest Service inventory request is in progress. John Henricksen will follow up.

11. We'll ask Tom Dominguez, the Santa Fe County Agricultural Extension Agent, for another session. Tree pruning workshop was a great success. The requested topic will be Land Stewardship, Managing for wildlife, Healthy landscape, etc.

12. The ECIA Annual Meeting is May 1st. Tom and Tom will cover for Jim who will be out of town. 7pm to 9pm at La Tienda.

13. Confirmed that Salt Cedar treatment will be applied during April.

14. Paul Butt was nominated by John Reynolds and seconded by Gerry Gulseth for membership on the committee. Unanimously approved. John R will draft request to board for Paul's confirmation.

15. Jim is ready to pass the baton of chairmanship and asked all present to consider stepping up to the plate. Jim's served for 3 years in this role and done a great job.

16. John Reynolds informed the committee that he'll be travelling weekly for work and is unlikely to be at committee meetings for the next few months.

17. Spare chain and sharpening kit for the new chainsaw - Tom Bredenberg will get them.

18. Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.