

Friends of Daley Ranch Board Minutes

February 11, 2025

Present: Jerry Harmon, Brocade Wu, Dick Althouse, Donna Leon, Rick Mercurio and Dave Roberts were in attendance.

1. Minutes: Jerry opened the meeting at 2:00 pm at the Train Depot. The minutes from the January 4, 2025 meeting were approved by acclamation.
2. Treasurer's Report: Rick successfully finished our annual FODR tax returns, including Federal, State and non-profit registry. Kudos! The January Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation.
3. "Discussions" event on April 13: Donna still hasn't heard back from the Herpetology Society. Instead, Donna reached out to Tom from Tom's Snake and Rescue and he agreed to present at our July 13 event. Next step for April 13 date is to reach out to the local Audubon Society. Rick to provide contact info to Donna.

Jerry, Brocade and Dave will all be out of town on April 13. Rick to reach out to other FODR volunteers to get help for setting up.

Donna to draft an event announcement for Rick to distribute to the usual media outlets.

4. Walk For Animals event on March 22: Need to bring pop-up, extra chairs, banners, brochures, taxidermy, etc. Donna to coordinate.
5. Seventh Grade Trip Update: Feb 25 is the first trip. Rick will be out of town for the first 6 of the trips. He has all the substitute personnel arranged. SM buses are not available so will be using another provider thru the Escondido School District. The cost is ~2x what the SM School district charged last year. The bathrooms near the ranch house are currently not open but might be before the first trip. Fingers crossed. Otherwise, it will be porta-potties. Rick to distribute the full trip schedule in case anyone wants to drop by.
6. ECF Grant Update: Tables and benches have been received, as well as some of the trail markers and recycle trash bins. Remaining to be bought are kiosk materials, split rails for Cougar Pass TH. The interpretive signs are also still in

progress. A status report is due in April.

7. Website Update: Donna to contact Chris O'Donnell about possibly helping with our site. If amenable, we will meet for an initial discussion.

It seems quite possible to expand our Hiking pages to include the text from all 22 of Bill Sherrard's described hikes. TBA

It appears possible to embed links to the 30 Daley Ranch hikes found on the popular All Trails app. TBA

8. FODR Hats: Donna proposed to order 50 hats with the FODR logo, 25 grey and 25 navy, along with 2 tablecloths with the FODR logo. Rick moved the question, Donna seconded and it was approved unanimously. When you look good, you feel good.
9. Newsletter: Content to include a volunteer appeal, Jerry's President's letter, "Discussions" event announcement, species of the season, donor thank you.
10. Other:
 - QR code for PDF trail map: Dave to create the QR code that links to the pdf trail map on our website. This will be printed, laminated and affixed to our brochure box lid, for use by people who prefer having a trail map on their phone. Donna to do the lamination.
 - Bio-Monitoring: Rick to check in with Brian. Liz Ridder earlier agreed to share her bio-monitoring data with the new city consultant. She's now trying to connect with that person.
 - Dick announced that he will be leaving the FODR board. He put in many years of service to Daley Ranch and gets the major credit for the successful barn restoration.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2:00 pm at Train Depot.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Roberts

