

**Town of Star Valley Ranch
Natural Resource Board**

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 3, 2023 – 2:00 PM, Town Hall

Present: Victor Padilla – Chairman
Craig Adler – Chair, Trails Committee/Trail Crew
Deb Johnson - Chair, Parks and Landscaping Committee
Paul Bordwell - Member
Joanne Leeper – Member
Debbie LaJeunesse – Member
Ruzena Rok – Town Council Liaison

1. **Call to Order and Introductions.** Chairman Victor Padilla called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. There was a quorum.

2. **Review and Approve Minutes from the July 20, 2023 NRB Meeting.** A motion to accept minutes made by Paul, second by Deb Johnson, motion passed unanimously.

3. **NRB Donation Account Report.** Victor discussed garage sale, and there were 18 new donations. Debbie L made a motion to approve and Paul B seconded, motion passed. We should rethink taking trailer tires on rims, perhaps, bedding, curtains. A canoe was donated.

4. **2023 NRB Budget.** Victor presented the budget and currently Trails has \$18,639.70, and the General has \$9,090.50 for a total of \$27,730.20. Discussion ensued regarding expenses for toilets, water fees, rec land agreement, allocating funds for larger budget items. Other expenses anticipated are Fox Run Park (FRP) needs mowed, control weeds, FRP posts/markers needs re-stained, Canine Commons area, kids play area (what kind of equipment). Let's discuss options with the Homeowner's Association, and also have a brainstorming meeting in January, along with Budget.

5. **Trails Committee/Trail Crew Report.** Craig reported:

- Vista-Prater, Valley View, and Maple Trails - Annual Maintenance Complete - 29 Sep 2023
- Prater-Murphy Trail - Annual Maintenance Complete on West Side - 28 Sep 2023
- Cedar Creek Trail - Annual Maintenance Complete up to 2.0 Miles (above switchbacks) - 4 Aug 2023
- Cedar Creek Trailhead - - Safety Fence Project Complete (more costly due to larger gate per LVI) - 14 Sep 2023
- Prater-Murphy Re-Sign / Added Signs Complete - 28 Sep 2023
- Cedar Creek Trailhead - - Winter Parking Sign Project Complete - 14 Sep 2023 (plan to remove signs in the summer)

- TOSVR Bridger-Teton Access Sign Project Complete - 12 Sep 2023
- Trails Projects - Various projects completed 21 Jul - 29 Sep (includes Cedar Creek retaining wall replacement, Fox Run Park potty enclosure stained, Lost Creek Trail cooperative trail work with FS, downed tree on Vista-Prater, installed Water Bar and Water Bar repairs, Spotted Knapweed removal - must get sprayed next Spring/Early Summer),
- Garage Sale for Trails & Parks Completed - - 14 - 21 Aug 2023 - - See attached update for ongoing sale items including canoe and generator (perhaps buy a 4-sided tent for next year, discussed switching to every other year, or marketing only high dollar items),
- Friends of The Bridger Teton / Forest Service [Trails/ Trailheads] Survey + Visit Completed - - 10 August 2023 (perhaps will fund a trail ambassador for this area for the weekends for next year)
- Prater-Murphy Re-Route Survey - - 28 Sep 2023. Will need approval from FS, and it would take one day a week, all next summer.

Other Items discussed:

Projects Remaining in 2023:

- 6 Oct, Friday, Final Trailhead Winter Prep (1 day)
- - Wildlife Friendly Fence Mods, Cedar TH (remove top pole to be wildlife friendly)
- - Paint Cedar TH Bridge
- - Oil Cedar TH Safety Fence Rails
- - Replace 1 x broken pole, Green TH
- - FRP, secure spikes, B & P Fence
- - FRP, French Drain clean out

- TBD, Cedar Creek upper trail brushing / tread work from 2.0 to 3.5 miles (1 day - 8 hours)

- TBD, Prater-Murphy Trail, East side, erosion control, water bars, cairns (1 day - 8 hours)

- Annual Report / Plan of Work (including spraying weeds on FRP trail)

- On-Going Garage Sale Marketing: Following the August Garage Sale, some items were donated, some taken to the dump, and some higher value items sold/still marketing. And, since then some higher value items have been donated (TV, safe, canoe...).

6. Parks & Landscaping Committee. Deb J gave a Community Garden Update: clean-up date email sent out, produce theft, several tanks not well used, animal activity, gate unlocked or left open, suggests that we install cameras for next year, potatoes haven't been harvested yet and donated to the Food Bank (reminder the grant from Food Bank of Wyoming). Also discussed Canine Commons and watering of trees (also dogs digging holes and fenced needs fixed). Does BLM regs allow food to be sold or donated (for personal family use only), since Farmer's Market will get larger? Farmer's Market included cheese, coffee, alternative creams, new Sublette greenhouse might provide some to us, also tomatoes

from Idaho Falls, thanks to Ru. Should we have Star Valley tree guy come give a presentation? Also discussed the wildlife biologist or water person that lives here creating pollinating plant trails, and Dr. Miller at U of WY re: heritage apple orchard, and would it need to be fenced?

7. **Old Business.** Council Liaison Ru R discussed Tree City recertification, has Firewise report been submitted or was City taking that back, and this needs to be formalized program. Ordinances for town organizations including boards have been updated and agenda needs to be posted 5 days ahead of public meeting, also approved minutes need to be on the town website (within 10 days of the meeting).

8. **New Business.** Ru R shared that a resident asked about dog washing station, another wondered about a summer or annual recycling day, neither sounds feasible for the NRB at this time. Potential new ordinance being discussed about abatement of weeds.

Craig questioned the status of the "Weed Bounty" program. Previously, the Men's Golf Association and a Youth Group would harvest invasive species and the NRB /Lincoln County Weed and Pest would pay (share) a bounty payment for the project. The grant from Lincoln County expired this year and the project was not done. The NRB should consider possibly funding only the Men's Golf Association next year - even if a grant is not received.

Craig mentioned a new committee being formed dealing with sidewalks, pathways, roads advisory board after a study from Sunrise Engineering. Discussed safety, pathways, easements along roads, water installation project 23 up Vista which will affect Vista. SilverStar and Fiber Optic were also discussed, pipe is installed but not wiring.

9. **Next Meeting.** November 14, 2023 @ 2:00 PM, Public Works

Move to adjourn made by Debbie L, seconded by Joanne, approved unanimously at 3:22.