

ECIA Conservation Committee Minutes

April 6, 2021

1. 1. Call to Order
2. 2. Appointment of Recording Secretary (Thom Bredenberg) audio requested
3. 3. Roll call: Paul Butt (Chair), Tom Brimacombe (Vice Chair) Carol Beidleman, Thom Bredenberg, Jürgen Lehman, (excused absence) John Parker, John Reynolds, Susan Will. Quorum established

(Board Liaison) Carol Sanguinetti, (HOAMCO Liaison) Mike Rogers) HOAMCO Zoom Assistant) Melinda Espinoza.

Visitors via Zoom: Champe Green, Jim Knight, Jonathan Turkle,

4. 4. Approval of Agenda, Motion, Carol B, 2nd Sue Will
5. 5. Announcements:

Meeting was streamed on ZOOM with the following rules:

Guests are muted until recognized; guests should type in name, full address and topic to speak during the OPEN FORUM. Residents will be recognized on a first come, first served basis.

Private messaging during the meeting is disabled.

An audio recording of the Zoom meeting will be made, and will be available after the meeting upon request to conservationchair@gmail.com

6. 6. Approval of March Minutes, Motion to table approval, Sue Will, 2nd Carol Beidleman
7. 7. Board Liaison Report, Carol Sanguinetti; By-laws Committee forming, contact Sal Monaco or Amelia Adair if interested. 50th Anniversary planning underway, contact Nancy Sulzberg if interested.
8. 8. HOAMCO report
 - Eldorado access to State Trust Lands: Mike presented the chicane plans for accessing the State Trust lands from the Pueblo Park greenbelt where the stile was. All of it will be on ECIA property and along the existing fence line. Will start on it tomorrow. State and lease holder happy with the design. Signage discussed to avoid trespassing on adjacent private property.
 - New fencing @ Trailhead One: New split rail fencing installed, 144 ft. done by maintenance, cholla planted then pulled up and wire again broken. Signage and cameras discussed, private property not an issue. Repair wire fence with stays. Request Sherriff help. Privileges could be removed for residents who continue to abuse Preserve resources. John Parker will follow up on his suspicion of who may be doing this.
 - Fence repairs @ Preserve western fence line & powerline easement gate; These repairs were completed by HOAMCO staff. Gate installed properly and reinforced fencing installed in the lower Cougar Canyon arroyo. Completed as of today, evidence of cattle trying to get out. Owners have key to gate and can retrieve them. Discussion to build one rock dam at this site to prevent erosion of improvements.
9. 9. Open Forum: Jonathan Turkle, equestrians offer to survey Preserve periodically. West line and southeast fences stable for now. Unless we receive reports of trespassing cattle, no trail inspection is necessary until autumn. Update the sign at TH1 directing hikers to proper trail entrance. Jonathan's third meeting and wants to be a member. He will submit a written request to join that will be considered at the next meeting.
10. 10. Project status updates:
 - Report on Eldorado Equestrian access to the Preserve (Paul Butt); See report of 03-08-2021. Johnathan, Amelia, and Chair rode from stables across HW285 paralleling T105. Review of

routes used by equestrians and proposed northern route. Complicated issue. Residents support equestrian traffic through their neighborhood.

- Library Trail project communication with area residents (Paul Butt): Draft letter approved by Board and will go out soon informing them of the trail plans. A neighborhood meeting via Zoom was discussed.
- SF Conservation Trust/ECOTONE Preserve Tour on Saturday 4/10. John Reynolds and Sue Will have volunteered to accompany them. Jan Willem is interfacing between Conservation Trust and Commonweal. Primary purpose of the tour is to show restoration work on 401 and 404. Discussion of trail conditions in Galisteo Basin, traffic exceeding trail capacity.
- 401 dam site, north gully Project (phase 2). Scope of work from JW distributed, exceeds \$2,500. We will need to get sole source contract for JW through Julie before proceeding with construction bids.

11. 11. New business:

Discussion of CC meeting format (live, Zoom, Live + Zoom): We will continue to adhere to current NMDOH orders. Carol S. reports ECIA is getting the capability to do Zoom and live simultaneously. Melinda, the equipment is ordered and should be arriving soon. Mike, installation and testing will take time before we can expect to use it. Consensus - May meeting will be Zoom only. Discussion of retaining Zoom access for community members post pandemic. Discussion on vaccinations and post pandemic planning.

Discussion of SOP for Greenbelt Fire Risk Mitigation; Review of instructions to removal crew. Resident of Monte Alto Place reported separate piles of old juniper trunks and branches in greenbelt with evidence of pack rat activity, perhaps left from railroad construction. When a report is received the Committee needs to take a look at it. By charter CC has general oversight of the greenbelts.

12. 12. Old Business

- Discussion of SOP for differentiating woody/brushy habitat from hazardous fuel accumulations in the Greenbelts, for wildfire risk management. Paul will resend both SOP drafts and we will vote to finalize them at the next meeting. Champe Green of 12 Monte Alto Place, who reported the juniper piles above, expressed concern that the Santa Fe Southern RR may soon resume operations and increase the risk of wildland fire in this area. Once the surveying equipment has been acquired, we can locate the greenbelt boundaries and plan accordingly. Question whether SFSRR/SFC are meeting DOT requirements for vegetation control, letter of concern discussed.
 - Preserve signage project next steps, Jürgen Lehman and Thom Bredenberg installed the new junction and wayfinding signs in the 100, 300 and 400 trail systems. Next: Print and install the large trailhead signs. Tom Brimacombe is working on that and the junction and way finding signs for the 200 trail system.
 - Set workdays for Tr 401 south site tour and re-route: Saturday May 1. We can vote to accept the plan at next meeting, May 4. We will then schedule removal of flagged deadfall and trees and then schedule HOAMCO blade work.
- Set workday for Tr 401 north re-route recon by Committee members. May 8, reconnoiter 401 north possible re-routes via Moby Dick boulder (see Chair's report of 03-29-2021)
- Discussion of request for consideration of placing bench(es) in the Preserve: Reluctance to have any more benches in the Preserve, memorial or otherwise. Platform at 4C there to stay, bench and picnic table in the 200 still under discussion.
- Thom Bredenberg, update on Committee's weed series in Vistas.

13. 13. Adjournment, Motion John Parker, 2nd Sue Will