

## Land Stewardship Committee meeting

August 4, 2017

### Minutes

Attendees: Vic Amoroso, Jody Angel, Janine Aroyan, Tish Brown, Ken Masterton, Meg Simonds, Don Smith

#### ○ Path Update

Summary of the report from Biological Hydrodynamics

- Suggested materials for certain places: red gravelly material to replace what's lost
- Use native soil to create small elevations to move water away from the path
- In general, the path looks relatively good compared to other paths seen in West Marin
- There are areas that need attention, no question, the area at the switchback above the intersection of Mesa Road/Bolinas-Olema Road could use some plantings to hold the soil

Don Smith offered a very different opinion

- The goal of the path project was to have a path with a gentle grade with a riding quality as good as Terrace
- The BSUSD teachers think the road is a disaster
- The gravel path was put in on a shoestring budget
- In order to meet federal requirements, the path would have had to be 6' wide a compromise was agreed to at 4'.
- Actually, the federal support ([saferoutestoschools.org](http://saferoutestoschools.org)) was for the path along Bolinas-Olema Road; the Bay Area Air Quality Management District support the path on the BCPUD property
- Serious cyclists don't use the path
- BCPUD maintenance has not been and really cannot be a priority
- But maintenance is the biggest issues
- A hard surface would do the job – look at the old treatment system path, it is still holding up after more than 40 years
- A sample of possible material: Rio Blanco II 100 SSPCo1180 Natural PAVE® XL
- Someone needs to find the money, to research potential materials

Other ideas

- Start by improving the erosional areas at the top
- Hire someone on a regular basis who has understanding and experience
- Make improvements as suggested in the short term while working on the long term plan to harden the path

The issue should be brought to the BCPUD for its consideration

- The LSC is committed to working on this project
- The community wants a safe, stable bike path
- There is a commitment by the Board to spend so much on maintenance/year

- How to fund? Borrow from reserves to match any grant, perhaps using the maintenance money and pay it back over time
- Put the proposal on the table

This project requires good technical understanding of soils, slopes, seasonal effects, etc.

- Make sure the specifications are as detailed as possible when putting the project out to bid
- Materials needed: material to contour places along the path for drainage, gravel for areas where it has moved away
- Don't forget that horses will be using the path

#### NEXT STEPS: ACTION ITEMS

- Don will put the path on the BCPUD agenda for discussion
  - Don will ask Kevin Lunny to walk the path and give a rough estimate of cost for hardening the path
  - LSC will work on promoting short-term solutions
    - Ask Jennifer if she has contacted the person Janine recommended (done)
    - Find out what the maintenance budget actually is (Vic)
- Knoll project (native plant enhancement)
- Don Murch brought compost up to the site
- Compost is to demarcate native seedlings and give them a boost, discourage weeds
- Make sure flags are next to the plants
- Debris from last pulls is still there – should be removed
- Need to make a plan of activities
- Some of the Ribes (native current) that were planted at the end of the first broom pull have survived and are growing. Some show signs of animal interference.
- Next work day (broom pull or work day – how to advertise?) September 10, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm (don't forget the brownies).**
- Advertise in NextDoor, only a notification in the Hearsay, flyers put up as before
- Genie will make the flyers, send around for review, etc.**
- CalFire project to remove invasives moving up from the canyon
- Ken, Janine and Genie met with Jennifer and Anita to look at the knoll, particularly the line of cotoneaster along the canyon rim. Can this be included in the project? Both J and A thought yes.
- Jennifer will be writing up the project soon and will send a draft to the LSC
- The project will start at the Sun Festival site and work down
- The grant is for \$150,000, don't know how far the money will go
- Jennifer strongly recommends hiring a professional crew
- The natives will not be removed!
- BTW, this is the only project awarded in Marin this year.
- Finances

There is \$1300 in the LSC “account” – all donated money  
Judith Larner was paid for her work (\$500)  
An Invoice for the compost should be sent to Meg.

- Soil test (no activity to report)
- Other
  - Bioremediation for the removal of Cape Ivy – Tish heard a lecture on this effort at a Native Plant Society meeting
  - No known effective way to remove this invasive
  - It grows vegetatively, spreading by underground stolons, not by seed, that can form roots easily.
  - Researchers are looking into bringing in an insect that preferentially eats (and destroys) the plant. The insect is the shoot-tip galling fly (*Parafreutreta regalis*)
  - Are we interested in being one of the test locations?
  - Concern that the fly would look for something else to eat after wiping out the Cape Ivy (though that could take years).
  - Could we get more information for the next meeting? (Tish)

NEXT MEETING: Friday, September 22, 2017 at 3:00 (is this an anniversary? Should we celebrate?)