

The Town of
Star Valley Ranch, Wyoming
NATURAL RESOURCE BOARD MINUTES
Tuesday, May 31, 2022

Present: Greg Greenhoe – Chairman
Ruzena Rok – Member
Deb Adler - Alternate Member
Craig Adler – Chair, Trails Committee/Trail Crew
Shirley Greenhoe, Chair, Parks and Landscaping Committee
Don Baillie (TSVR NRB Council Liaison)

Absent: Victor Padilla – Member
Paul Bordwell - Member

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Chairman G. Greenhoe called the meeting to order at 2:01pm.
2. **Review and Approval of Prior NRB Meeting Minutes.** R. Rok motioned to approve the final minutes as written from the April 8, 2022 NRB Meeting. D. Adler seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
3. **NRB Donation Account Report.** G. Greenhoe presented the account report as V. Padilla was not able to attend the meeting. Since the last NRB meeting in April, for the General Fund Account there have been expenditures of \$1,208.49. These expenditures include gravel and supplies for expansion of the Crop Circles Community Garden and preparations for Arbor Day. Credits to the General Fund included \$165.00 in water bill donations for the Community Garden and a \$100.00 donation for Arbor Day. Another \$2,000 was also transferred into the General Fund Account from the Trails Fund Account. The current balance of the General Fund is \$2,499.38. For the Trails Fund Account there have been expenditures for wood product signs, road traffic signs, and materials to complete the toilet screen at Green Canyon amounting to \$1,025.19 (plus the \$2,000 transfer to the General Fund). [The current balance for the Trails Fund is now \\$5,203.84. Total funds available for the two accounts is \\$7,703.22.](#) D. Adler motioned to approve the report, R. Rok seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
4. **2022 NRB Budget.** G. Greenhoe provided an update on the 2022 NRB budget. All planned projects are currently within estimated costs with approximately 64% of the planned budget being expended to date.
5. **Trails Committee/Trail Crew Report.** C. Adler presented the Trails Committee report. The following activities have been conducted since the first week of April: clean-up of a fallen tree at the entrance to Prater Canyon, rehabilitation of the Green Canyon trail kiosk, removal of fallen trees and debris along Cedar Creek trail, removal of a downed tree on Prater Road, Green Canyon trail maintenance, planting of 11 Aspen tree starts at Canine Commons, staining of planks for the Green Canyon toilet screen, Cedar Creek trail maintenance, Maple Trail maintenance, tree removal and completion of trail signs on Maple Trail, and ordering of new Trail Crew hats. [See **Appendix I** for the full Trails Committee report.]

6. **Parks & Landscaping Committee.** S. Greenhoe presented the Parks & Landscaping Committee report. The Crop Circles Community Garden expansion has been completed with the installation of nine new tanks. There are now 24 garden tanks at Crop Circles. The space between Crop Circles and Canine Commons (now being referred to as “The Alley”) also has been covered with gravel and two tanks were installed. These two Alley tanks are now planted with potatoes. The Town moved the picnic shade cover from the north east corner of Fox Run Park to the inside of Canine Commons which now eliminates the NRB planned expense of a shade sail for the dog park. The concrete pad with picnic table remains in Fox Run Park. S. Greenhoe also stated that flowers will be added outside Town Hall as the Parks & Landscaping budget permits. Lastly, on Sunday, 29 May the now flowing Hardman ditch backed up at the culvert at the north east corner of Fox Run Park. Debris blocked the culvert creating a small lake which overflowed its banks. G. Greenhoe received a phone call from a couple walking the trail alerting him of the flood. He visited the site and cleared the debris enabling the lake to drain. The flood fortunately didn’t flow into the Community Garden but did flow into Canine Commons. The members discussed Hardman Ditch being a registered ditch and that technically whoever owns the culvert is responsible for keeping the culvert clean. G. Greenhoe also noted that by state law the owner of the ditch can kill trees that are taking too much water out of the ditch within the 30 foot ditch right of way. However, any killed trees have to be removed. [See **Appendix II** for the full Landscaping Committee report.]
7. **Firewise Program Revamp.** G. Greenhoe noted that the Firewise Revamp was in the Town newsletter this month and last month. This year’s plan calls for residents to begin putting out wildland slash piles on 1 July for pick-up by the Town on 25 July. There was brief discussion by the members on adding a second pick-up date so that Firewise pickups are in June and July as Town road crews have noted that people are already putting debris out for pick-up. The NRB will revisit the revamped Firewise program after its completion this year to discuss any needed changes prior to the 2023 season. The Chair noted that Chuck Butterfield is doing Firewise inspections this year as may be needed by residents and that the Assistant Town Clerk has his contact info.
8. **War-on-Weeds.** War-on-Weeds is scheduled to occur Thursday, 16 June from 9am to 1pm with a full contingent of Lincoln County Weed & Pest personnel on site to support town residents with noxious weed identification and mitigation.
9. **Arbor Day.** G. Greenhoe reviewed the Arbor Day Event checklist. Arbor Day will be held Saturday, June 11th at 10:00am in the parking area adjacent to the Crop Circles Community Garden. Councilman Baillie will provide introductions for any VIPs. Holes for planting trees will be dug ahead of time on June 7th and 8th. Ten (10) 5-gallon Aspen trees and 3 Apple trees will be planted. Volunteers will arrive and begin event set-up at 9am.
10. **New Business.** There was discussion of Board Membership and Leadership. The NRB still has a board vacancy and is actively seeking another board member. G. Greenhoe proposed that effective 1 July, V. Padilla will become the board chair with G. Greenhoe moving to a board member position. G. Greenhoe made a motion to nominate V. Padilla for

appointment as the Chairperson of the NRB effective 1 Jul 2022. R. Rok seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

11. **Next Meeting & Adjournment.** The next NRB meeting is planned for 4:00pm, Tuesday, June 28, 2022 at the TSVR Town Hall. D. Adler motioned for the meeting to adjourn with a second from R. Rok. The NRB meeting adjourned at 3:42pm.

APPENDIX I**Trails Committee Report - 31 May, 2022**

- **8 April / Prater entrance tree removal & clean-up**
 - Large downed fir tree cut back and cleaned off the road (National Forest Boundary)
 - Stacked limbs and debris for FireWise pick-up

- **18-30 April / Moved old Kiosk to Shop - completed extensive rehab**
 - Moved old Green Canyon Kiosk to Victor's shop for rehab
 - Kiosk modified with plywood, reinforced, painted and added re-bar for security
 - Kiosk to be repurposed for the Prater turn-around trailhead project

- **14 April / Cedar Creek Trail maintenance**
 - Removed 4 small trees from Cedar Trail - just prior to knucklehead rock
 - Removed large metal roofing sheet from National Forest, 25 feet off of Cedar Trail

- **30 April / Trail maintenance Prater road and Vista-Prater trail north end**
 - Removed 1 downed choke cherry tree from Prater canyon road
 - Removed 1 Fir Tree from Vista-Prater trail, north end, creek crossing, Axe vandalism

- **4 May / Finalized Graphic Design for new order of trail Caps**
 - Found new vendor for new "SVR Trail Crew" caps
 - Finalized graphic design, ordered trail caps

APPENDIX I (continued)

- **5 May / Green Canyon Trailhead Maintenance**
 - Brushing / Clearing along buck & pole fencing
 - Installed new 4x4 for improved cedar Potty screen
 - Buck & Pole fence repair, reinforced loose poles, straightened fence sections
 - Stained all trail sign posts at Green Canyon Trailhead
 - Cleaned & raked trailhead area

- **14 May / Planted Aspen Starts at NW corner of Canine Commons, Fox Run Park**
 - Planted 11 aspen starts for Arbor Day
 - Cub Scout project last Fall prepped the holes for planting
 - Trees planted early to take advantage of the wet weather for transplant
 - Trees seem to be thriving, will require attention during hot part of summer to sustain

- **25 May / Stained Cedar Planks for the Green Canyon Trailhead Potty Screen project**

- **26 May / Cedar Creek Trailhead Clean-up & Cedar Creek trail maintenance**
 - Cleaned up dumped asphalt by the turn-out
 - Installed the Red Stop Sign, (Repair after truck collision last Fall)
 - Buck & Pole fence repairs
 - Checked / repaired loose nails/poles
 - Rotated 2 x poles to hide Axe/Knife vandalism
 - Brushing & Raking along entire Buck and Pole fence
 - Installed 2 Trail # signs for Cedar Creek Trail
 - Culvert repair to fix overflow damage and tread over the culvert pipes

APPENDIX I (continued)

- Heavy Trail maintenance at Daulton By-pass
- Light trimming and Trail maintenance up to the Spruce Grove
- Enhanced French Drain at trail low spot just prior to Daulton By-pass

- **27 May / Green Canyon Trailhead and Maple Trail maintenance**
 - Removed old screen and installed new Cedar Screen for Potty
 - Completed brushing and raking of Buck and Pole fencing
 - Maple trail maintenance to about 50 yards short of the S-turn

- **30 May / Maple Trail tree removal & completion of Trail # signs**
 - 2 x downed trees removed from Maple Trail
 - completed install of new Trail # signs on Maple, Vista-Prater, and Valley View trails

- **UPCOMING EVENTS:**
 - 2 June, Finish Maple trail maintenance
 - 3 June, Start Vista-Prater maintenance North end, Buck and Pole fence repairs Prater
 - 4 June, Fox Run Park clean-up & start Buck and Pole fence install
 - 13 June, Meet US Forest Service @ Prater Trailhead project site for review
 - 15 June, Cedar Creek Trailhead, Complete Buck & Pole fencing along FS boundary
 - SilverStar, FOTBT, Trail Crew - project
 - Remove existing metal posts and any remaining fencing
 - Install 8 bucks and 32 poles along National Forest boundary with golf tee

 - TBD, One large downed Aspen tree removal, Vista-Prater, short spur
 - TBD, 5+ large downed tree removal, Cedar Creek trail, Spruce Grove to 2.5 miles

APPENDIX II**Parks and Landscaping and Community Garden****June 2022 report**

Crop Circles, for the most part is complete. The 9 new garden tanks have been installed and filled with soil. Crop Circles has now a total of 24 garden tanks. Volunteer gardeners did the work of weeding, spreading gravel and filling the tanks with soil. We had the use of a tractor with bucket, complete with a volunteer operator, to do the heavy lifting.

The area between Canine Commons and Crop Circles, now referred to as the Alley, has been weeded and covered with gravel. The area looks tidy now. Also, we added a couple of oval tanks for growing potatoes, and flowers. Hope to increase our donations to the Food Bank.

The town moved the shade cover over the picnic table in the north east corner of the park to the inside Canine Commons. This eliminates the need for the shade sail we had proposed for the dog park. The concrete pad with the picnic table remains, a nice place to sit and take a break.

Arbor Day will see a few fruit trees (apple) planted, on the north end of Crop Circles.

Sunday 5/29/22 the now flowing Hardman ditch backed up at the culvert at the north east corner of Fox Run Park. Debris blocked the culvert creating a small lake which overflowed its banks. Greenhoe received a phone call from a couple walking the trail alerting him of the flood. He went down there and cleared the debris and the lake drained.

Fox Run cleanup day I would like to remove said debris now piled up along the ditch. And do general cleanup of that area.