

## ECIA Conservation Committee Minutes

September 7, 2021

1. 1. Call to Order: Paul Butt, 7:02 pm
2. 2. Roll call of members & determination of quorum: Carol Beidleman, Thom Bredenberg, Tom Brimacombe, Jürgen Lehman, John Parker, John Reynolds - absent, Susan Will. Board Liaison, Carol Sanguinetti; Alternate, John Turkle; Technical Support, Jessica Collins; HOAMCO rep, Mike Rogers. Have quorum.

Guests: Amelia Adair, Karen Yinger.

3. 3. Appointment of Recording Secretary: Susan Will (John Parker is slated for October)
4. 4. Approval of Agenda (Paul Butt): Changes: A. Amelia Adair (Chair of Stables Comm.) is here about equestrian-assisted work day so request to move that subject to the beginning of new business; and B: Under new business would like someone to make a motion to approve a budget increase of \$6700 to budget for 401 S dam site erosion work completion. Motion to approve agenda with changes: Thom Bredenberg moved to approve agenda with changes. Seconded by John Parker. Motion approved.
5. 5. Announcements:

Meeting is live and streamed on ZOOM with the following rules:

Guests are muted until recognized.

Guests should type in name and full address. If you wish to speak during the OPEN FORUM, please state your topic.

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](mailto:conservationchair@gmail.com)

6. 6. Approval of August minutes: motion: Correction on date of J. Turkle's report. Motion: John Parker, 2nd Thom, approved
7. 7. Board Liaison Report

Carol Sanguinetti: Planning a welcome event for new residents and would like a member from each committee to attend. John Parker suggested having it outdoors later this fall. Thom inquired about the status of the rock-climbing motion. Carol S.: It will be addressed as permanent with proper wording at the September meeting

Alternate Liaison Report: Test ArcGIS site Survey123 form builder for open space reporting & management (Jonathan Turkle): Met with CEO of geographic systems here in Santa

Fe and because we are non-profit we got a short-term license for free so we can test it. Roads Committee is also involved. Board is aware of it.

8. 8. HOAMCO report. Mike Rogers: Took the “pyres” down from the S Pueblo Cañon trail. Maintenance started the second greenbelt mowing of the main trails but it is difficult to mow because of the channeling.

John P. noted that the cut under the trestle has gotten worse. He asked Jonathan if ECIA has been able to make contact with the trestle owners, if it might be possible to partner with them to address the problems. Jonathan has contacted Joseph Guitierrez on it and didn’t get very far. No easy, direct link established.

Tom Brimacombe mentioned that in 2014 when built the pilot trail in the greenbelt it was met with a lot of controversy and he is glad to see it is now accepted that mowing is normal maintenance, and thanks to the HOAMCO crews.

## 9. 9. Open Forum

Karen Yinger: talked about her nuisance bobcat problem. She talked to wildlife service in Española, Game and Fish. Game & Fish told her they only will come out to kill the animal. She researched how to haze the animal to drive it off and has used a paintball gun, mountain lion urine, etc. She asks that residents not invite these animals into their backyards. Thom: asked whether there is a flora and fauna group that can provide info/education for the public, and suggested CC members do a joint article for VISTAS.

## 10. 10. Project status updates:

- Willow planting pilot, (Thom Bredenberg): Willows surviving into August continue to do well. Planned rain barrel deployment will probably be needed soon Thom needs someone on the committee to work with the watering volunteers in October while he is gone.
- Thom is continuing the 2XX wetlands restoration Tamarisk control. Thom & volunteers trimmed them so they can be treated with herbicidal vinegar. Need Committee consensus first. Paul: Will put on the October agenda and vote.
- 401-S damsite, south gully erosion control project with HOAMCO maintenance: It is 99% complete but some of the one-rock dams below are too high so need to be taken down a little. Volunteer day will be set to groom the bypass trail and to correct the ORD.
- 401-S damsite, north gully erosion control project call for bids (Paul Butt): This is the major project in terms of cost for this year. It is the last of three phases to mitigate erosion and protect the meadow north of Trail 401-S. It addresses the large headcut on the north side of the ranch-era dam where it has been breached. Paul asked that someone make a motion to approve a budget increase request for \$6,700 for completion of the dam site erosion project. If nothing is done the headcut will continue up into the sandstone bluffs and the meadow will be gone. Thom: Motion to approve budget increase request for \$6,700 for completion of the dam site erosion project. Susan: second. Paul: Roll Call vote: Tom

Brimacombe- no, Carol Beidleman - no, Thom Bredenberg - yes, Jürgen Lehman - no, John Parker - yes, Susan Will - yes. Paul Butt: Since there is a tie, I have the responsibility as Chair to cast the tie-breaking vote: yes. Carol S: We have an improved area and have a responsibility to make it safe. The ECIA Board can override the committee's vote but has a liability if we don't make it safe because it's not in a natural state. Paul: I will write it up for the ECIA Board to make the decision but will note that I broke the tie vote and the committee was not in consensus.

#### 11. 11. New business:

- Paul: Due to time constraints, we will skip ahead to discuss the Equestrian Assist workday on Tr. 404 in the SE corner for Sept. or early Oct. since Amelia is here. We need to know if there is enough interest to invite Amelia Adair to join and invite volunteers for trail work in SE corner on 404. Thom and Jürgen volunteered. Paul will make an open call for 5 or 6 volunteers and ask for rsvp for attendees.
- Paul: Will delay setting a date to evaluate the connector trail on SF County property from the Senior Center to the Library Trail table because John Reynolds is not here.
  - Discuss signage replacement: The Tr. 105, CR 51 south "no trespassing" signs have been removed. If there is any interest in replacing signs on the 105 that indicate the social trail was not an official trail and replacing the parking lot direction signs, we need people to let the Chair know they are willing to put them up.
  - Picnic table removal, Tr. 203. Paul: A short job but needs a bunch of people to remove, haul up to parking lot, and have HOAMCO remove it. John P: Let's do the 401 E before the picnic table. Discussion on benches - no removal for now. Carol B.: supports prioritizing 401 N steps.

Paul: We will table all but two of the remaining items: 1) Whether to do proto-typing on 401 steps and 2) Trail grooming cleanup on 401 reroute and 404 maintenance. Do we want to set a date with an open call for volunteers to do trail maintenance focusing on 401 N or 404. Is there an objection for Paul to put out an open call for volunteers to finish 401S reroute? No objection.

- Updates to Charter (Paul Butt): Carol Sanguinetti said that the Committee could postpone voting on the updates until the October meeting. Paul will apply changes to the updated draft circulated previously and submit it for review prior to the October meeting.

#### 12. 12. Adjournment: John P moved to adjourn, Thom seconded. Adjourned at 9:09 pm.