

Land Stewardship Committee

May 26, 2017

Attendees: Vic Amoroso, Jody Angel, Janine Aroyan, Tish Brown, Ken Masterton, Genie McNaughton

Absent: Mickey Murch, Meg Simonds (sent an email)

Agenda

Knoll update

What's the plan? See proposal sent to the Board. What have we done so far? We've had two broom pulls, another is planned for July 2nd. Potential to have work done (cotoneaster removal around the far periphery near the canyon) with CalFire grant (\$150,000, plan done by 2018, work done by 2019). LSC members will meet with Jennifer and Anita Brown to walk the land and discuss the project in July..

Next step in the interim: ask Don Murch to mow a path to give access to the site and bring a pile of compost for putting around the oak seedlings growing on the knoll.

In summary: Ph 1A – broom pulls, Ph 1B – mow path, bring compost to site, place around seedlings (with flags). Ph 2 – mulch entire area in coordination with CalFire project. Continue weeding throughout.

ACTION ITEM: Janine will ask Don M. for an estimate to mow and bring up compost.

Path

Scott Brown of Balance Hydrologics Inc. sent us an outline of the proposal to make a site visit and write a report on their findings relating to soil erosion reduction on the BCPUD land below the treatment ponds, with a view to stabilizing the bicycle path.

Janine presented a view of the path project that sets out at what level the path is now, what we would like to see in the short term and what we would like to see in the long term;

Level III: as the path is now, not accessible for bikes or hikers

Level II: in good enough condition for mountain bikes and agile walkers

Level I: comfortable for bicycles, strollers, disabled walkers/riders

Our impression of the information we get from Don Smith, the project's original sponsor and implementer: it's hard pavement or nothing. As we work toward level I, we ask the question: what is the best hardening solution?

Getting back to Level II, what should we do in the short term?

1. Cut back acacia around the bend at the goat farm
2. Remove the mud on the path to Resource Recovery
3. Look for areas where "clean up" is possible

Perhaps the places that are rutted (they are not that bad), could be filled in by machine. At least there should be mowing at the area along the goat farm.

Part or whole hardening? Don S. pointed out that the expense is not the amount of material or area, but the logistics: getting all the equipment to the site and the manual labor to lay the material down.

But we need technical advice to develop the plan as to how to apply the hard material in different sections of the path.

BCPUD crew could work on keeping the culverts clear

Question: how did we find Balance Hydrologics Inc? Janine's sister met Scott Brown while hiking on Mt. Wittenberg. He point out that the National Park Service wasn't building the paths correctly.

We agreed (and voted, no nays) to go forward with the proposed plan, letting Scott Brown know and asking for references.

ACTION ITEM: Genie will send an email to Scott Brown letting him know that we want to go forward and asking for references. She will also draft a message to Don S. telling him of the committee's decision and inviting him to come to the site visit. She'll send that to the committee – please respond asap.

Another path item: the pedestrian path near the sun pond – could it be mowed? Ask Don M. about including this.

Finances: Two budgets, they should be kept clear. The BCPUD has included \$3200 for path maintenance for 2017. \$530 has been spent, leaving \$2670, which must be spent by 6/30/2017. There will be \$3200 in next year's budget as well.

The LSC project budget: we have collected about \$1700, and have paid Judith Larner \$500 for the plan and plant list she prepared for the knoll, leaving approximately \$1200 in that pot.

Advertising the next broom pull: We received bills from the Hearsay for notices: \$65.50 (Feb 8/10 and April 12, 14, 17, 19, 21) that Janine paid, \$14.00 for 4/19 item that Genie received. We wonder whether to two billings for 4/19 are for the same item, so we'll hold off paying the \$14.00 until that question is answered. On the one hand, we don't mind paying the Hearsay (supporting local press), but we wonder whether putting all our ads in the paper gets enough attention from the community. We suggested using Nextdoor and Did you grow up in Bolinas (Facebook site) as two other places to announce the event, as well as putting up the posters, which we've been doing all along.

Committee membership: No one else on the BCPUD is interested in being on the committee. Should we solicit for other members? Not yet needed.

Soil testing: nothing to report

NEXT MEETING: June 16, 2017, 3:00 pm. Perhaps we will want to have a meeting after the site visit. Stay tuned.