

The Town of
Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming
NATURAL RESOURCE BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, December 6, 2022

Present: Victor Padilla – Chairman
Paul Bordwell – Member
Ruzena Rok – Member
Greg Greenhoe – Member
Deb Adler – Alternate Member
Joann Leeper - Incoming Chair, Parks and Landscaping Committee
Craig Adler – Chair, Trails Committee/Trail Crew
Shirley Greenhoe, Chair, Parks and Landscaping Committee

Absent: Deborah Johnson – Member
Don Baillie (TSVR NRB Liaison)

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Chairman V. Padilla called the meeting to order at 2:09pm.
2. **Review and Approval of Prior NRB Meeting Minutes.** D. Adler motioned to approve the final minutes as written from the October 27, 2022 NRB Meeting. G. Greenhoe seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **NRB Donation Account Report.** V. Padilla presented the account report. Since the last NRB meeting in October, for the General Fund Account there have been expenditures for a garage sale trash run (\$57.50), gas (\$52.91), 2–8-ft 2 x 4 pieces of lumber (\$21.16), plexiglass from Star Valley Glass (\$65.36), and miscellaneous from True Value Hardware (\$40.07). Total expenditures amount to \$237.00 bringing the General Fund account balance to \$8588.33. The Trails Account had expenditures for the portable toilets at Green Canyon and Cedar Creek from Dry Creek at \$135 each. The current balance of the Trails account is \$9,715.77. Total funds available for the two accounts is \$18,304.10. [Note that the Prater-Murphy Trail signage bill just arrived today in the amount of \$674.83. This expense will be documented during next month’s finance report.]
4. **2022 NRB Budget.** G. Greenhoe noted that the group needs to prepare a 2023 budget as the 2022 budget is essentially complete. G. Greenhoe recommended the group should plan to approve the budget during the January meeting.
5. **Trails Committee/Trail Crew Report.** C. Adler presented the Trails report. The following activities have been conducted from 28 October to 6 December:
 - Completed install of 3 directional signs at Fox Run Park
 - Tree removal from Vista-Prater and Cedar Creek trails
 - Snow marking poles installed at Cedar Creek trailhead
 - Pole removed from B&P fence, Cedar Creek trailhead, Wildlife Friendly

- Fox Run Park - emptied PAWS Mutt Mitt container
- Re-Installed “No Motor Vehicles” sign at Prater trailhead, Vista Prater trail
- Installed 5 “No Motor Vehicles” signs on 8x8 posts at Fox Run Park
- Installed 2 new Mutt Mitt dispensers (1 at Cedar Creek right as you enter through the fence and 1 across the bridge on Vista-Prater Trail/Vista Trailhead)

Projects to complete include two trail reports and installation of the new kiosk map and info panel at the Prater trailhead. The members discussed the issue of winter trailhead parking at Prater Canyon. The Town recently removed the “National Forest Access Parking” sign that had been installed by NRB. The rationale for removing the sign was that it had not been approved by the Town. NRB members discussed that they believed there has been sufficient coordination with the Town prior to installation of the sign to include discussion by G. Greenhoe and C. Adler with the Forest Service earlier in the year. Up to now, the Town has had the “okay” from the vacant lot owner (Lot 58) to push snow onto that parcel during the winter. An informal site survey was done by the Forest Service to create a parking area within National Forest boundary. The Forest Service seemed amenable to creating this parking lot due to the area previously being disturbed. For this new proposed parking site to be a viable solution, the Town would have to agree to plow the area up to the new parking area. While the new proposed parking area would not be conducive to large trailers it could also serve to accommodate vehicle parking in the summer for those vehicles without sufficient clearance to make their way to the Prater Canyon trailhead parking area. This potential parking area has to be discussed/planned with Town. Currently, the Director of Public Works seems amenable, however, he would have to provide an assessment of the turnaround room required for winter plowing equipment. Any plan will have to be formally vetted with Forest Service prior to implementation. For now, the short-term solution proposed by NRB (to include the removed sign) is no longer viable as the Town had advised they are going to tow and ticket any cars parked along Cedar Drive. The NRB Chair will schedule a meeting to discuss this issue further with the Mayor. [See **Appendix I** for the full Trails Committee Report and **Appendix II** for “National Forest Access - Prater Canyon Winter (& Summer) Parking Issue” document.]

- 6. Parks & Landscaping Committee.** S. Greenhoe presented the Parks & Landscaping Committee report. The Wyoming Hunger Initiative reached out and S. Greenhoe provided D. Johnson as the new POC. No further items to report other than the Community Garden is already buried under snow.
- 7. Old Business.** R. Rok relayed that there is a new Community Forestry Coordinator as of 1 November (Jason Mare in place of Tara Constanzo) for Arbor Day recertification.
- 8. New Business.** V. Padilla discussed talking with the Mayor about the road study done by Sunrise Engineering and the installation of a walking path along Vista Drive after the water project work has been completed. Roads with a 60 ft right of way within Town could handle installation of a walking path or bike path. Vista East, Vista West, Cedar Creek (all the way to the pool) and Hardman to Butte are all 60 ft. For Vista Drive, a walking path all the way to the Green Canyon Trailhead would best serve residents and facilitate connecting the

Town to the trail system. An alternative would be to run a walking path to the Vista-Prater Trailhead on Vista Drive. There is already a plan for walking paths on the shelf for, however, Sunrise Engineering would need to put in a grant proposal to the Department of Transportation. G. Greenhoe noted that this would be the last NRB meeting for himself and S. Greenhoe. Verbal resignations have been the norm for NRB. V. Padilla will provide any new board nominees to the Mayor.

9. **Next Meeting & Adjournment.** The next NRB meeting is planned for Tuesday, January 24th, 2023, 2:00pm at Town Hall. R. Rok motioned for the meeting to adjourn with a second from D. Adler. The NRB meeting adjourned at 3:25pm.

APPENDIX I**Trails Committee Report - 6 Dec, 2022**

During the period [28 Oct - 6 Dec] the trail crew continued working on trails/parks projects and started winter trail maintenance with the abundant early season snowfall. We also discovered one more instance of vandalism/theft - a stolen parking sign at the Cedar Drive-Prater Canyon access.

- Completed the install of 3 x directional signs at Fox Run Park on 28 October
 - Two new sign posts installed, repurposed an existing pole
 - 3 reflective - directional arrows installed at the site of the pickup truck crash
 - Provides visibility / protection for the Buck-and-Pole fence and Fox Run Park
- Tree removal from Vista-Prater and Cedar Creek trails
 - Medium sized tree removed from Vista-Prater trail on 30 October
 - Stubborn cottonwood tree removed from Cedar Creek trail 25 November
- Snow marking poles installed Cedar Creek trailhead on 31 October
 - Poles installed on the Valve Pit Cover along the entrance road
 - Provides winter visibility for vehicles & snow machines
- Pole removed from B & P fence, Cedar Creek trailhead, 1 November
 - Wildlife adjustment for winter crossing
- Fox Run Park - Emptied PAWS Mutt Mitt container on 22 November

APPENDIX I (continued)

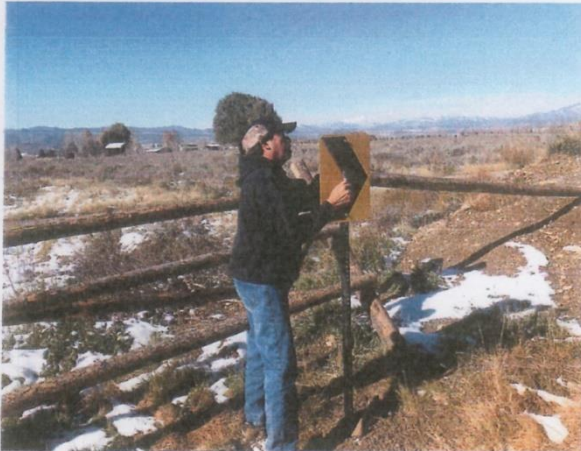
- Vandalism / Theft - discovered 26 November, Cedar Drive at Prater Canyon entrance
 - “National Forest Access Parking” sign stolen
 - Sign removed from 8 ft steel post we re-installed on 1 October, 2021
 - Sign had previously been torn down and thrown into the woods
- Re-Installed “No Motor Vehicles” sign at Prater trailhead, Vista-Prater trail on 26 Nov
- Installed 5 “No Motor Vehicles” signs on 8x8 posts at Fox Run Park, 30 November
- Installed 2 new Mutt Mitt dispensers, 5 December
 - Vista-Prater trail, Vista bridge trailhead
 - Cedar Creek trailhead, Entry along roadway

Projects to complete - Fall 2022:

- Complete the 2022 Trails Report and submit to the Forest Service: [10 Dec 2022]
- Update the TOSVR Non-motorized trail plan for 2023: [15 Dec 2022]
- Install the new Kiosk map and Info Panel at the Prater trailhead [Prater-Murphy]
 - - Printing delayed, PrintStar issue, will install Kiosk map/info Spring 2023

APPENDIX I (continued)

WARNING SIGNS - FOX RUN PARK



TREE REMOVAL V-P & CEDAR



APPENDIX I (continued)

SNOW MARKERS - CEDAR CREEK TRAILHEAD

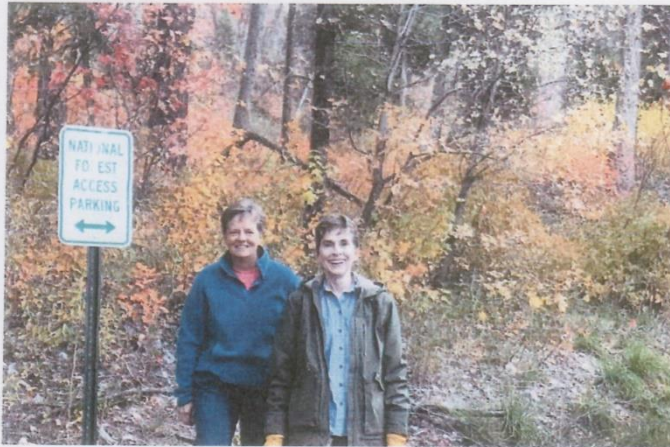


CEDAR - B&P 1 X POLE REMOVED



APPENDIX I (continued)

VANDALISM/THEFT - PRATER/CEDAR DRIVE



"NO MOTOR VEHICLES" - SIGNS INSTALLED



APPENDIX I (continued)

2 X MUTT MITT DISPENSERS - ADDED



Cedar Creek TH Entrance



Vista-Prater / Vista Trailhead

APPENDIX II

NATIONAL FOREST ACCESS - PRATER CANYON
WINTER (&SUMMER) PARKING ISSUE
CEDAR DRIVE @ PRATER CANYON

- HISTORY
- PROBLEM AREAS
- SITE SURVEY WITH FOREST SERVICE
- PLAN TO PROCEED



- SHORT TERM: Signs, Parking, First Response Trailers

- LONG TERM:

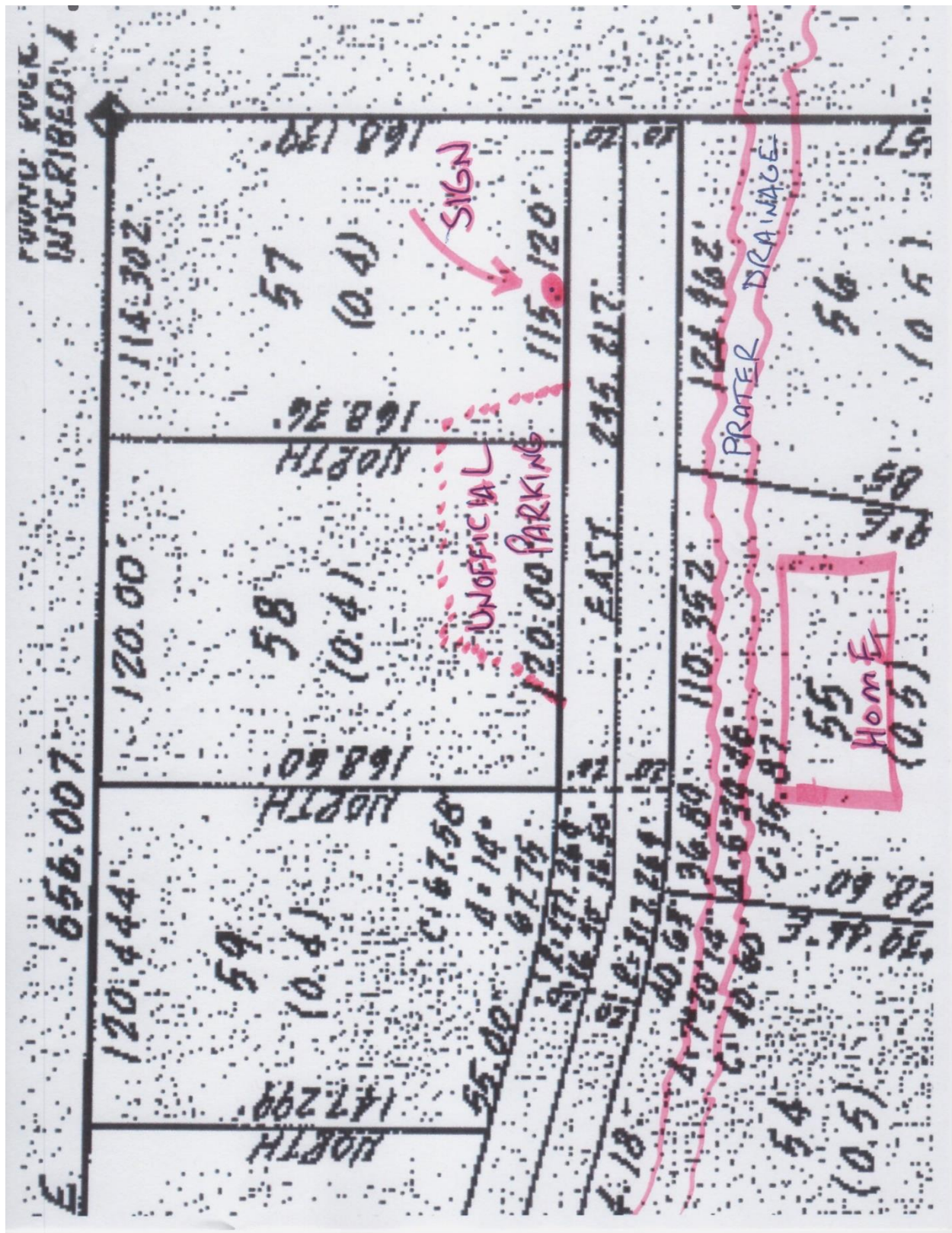
- - Town of SVR approval, Parking, Snow Removal, Trailers, Signage, Enforcement
- - Public Works, assessment - Plow, Turn Radius
- - Survey & Stake site
- - Forest Service approval excavation site
 - - - Formal agreement with TOSVR
- - Sign Order: estimate ~ \$1000 - - Publicity
- - Strategic Buck and Pole sections to formalize
 - - - Use extra poles from last projects
- - Construction/Excavation, grade, road base

APPENDIX II (continued)**§ 71.05 PARKING RESTRICTIONS.**

No vehicle may be parked on or in the road right-of-way in the town limits at any time except where permitted with signage. No vehicle may be parked in parking areas beyond the time limits imposed by signs defining these time limits. Whenever any motor vehicle without driver is found parked, standing or stopped in violation of any of the restrictions imposed by ordinance of the town or state law, the officer finding such vehicle shall take its registration number and may take any other information displayed on the vehicle which may identify its user or owner, and shall conspicuously affix to such vehicle a parking citation for the owner to answer to the charge against him or her at a time and place specified in the citation. In all prosecutions for alleged violations of this chapter, the owner of the vehicle shall be prima facie presumed to have been the person in control of the vehicle at the time the offense was committed.

(Prior Code, § 5.04.050) (Ord. 2006-06, passed 11-18-2008)

APPENDIX II (continued)



APPENDIX II (continued)

Prater Canyon - Proposed Parking