

PARADISE RANCH ESTATES ROAD ADVISORY BOARD

Meeting Summary for March 4, 2017

- PREPRD Finances.
- Dirt Road Status.
- Vegetation Management.
- Drakes View Repaving Task Force.
- More below. . .

Minutes

Paradise Ranch Estates Road Advisory Board

March 4, 2017

The Paradise Ranch Estates Road Advisory Board met on March 4, 2017, at the Ongerth residence in Paradise Ranch Estates. The meeting was attended by members John Levy, Mike Ongerth, Tamia Marg Anderson, Ron Bennett and Ken Drexler, Secretary. Tim Stanton, IRA President, also attended. Ken Drexler led the meeting.

1. PREPRD Finances. Ken reported that taking into account expenses paid or committed since the January PRERAB meeting, the Paradise Ranch Estates Permanent Road Division had approximately \$180,000 available to pay for road related-work.

2. Dirt Road Status. Mike Ongerth summarized the recent work on the dirt roads: At first the work involved only ditch clearing and miscellaneous projects but after a road survey, Mike added five or six SOD trees to the project. Then, as further inspection showed that there were 18 SOD trees that endangered the roads, the dirt road work was separated from the tree work. Both projects were to be done by Inverness Gardening Service. The tree work included both the SOD trees that Mike identified plus chipping the roadside piles which the IRA agreed to pay for.

After Craig Parmley approved both projects, Inverness Gardening Service started the work in mid-January. While the road work was in progress, the rain and storms caused additional trees to fall in PRE: one on Douglas, two on Lower Dover and one on East Robert. Mike asked IGS to clear these trees also. Additional trees also fell. Ultimately there were a total of 36 trees cleared by IGS during January. Between the tree and the road work, during January and early February IGS was involved in six projects in PRE.

Finally, a tree fell on Lower Dover near No. 55 and Mike asked Pacific Slope to clear the road, which it did.

In round numbers, since the first of the year, PRERAB has undertaken six projects: miscellaneous road project, \$14,980; emergency tree clearing, \$2,900; 18 tree project that grew, \$15,000; additional tree work, \$10,000; emergency road work, \$9,000 and tree work by Pacific Slope, unbilled.

3. Vegetation Management - SOD Trees Tamia Marg Anderson reported on her conversation with Tony Walls, the PG&E Forester for the North Bay, about the 12 KV power line running from the end of Elizabeth Place down to Sunnyside. Tony said that he had asked PG&E Engineering about rerouting the line and given up when it failed to respond. He said the company was overwhelmed these days due to storms and tree mortality in the Sierra. Tony said that PG&E took out 100 trees along the Elizabeth Place to Sunnyside corridor. In early May PG&E will conduct its annual inspection with any needed work to be done in June and July.

Tamia also contacted Jordan Reeser of the National Park Service to ask if NPS would clear the seedlings in the cut area on the sides of Sunnyside before the gate onto PRNS land. He said that NPS was overwhelmed but that it invited residents to pull them. Mike then suggested that removal of the seedlings might be a good IRA-PRERAB project.

The vegetation management work in PRE has two components: flashy fuel removal and cutting dead and dying trees and trimming to maintain sight lines. The tree and sight line work is the most time consuming and needs to have at least two board members involved because of the judgment needed. Tamia said that she would redistribute her "blueprint" for vegetation management in PRE to board members and invited all board members to review it.

Mike and Tamia reported that Joe Burgess was willing to take on vegetation management planning as soon as he recovers from surgery.

4. 2017 Work and Budget. Mike suggested that the board put together an annual budget to provide for the following work: flashy fuel cutting, tree work, asphalt pothole repair, dirt road grading and maintenance and large scale drainage projects (culverts and drop boxes), miscellaneous needs (signs, mirrors, road dots, etc.) plus a fund for contingencies. Ken noted that PREPRD received annual income from property taxes of about \$38,000. John Levy suggested that the board should expect that it would be two to three years until a new parcel tax was in place. During this period to pay for work, it would have to rely on its annual income plus careful use of its reserves.

5. Drakes View Repaving. Ken noted that it was clear that Drakes View needed to be repaved in the next few years. However to get the project moving again the work to be done on Drakes View and side roads and the rationale for it needs to be identified and the financing of the work needs to be resolved. Once these are resolved, project and the need for it would need to be explained to residents who will be asked to vote for a parcel tax. To get this project going, Mike suggested that PRERAB and the IRA form a task force which could meet more often than PRERAB or the IRA to address these issues. Its initial tasks would be to make a detail roadmap the steps to be taken and in what order, outline funding alternatives and determine which is practical and available. (County funding, a Mello-Roos district and “self funding” by residents with some sort of security for repayment, were mentioned.)

Mike suggested that Ken Drexler, John Levy and Ron Bennett be the members from PRERAB plus three others named by the IRA Board. In addition, Mike and Tim Stanton, IRA President would serve ex-officio. The board agreed with this step.

Tim? Ron? suggested that PRERAB should provide more current information, more often to residents about its work, including the task force. Mike said he had been posting to NextDoor and would continue to do so every two weeks.

6. New Members?. Board members discussed the need to add additional members to the Road Advisory Board with a focus on full-time residents. Randy Merk, Colin Hamlin and John Hunt were mentioned as persons to consider.

7. Sunnyside Gate Lock. Tamia said that the lock at the end of Sunnyside was sticky and asked other board members to check it. She said that she was willing to buy new locks if they were needed.

NEXT MEETING: May 6, 2017, at the Ongerth Residence.

KD 4/5/2017