

ECIA Conservation Committee Meeting Minutes

April 5, 2022

1. Call to Order: 7:01 PM by Current Chair Susan Will
2. Roll call of members & determination of quorum:
Carol Beidleman Thom Bredenberg – excused absence Tom Brimacombe
Paul Butt John Parker Susan Will
A quorum was established.
Board liaison was notified that Jürgen Lehmann resigned, effective 3-24-22. Jürgen was thanked in absentia for his contributions to the Conservation Committee's efforts.
Liaisons:
Jonathan Turkle (Board Liaison) Carol Sanguinetti (Alternate Board Liaison)
Mike Rogers (HOAMCO Liaison)
Guests:
Paul & Andra Fink, Joan Mitchell, Darrel Owen
3. Appointment of Recording Secretary: Paul Butt
4. Approval of Agenda as amended: Motion: Paul Butt 2nd: Carol Beidleman
6. Approval of February minutes as amended: Motion: Paul Butt 2nd: Carol Beidleman
Approval of March minutes: Motion: Paul Butt 2nd: John Parker
7. Board Liaison report (Jonathan Turkle & Carol Sanguinetti):
 - Google Workspace collaboration suite adoption by ECIA is progressing. Training will be provided. Thomas Bredenberg's concern about the ConservationChair Gmail account security was noted and Jonathan is following up.
 - Carol S. announced that a new resident Welcoming Event is planned for Sunday, June 5, beginning at 1:00 PM. It is a recruiting opportunity for the CC. Each ECIA Committee is requested to be present at a display table during the event. Susan Will volunteered to do this. Posters, handouts and door-prizes for the event were discussed.
 - Jonathan recapped the request for information/action by resident Mike Schneider re: controlled burns in the Eldorado greenbelts. Susan agreed to contact Dennis Carril and ask him for a summary of the presentation about fire risk in northern NM Piñon-Juniper ecotypes that he made at the Wildland Fire Townhall meeting in February 2022. In brief, the Eldorado greenbelts are not suitable for Rx burn treatment because of the scale, topography, location of buildings at the tops of each drainage and other conditions.
8. HOAMCO report (Mike Rogers):
 - Fence @ TH4 was cut, again on 4/03. Maintenance will repair, to wildlife-friendly standard, ASAP. Committee consensus is not to try to install cameras, etc. at this time, but to maintain awareness that the pace of vandalism incidents at the trailheads is more frequent than in the past. Susan Will will ask Julie Navarro to contact the Sheriff's Office and see if they have any recommendations for other preventative/protective actions. There is a question whether they will even follow-up on a picture or plate # associated with an incident at one of the trailheads.
9. Old Business
 - CC organizational issues: Susan has agreed to continue as Committee Chair for the time being. She will be meeting with Julie Navarro to continue developing plans for increased HOAMCO assistance with routine administrative work. Susan recommended that the 2022 project candidate list be pruned back (See

January '22 minutes for list of projects). Carol B. said that the Committee is "on record" for projects identified in the 2021 Annual Report "2022 Goals" and should concentrate on implementing those projects before taking on additional ones.

These projects are:

- Conduct "first mile" trail assessments in the Preserve to develop and prioritize a 2022 trail maintenance plan, to be followed by trail maintenance work days.
 - Recruit more volunteers for Committee work days.
 - Implement a planned habitat improvement and erosion control project in the meadow near the junctions of Trails 301-302.
 - Install new and replacement signage in Preserve Trail System 200.
 - Complete construction of Library trail from the tank dam to the Rail Trail.
 - Continue to coordinate maintenance activities in the Preserve and Greenbelts with HOAMCO maintenance staff where appropriate.
 - Continue ongoing oversight of the Preserve and Greenbelt trail systems and respond to trail maintenance needs.
 - Work with HOAMCO to remove spray-painted graffiti in the 200 section of the Preserve and address prevention of further vandalism.
- Trails 301-302 "perched "meadow project: motion to approve expenditure for assessment, project design and oversight by Ecotone LLC (Jan-Willem Jansens), Paul Butt 2nd: Susan Will approved unanimously
This project will also address the head-cutting on TR 301 previously identified by Jürgen Lehmann. Paul Butt will begin working with Jan-Willem to make the site assessment and prepare the design. Once the habitat restoration design has been prepared, Paul will present it to the Committee for review and approval.
 - Committee assessment of trail work on TR200 (Paul Butt). Conducted 3/05. See attached report, [_ECP 2XX 1st mile rpt_PSB_220401_all.pdf](#)
Motion to approve expenditure for ~ 2 cy 1 ½ inch crushed rock to treat two stretches of the trail that are in the shade and stay muddy after rain/snow: Paul Butt 2nd: John Parker approved unanimously
Paul will coordinate materials acquisition and HOAMCO activities. Volunteer workday to be scheduled when rocks and gravel are on-site.
 - Committee reconnaissance of the Apache Spring well to monitor and document flow in anticipation of future development (John Parker). Will schedule during the May meeting.
 - Introduction to Conservation Committee and new-recruit hike on Pueblo Cañon Trail April 23. Susan will coordinate eBlast announcement. Will meet at the Vista Grande/ Rail Trail parking area at 9:00, plan on about an hour to an hour & a half walk on the Pueblo Cañon Park trail. John Parker will lead. Paul & Susan plan to attend.
 - Fuels Reduction Volunteer workdays in Greenbelts (Susan W) will discuss schedule volunteer workday date(s) at May meeting, depending on how fast the tumbleweeds &c in the Gallina Park "test area" between the Rail Trail & Ave. Compadres are growing. The plan is to hand-pull as many as possible while the plants are small. An effort will be made to make this event a fun one.
 - Removal of spray-painted graffiti. Paul Butt has identified a way to get the mule (UTV) on-site. He will work with Mike Rogers to schedule a test-removal workday, using the graffiti-removal products and the gasoline-powered pressure washer.

- Removal of 4x4 timbers and rebar on abandoned section of TR401. Jonathan agreed to flag the top bar, which needs to be left in place, and then notify Mike Rogers, who will schedule HOAMCO maintenance to pull up the rebar and remove the rest of the timbers.

Tabled Items:

- Ensure funds are budgeted for trail emergency issues that arise.
- Camerada Loop Greenbelt Access Point marker issue; need to get confirmed by surveyor before mitigating. Will discuss on Thom's return.
- Boundary monitoring: Need system for documenting.

10. New Business:

- Sticker removal: CC members at will to carefully remove stickers on waypoint, etc. signs, as they are able (e.g., @ 4D & 4J). Members are requested to check & remove stickers as they appear on signs in the Preserve.

11. Open Forum

- Hire surveyor of erosion Pueblo Canyon Park (approved by Board). Awaiting confirmation of GIS input requirements for boundary marker data storage, then Paul will assist HOAMCO with initial contracting of surveyor(s).

12. Summary of Action items, Assigned lead, Timeframes:

- John will take minutes at May meeting
- Library Trail project tentatively scheduled for fall '22

13. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn: John Parker 2nd: Carol Beidleman
Adjourned: 9:15 PM