

Friends of Daley Ranch Board Minutes - FINAL

April 28, 2026

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

1. Minutes: Jerry opened the meeting at 2:00 pm at the Train Depot. The minutes from the March meeting were approved by acclamation.

2. Treasurer's Report: The March Treasurer's report was reviewed by Rick and approved by acclamation.

3. 7th Grade trip update: Rick reported that the trips are going well overall. Yesterday, however, there was a bus snafu that delayed that start. All the stations had to be cut back by 5-10 minutes but that ended up working out well. The final two sessions are next Tuesday and Wednesday.
Rick got Cohn Restaurant Group gift cards and nice thank you cards for the volunteers who have been doing such a good job. As per tradition, Diania received a \$1000 stipend for her contribution.

4. Next Newsletter: Items to appear include:
 - a. Preview of Donna's July 12 Discussions presentation on all things turtles.
 - b. Species of the season
 - c. Summary of the Daley Ranch Biological Survey report. Chris and Donna to collaborate.
 - d. 7th Grade trip wrap-up
 - e. Summary of the April Discussions event with photos.

5. Taxes: Rick did considerable work completing our 2025 tax submission only to have it returned. Apparently hardcopy submissions are not accepted. He then connected with the "Form 990 Online" website that has software with which to do a digital submission. Submitted!

6. CA Outdoor Education Advocacy: FODR has signed a letter of support for AB 2158, the Outdoor Learning and Environmental Literacy Act of 2026. This bill could be a boon to programs like our 7th grade field trips.

7. Biological Survey: Some of the mapping results from the completed survey were discussed. Some grasslands and wooded areas appear to have changed significantly in size. A deeper dive is needed. It would be good to get the Rangers to sit with us to review this document. Project ideas may come out of it.

8. Memorial Benches: Jerry to take the lead on refurbishing the two benches. He's waiting to hear back from Irina.

9. Discussions April 12 Event and Our Next Event July 12: Attendance was down slightly from our last event. There were a few no-shows for people who had signed up. Chris executed our idea to send out reminder emails to the people who pre-registered a few days beforehand. Also, we will include a reminder that dogs are not allowed at the event. The new TV stand worked great!

Donna is set to go for the July 12 event on our friends the turtles. Rick to submit announcements to the Road Runner and the UT. 45 person seating limit.

10. Oven Refurb: Donna still trying to get information and a quote from the San Diego Archaeological Center. No one knows in what ballpark the cost will be. To be discussed at a future meeting.

11. Volunteer Work Day: A tentative date of Saturday, October 24 was proposed with the Rangers. Exact activities are still TBA but could include habitat restoration, trail maintenance and trash pickup. The time would be 8 - 11 am. A shuttle might be available to ferry people to where the work is needed.

12. Lessons from the Dana Point Headlands Conservation area: Brocade and Jerry noted some of the best practices that they witnessed there during their recent visit. These included: shoe cleaning stations at the trail heads, trail fencing, no dogs allowed, restricted areas, and endangered species signage. For further discussion.

13. Other:

a. A binder of old FODR meeting minutes recently surfaced. The consensus was that a hardcopy archive is not necessary going forward. Chris to digitize all the old minutes onto the Google shared drive in coordination with Rick.

Rick also has an archive of old newsletters. Chris has been putting all the recent newsletters on our website.

b. Donated painting: There's a donated painting in the storage unit. Could potentially be sold. TBD.

c. Jerry to follow up on the 5 acre lot next to the La Honda parking lot.

d. Donor Plaque. Rick shared the first draft. It was decided to expand the number of \$1000-4999 tiles into three columns and shrink the other two categories each down to one longer column.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 29 at 2:30 in the Train Depot.

Respectfully submitted, Dave