

Friends of Daley Ranch Board Minutes - FINAL

July 30, 2026

Present: Jerry Harmon, Donna Leon, Rick Mercurio, Brocade Harmon, Dave Roberts and Danielle Parsons.

1. Minutes: Jerry opened the meeting at 2:30 pm at the Train Depot. The minutes from the June meeting were approved by acclamation.
2. Treasurer's Report: The June Treasurer's report was approved by acclamation.
3. Danielle Parsons Intro: The board welcomed new member Danielle to the FODR board. She is a plant and ecology guru who works as a preserve manager for the Escondido Creek Conservancy. A longer bio will appear in the next newsletter. Welcome!
4. Donor Plaque: Rick unveiled the newly made plaque. It looks very nice and is ready to hang in the Ranch House. Waiting on Brian Thill to give us the final okay to put it up. Rick to check back with him. We plan to reveal it publicly at our November picnic.
5. Memorial Benches, Old and New: Still waiting on Brian to send photo of proposed bench candidate to Irina. Rick to follow up with Brian. Jerry still planning to refurb the old benches but is wisely waiting on cooler weather.
6. Oven Restoration: Donna made contact with "David" who has a masonry company. She sent him a picture of the oven and is now awaiting a reply.
7. Last Discussions Event: Excellent presentation about our local turtles by our own Donna. Very good audience interaction. Headcount 29. The shuttle system again worked well as did the online sign up process. The next event is tentatively set for January 10, 2027.
8. Grape Day Park Event on Saturday, September 5: We are all signed up. No entry fee. Runs 12 - 5 pm. Rick, Chris and Jerry agreed to staff the table.
9. Volunteer Workday, Saturday, October 24: A tentative name of "Daley Ranch Habitat Helpers" was proposed. Event to run 9-11 am. A waiver doc will be needed. Rick to ask Brian for the appropriate template that we can send out in

advance to the volunteers. An email blast will be sent out 3-4 weeks in advance asking for volunteers. All work to be supervised by assigned Rangers. Tasks previously suggested include invasive species removal, trash pickup and trail maintenance. We will need water, snacks and possibly some tools. FODR to provide funds for these. May want to buy a large insulated water cooler or two. More detailed planning to come.

10. Annual Picnic on Saturday, November 7: Discussed were ways to expand this annual event beyond a few FODR speakers and lunch. Ideas include guest speakers, tables for the Rangers, past Discussion speakers and possibly other local environmental organizations. The new event name proposed was "Daley Ranch Fest - 30th Anniversary Picnic and Faire". Comments and ideas are welcome.
11. New Sign on Stanley Peak: It was recently seen that the two informational signs at the top of Stanley Peak are showing their age. The east facing sign is in particular bad shape. Rick to reach out to "Jim" and "Mike" about the old art work for these signs so that we can get new ones made.
12. Plant ID Signs in Need of Repair or Replacement: These signs located on the Ranch House and Creek Crossing Trails are due for replacement/updating. This is a good future project that could involve the Sunrise Rotary Club or other local branch.
13. Next Newsletter: Proposed content to include: Picnic Announcement, Volunteers Day Announcement, photo from Grape Park event, photo from Discussions event about turtles, Species of the Season, and bio of Danielle.
14. Other:
 - > Dave ordered another 1000 trifold and they recently arrived at Chris's home.
 - > The Escondido Creek Conservancy is celebrating 35 years of conservation with a special matching funds drive. Jerry proposed we make a \$5500 donation to them. Rick seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Rick to send a check.

The next FODR board meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 24 at 2:30 in the Train Depot.

Respectfully submitted, Dave