

Friends of Daley Ranch Board Minutes - FINAL

December 16, 2025

Present: Jerry Harmon, Donna Leon, Rick Mercurio, Brocade Harmon, Chris O'Donnell and Dave Roberts were in attendance.

1. Minutes: Jerry opened the meeting at 3:00 pm at the Train Depot. The minutes from the November meeting were approved by acclamation.
2. Treasurer's Report: The November Treasurer's report was reviewed by Rick and approved by acclamation.
3. January 11, 2026 Discussions With Friends event: James Bourdon from the Southern California Mountain Lion Project will be giving a presentation about mountain lions. Manning the event for FODR will be Rick, Donna and Chris. Donna to see about getting some snacks to serve. A 42 person cap will be put on attendance. Chris will establish a waiting list in case needed. She will also forward to each attendee a liability waiver so they can execute that in advance. Donna to check if James will be using a TV so that we can decide if the event could be held outside..

Looking forward, our Spring Discussions event will be held on April 12. Ray and Jennifer Radkey will be talking about all things insects. Then in the summer, Kiely Smith will present a talk on our friendly neighborhood coyotes. The date options being discussed are July 19 or August 9.

4. January 14 Volunteer Lunch: We are set for ~12:00 pm at the Burger Bench in downtown Escondido. Headcount to be in the 10-14 range. In addition to the volunteers and four FODR board members, Rick to invite Fred Woods and Mary Jo Harman. Dave to call the restaurant in advance to give them a heads-up about our large-ish group.
5. 7th Grade Trips for 2026: Everything seems set to go. Rick will be out of town for the first two sessions. Rick to email the Board all the 2026 dates.

6. Bill Sherrard Follow-up: Chris continues to transfer Bill's trail info onto the website as time allows.
7. Website Access: Chris has completed the migration of our website to Go Daddy. As a next step she is tidying what persons are allowed access.
8. Site Ground: Now that we have migrated away from Site Ground, the Board approved the cancellation of our account with them. Chris to handle.
9. Agenda Items for the January 24 meeting: The January 24 meeting will be a working planning meeting. Topics already discussed for inclusion are: 2026 projects, storage unit rental, donor plaque/recognition, picnic 2026, oven refurbishment, memorials benches, and adjacent property monitoring.
10. Other
 - a. Our Plant Guide inventory is running low. Jerry to check what might be stored at his Madison house. Chris to update the guide in the next few months with content input from Donna and Dave.
 - b. Memorial benches: A person has been in touch about paying to have a memorial bench installed somewhere in the Preserve. The next step seems to be to contact the City Department of Community Services about their guidelines for this.

The next meeting is our 2026 planning meeting and is scheduled for Saturday, January 24, 9:00 am, at Chris's house. The February meeting is tentatively set for Friday February 27 at noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Dave Roberts