

Minutes to the January 14, 2016 Preserve Management Meeting

Attending: Community Development Deputy Director Ara Mihranian, Senior Administrative Analyst Matt Waters, Administrative Analyst Katie Lozano, Public Works Lead Worker Gonzalo Garnica, Recreation Specialist David Pearce, MRCA Deputy Chief Ranger Kenn Hughes, PVPLC Executive Director Andrea Vona, PVPLC Conservation Director Danielle Lefer and PVPLC Stewardship Associate Adrienne Mohan.

Preserve Maintenance

- Review of Active Habitat & Trail Projects:
 - Toyon / Peppertree Grading Follow-up – The project form was reviewed and approved.
 - Unauthorized / Spur Trail Closures – Director Lefer reported continued PVPLC work being done in Portuguese Bend, Forrestal and Filiorum Reserves. This past month, there has not been much damage to spur closures.
 - Trails Network Plan – Deputy Director Mihranian reported a change of date from Jan. 27th to Feb. 3rd to the Conceptual Trails Plan (Section 4) meeting.
- Pony Trail Status -- Conservation Director Lefer reported that the PVPLC and the City re-delineated the western portion of the trail so that it is once again a loop. The proposed bridge along the rerouted portion is on hold for now until staff or volunteers can find time to complete it; a more sustainable delineation was recommended by the Volunteer Trail crew, but because of habitat loss, the project would need to go through the agency approval process.
 - San Ramon Marymount Trail Makeshift Bridge – It was agreed to remove the current unauthorized ‘bridge’ due to City liability concerns. Public Works will determine if a new bridge at that location is feasible.
- Review of Trail Crew Activities – No Report.
- PVPLC Annual Report – Executive Director Vona reported that PVPLC will request the City to add information for the habitat loss tracking prior to posting to the City’s website in January. PVPLC’s comprehensive report on the 2015 Restoration Plan (which includes the next three years of planned restoration including accelerated restoration – 35 acres over the next 3 – 5 years) will be sent to the City for review. They will request Public Works to review the Plan for any problematic locations that may coincide with infrastructure or use by utilities.
- Signage – A new version of Hunt’s proposal was received by PVPLC, but may require some modifications. PVPLC requests a meeting with the City to iron out details before it is presented to City Council.
- Three Sisters / Filiorum Connection – No Report.
- Ishibashi Farm Trail Utility Poles – Specialist Pearce reported that Southern CA Edison has agreed to remove these old (inactive electric line) poles free of charge if the City & PVPLC give them permission. Some minimal damage to habitat is possible during the removal process. It is agreed that Specialist Pearce (upon approval by Recreation & Parks Director Linder) may

communicate with SCE to determine how much impact there would be from removing these poles and if insignificant, then request SCE to start removing them.

- Grant Contracts / Opportunities – Director Lefer reported that Edison gave PVPLC \$5,000 for event sponsorship and /or habitat restoration.
- City Preserve Maintenance / Public Use Logs – Distributed without discussion.

Preserve Operations

- Review of Utility Access – Specialist Pearce suggested requiring all utility vehicles entering the Preserve to have a daily use permit, primarily for tracking and education.
- Ranger Report – Deputy Chief Ranger Kenn Hughes reported that the Rangers have been busy with many responses mostly in Portuguese Bend and Forrestal. Ranger Johnson is busy inspecting trail markers in several areas for viability. Ranger Hughes indicated that the VTW reports have been helpful in focusing their patrols.
- Upper Rim Trail Intrusion from Rolling Hills – Analyst Lozano will contact the Rolling Hills adjacent property owners.
- Enforcement Priorities – No Discussion.
- Rain Closure Results – Analyst Lozano reported that the Preserve was closed recently due to rain. The process of closure went reasonably well, though the signage seemed to be largely ignored by the public. Better signage is being prepared for future closures. Conservation Director Lefer suggested pre-rainy season public announcements to warn people ahead of time to the possibilities of Preserve closures due to rain.
- Review of Volunteer Trail Watch Reports – Conservation Director Lefer gave the summary that included 8 bikers off trail or on unauthorized trails, 5 unsafe bikers, 41 dogs off leash, 43 education encounters, 47 graffiti incidents and 20 hikers off trail or on closed trails.
- Greeter Program – PVPLC will train volunteers for events including trailhead greeting, but the number of people available and the duration of greeting time has yet to be determined. Analyst Lozano offered a coordination with the Recreation & Parks Dept. to jointly undertake some of the greeting opportunities.
- Targeting Focused Areas for Team Solutions – Specialist Pearce presented a proposed delineation of the Klondike Canyon / Conqueror Trail junction with small boulders to be undertaken by the new Preserve Staff. There was general approval to proceed.
- Preserve Projects – No Report.
- Preserve Staffing Update – Analyst Lozano reported that the Recreation & Parks Dept. is currently scheduling interviews of applicants to fill open positions and the plan is to have this new staffing up and running fully by March.

Announcements

- Monthly Recreation & Parks/Volunteer Trail Watch Meeting: Jan. 27, 2016
- Volunteer Trail Watch Training: Jan. 30th, 31st and Feb. 7th, 2016
- Public Forum 2016 Dates: Feb. 17th, April 20th, July 20th & Oct. 19th

Action Items

- Analyst Lozano will schedule meeting between City, PVPLC and Palos Verdes Peninsula Horsemen's Association.
- Analyst Lozano will contact Rim Trail adjacent property owners (in Rolling Hills) regarding improper access to the Preserve.
- Public Works will evaluate the feasibility of a new bridge across the culvert at the lower end of Marymount Trail in the San Ramon Reserve.
- Ranger Hughes will bring MRCA information / samples about utility vehicle use permits

Next Meeting: February 4, 2016 @ 9:30 a.m.