

Conservation Committee meeting of April 7, 2015

Attendees: Jim Daniel, Jerry Gulseth, Tom Bredenberg, Tom Brimacombe, Mark Young, John Parker, Rob Egemeier

1. Guests - Jan-Willem Jansens of Ecotone.
 - 2) March Minutes - approved with 2 corrections
 - 3) There will be a CC-sponsored birding talk by Roger Clark On Saturday 4/11 at 10 AM in the railroad room.
 4. JWJ updated us on the meeting with Santa Fe County Staff at trailhead #3. The County's easement for Route 51 does not extend beyond the bar ditches on either side of the road. JWJ is working with the county to get the bar ditches cleaned out so that rain water does not run off the road onto our trails. JWJ is willing to be our representative with the county to see that this work gets done.
 - 5) JWJ presented a plan to mitigate the erosion issue caused by runoff from the road. This included moving a berm to block the water flow preventing it from reaching the trail. It also included construction of rock structures including One-rock dams and Zuni bowls to slow water down before it reached the area of the trails. This work was not budgeted and will cost about \$2000. There is a possibility of getting some funds from the county since this water impinges on the trail because of the presence of the road.
 - 6) Jim discussed this application to the board justifying an increase of \$5000 John Parker suggested some changes to the petition and it was agreed by the committee with these changes we submit the petition to the board.
 - 7) The April 25th workday was discussed and April 14th was chosen as a day to do preparation and to move the berm using the Kubota tractor.
 - 8) Tom Brimacombe reported on the Greenbelt work. Lately the work has concentrated on cactus removal. There only a few areas left that require more work. Tom estimated this could be done in three more good work days.
 - 9) COLPAC - John Parker reported that phases 3 and 4 of the rail trail work would be complete by the end of April. However, finishing touches will delay the opening until the end of June. In contrast to previous reports, Phase 4 extending the trail to Avenida Eldorado is budgeted and scheduled. Colpec will be publicizing events to promote county Trails. A series of hikes are scheduled this spring. John will send us a copy of the schedule.
 - 10) John Talked to the Scout Leader about the possibility of one of our trail projects being used as an Eagle Scout project.
 - 11) All large trail signs are in place in the preserve, Three of the smaller signs have not been made. Mark will follow up.
 - 12) Mark will contact Mr. Atkins about having rock delivered for trail work. The rest of the rock will be put near the entrance of the greenbelt trail.
 - 13) We have scheduled a cactus talk to be given by Obie in May.
 - 14) John Parker is working on getting a herpetologist to give a talk this summer.
- Meeting was adjourned at 9:02 PM