

Hidden Hills Community Association  
Equestrian Services Committee  
Wednesday May 8, 2019

**Roll Call To Order:**

Present at the meeting were Keith Christian, Debbie Kulik, Lonna Weber, Linda Raznick, Allie Tashnek, Sarah Phillips, and Jill Green. In the audience were Residents Lilian Holt and Bonnie Palif. The meeting was called to order at 6:36 pm.

Linda made a motion to approve the April meeting minutes. Keith Christian seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the Committee

**Trail Reports:**

*Sarah:* Turned into Jackie.

*Linda:* Trail between 5382, 5364 Scott Robertson is totally overgrown.

*Debbie:* Trail behind Polodoro has really hard and deep ruts. Even difficult to walk on foot.

*Keith:* None.

*Lonna:* Reported that they have started trimming from fence to fence.

*Jill:* Trail that runs parallel to Wingfield behind Yana G's house (5697) – someone used their 4-wheeler and it is hardened with really bad ruts.

**New Business:**

**1. Report on Board of Directors' Meeting – Keith**

The Board approved Keith as Chair and Jill and Lonna as members of the Committee. The Board approved the arena work for both Spring Valley and Saddle Creek (bid from Dave Martin). Keith reported to the Board on the success of the Emergency Clinic (65-70 attendees), and that we have been working at length on emergency preparedness (supplies and a plan) and on preparing the FYE 2020 budget for ESC.

**2. Report on 5209 Saddle Creek Trail – Vehicle Use**

Temporary fence has been placed. They think that the Jeep is an Uber Eats vehicle. Covered 6 wasn't able to identify the vehicle from the gate cameras, but are continuing to work on it. The Committee has been asked if there is any objection to putting a bollard in front of that trail. No objections from ESC.

### **3. Request for Trail Reports, Ruts & Address Signs; Arena Dragging Protocol**

Shannon would like us to turn in more trail reports of overgrowth, where ruts are and where there are missing back property address signs. The more reports that we put in, the easier it is to get these problems fixed.

The Committee discussed the issue of horse safety with all of the construction. Sarah reported continued issues on Jed Smith. Debbie asked that we have Ron Heston come to the next meeting to talk about how he presents the equestrian rules when contractors come in for their pre-approval meetings.

### **4. Budget Review, Approval of Submission**

The Committee reviewed the budget in detail.

*Trails:* annual grooming budget – 5-25k – will need to be more than that this year.

*Repairs:* Keith, Shannon and Ron provided an educated guess for these items based on one bid from Zacha and past projects: Paradise valley (flood repair), Jed Smith (Gophers), and Eldorado Meadow (erosion, driveway, vehicle damage).

*Arenas:* The repairs will be under budget for FYE '19. The cost of Three-Year Footing Refresh has been moved to the Reserves Budget. The arena budget will include \$5,000 of expenses directly related to the Fiesta. Linda will pursue the post-fiesta arena conditioning and round pen removal and rebuild budget with the City of Hidden Hills; the issue is that ESC thinks those expenses should be in the City budget because they are directly occasioned by the City's Fiesta.

*Supplies:* The FYE 2019 budget includes funds to purchase emergency supplies this year. The FYE 2020 budget will be lower and in line with past actual expenditures (without the emergency supplies).

*Events:* The Pancake Breakfast and Emergency Clinic are included separately in the budget and ESC is asking for a "miscellaneous events" budget as suggested last month to include: vet talks, pony club, gymkhana, roping demo, other community events as determined by the Committee.

*Reserve / Operating Projects Items:* The Committee discussed the following reserve items:

*Shed/Bathroom/Equipment Storage/Viewing Stands at Saddle Creek.* Keith reported that there was money in the FYE 2019 budget for a Shed and Equipment Storage Yard at Saddle Creek. Linda reminded the Committee that Phase II of the Saddle Creek project hasn't gone forward and that we need viewing stands at saddle creek as well (part of the Phase II), as well as the permanent bathroom (also part of Phase II). Jill and Lonna said that Parks and Rec Committee are planning to put a playground at Saddle Creek and Jill said that there is a sports camp at that arena also. Keith reiterated that he believes plumbing a bathroom at Saddle Creek is possible and not as expensive as indicated in the past. Sarah said that it would be smart to have an equipment yard for the harrows, especially if a playground is being built there.

*Snack-shack (Spring Valley)* – Keith reported that in budget discussions he was told that there are design flaws with the snack shack that allow water to get in. We are currently just patching. He was told that a permanent fix would require a fair amount of work. Do we want to redesign and fix the current building (expensive), or do we want to limp it along until the bigger picture/plan is executed? Shannon has gotten some bids and plans – consider replacing in the exact same place. Intermediate fix may be very expensive – at this point it might be better to just rebuild. Linda will follow up with Shannon to get us information to make an informed decision about our recommendation to the Board on how to proceed.

*Tractor* – We had originally requested Reserve Budget for the tractor because it is nearing replacement. The tractor is owned by Seed Landcare and Sarah is working to provide suggestions for a replacement tractor.

*Arena Bulletin Board* – The Reserve Analysis company determined the bulletin board at Spring Valley needs to be replaced. Sarah will take a look and confirm it should be replaced with something reasonably similar. The Committee authorized her to make that decision.

#### **5, 6 & 7. Report on Three-Year Refresh Schedule, Spring Valley Arena Conditioning, Saddle Creek Arena Footing Refresh**

The Board has approved the work necessary to get the arenas on a rotation to refresh the arena footing every three years. Lewis and Clark was completed in FYE 2018, Saddle Creek will be completed in FYE 2019 and reserve funds have been requested for Spring Valley for 2020.

The Board approved funds for Spring Valley arena work to grind up the false base resulting from the Fiesta. This work will be completed now (FYE 2019) to improve riding and horse and rider safety going into Spring and Summer.

The Committee voted to move forward with the work and to ask Sarah to work with Dave Martin on a bid and timing for the Spring Valley Refresh to be completed after Fiesta.

#### **8. Approval of Gift for Outgoing ESC Chair Eric Toeg**

Linda found a jacket for Eric and Debbie is going to help her with the specifics. The Committee gave unanimous approval of funds not to exceed \$200 for jacket.

#### **9. Approval of Emergency Supplies List and Purchase**

Allie presented a list and budget for emergency supplies. The Committee reviewed and discussed the list. Allie suggested that we may need to add walkie talkies so that we can communicate with each other. Allie will follow up with Mike Woodard / CERT. The Committee approved the list and purchase of the supplies.

#### **10. Discuss Zacha's Proposal for Trail Maintenance**

The Committee discussed the condition and goals for the trail maintenance at length. Seedland is not able to get everything trimmed and mowed on the trails because of the rains.

Mike Zacha has proposed mowing in connection with his grooming. Committee agrees that the trails should not just be scraped down but need to identify and address places that have been compacted down and scraped and become rocky. Each person should identify high priority “fix” areas to think of as “mini repairs.” Prefer that he grooms the trails, keeps them “fluffy”, and fill in the holes. Keith will communicate with Zacha.

*Sand Bags*– many bags have been split open and sand let out, but the ripped bags remain all over the trails in places. Seed needs to be reminded to remove the bags.

#### **11. Eldorado Meadow Repair; Looy Trail Permit**

The Committee discussed the issues on the Eldorado Meadow trail at length. There are no great solutions to the various problems.

- Lonna suggested that we should use the sump pump and drain at the driveway that runs through the trail.
- Jill suggested a bridge – but does not fix the problem of delivery trucks getting in.
- Keith suggested making a “settlement pond” above the driveway to reduce the mud – and maybe with a French drain.
- Possibly wait and see what happens as the rains this past year were heavier than usual.

Keith made a motion to fix the drain at the bottom and approve minor work on the trail to slow down the water. All are in favor of approval.

#### **12. Events Schedule for 2019-2020 – Assign Lead:** Tabled to next meeting.

#### **17. C.E.R.T./ESC Event (Horse-Handling/De-Sensitizing Clinic) – Assign Lead**

- Allie will talk to Mike Woodard to plan a date for the event – will fall on next fiscal year.
- Talk to people in Hidden Hills who have trailers and plan an event to meet.

#### **13. Emergency Kit Party – Assign Lead**

Resident Bonnie Palif wanted to talk about being more proactive concerning fires. Wants to propose that we have a day where someone leaves a trailer so that other people can practice. Also that we hold an event for people to make up “go-bags” for use in emergencies. She proposed people pay for the supplies in advance and we coordinate buying everything. They could bring a picture of their horse, and they could fill their bags and do it all in a clinic. “make it fun.” It was suggested people prepay for materials so that people will show up. Committee suggested that this proposal be worked in with another ESC event to encourage interest and turnout.

Allie will connect with Bonnie to set this into motion.

#### **15. Snack Shack Plans – Assign Lead:** Linda.

**16. Shed/Bathroom/Equipment Storage Area – Assign Lead:** Jill and Lonna.

**18. Tip of the Month**

The HHCA sent out a Safety Email earlier this month and is planning to follow it up with a letter to Residents as well. There have been a number of safety issues involving gardeners, construction workers/parking, dogs and motorized vehicles.

The Committee will ask Jackie if there is a “No Motorized Vehicles on the Trails” Tip of the Month that can go out.

Lonna suggested that we need the guys at the gate to tell **every guest** “this is an equestrian community, please yield to horses.”

**Old Business:**

- 1. ESC Group Ride:** Tabled to next meeting.
- 2. Re-Assignment of Riding Sections:** Tabled to next meeting.
- 3. Trail Surfaces and Grooming Procedures:** Discussed previously.

**4. Dixon Trail Lot Tie Update**

Keith reported there is a meeting on Monday, and the homeowner is going to propose a solution. Lonna asked who is on the Ad Hoc Committee. It is Keith, Mitch, David, Alex and Ron.

**5. Status Report on Old Business Items**

The Committee has discussed support for a Hidden Hills Pony Club to encourage young riders in Hidden Hills. The Committee discussed and unanimously approved paying the \$400 fee required to form a pony club through Pony Club USA.

Keith asked that the members please look at their calendars and let him know if there are any objections to moving the July meeting from Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup> to **Monday July 15th**.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:33.