# Friends of Daley Ranch Board Minutes - FINAL

**August 24, 2026**

Present: Jerry Harmon, Donna Leon, Rick Mercurio, Chris O'Donnell, Dave Roberts and Danielle Parsons.

1. Minutes: Jerry opened the meeting at 2:30 pm at the Train Depot. The minutes from the July meeting were approved by acclamation.

2. Treasurer's Report: Approved by acclamation.

3. MJM Ranch Near Deer Park Monastery: These 186 acres, adjacent to Daley Ranch and the Deer Park Monastery are privately owned but would make a great preserve. The property was recently transferred as an inheritance to an identified SoCal resident. It is not known if the new owner is interested in selling. FODR would be interested in supporting an effort to purchase the property but is not in the position to be the buyer. Danielle will speak to Ann at the ECC about their interest level in the property, and how FODR might help with its acquisition.

4. Donor Plaque: Rick to let Brian Thill know that we plan to present the plaque to the attendees at our picnic on November 7.

5. Memorial Benches: The ball is in Irina's court to decide which material option she prefers for the bench. Bench renovations are still on the agenda pending cooler weather.

6. Oven Renovation: Donna has been in touch with Dave of David Mejia Masonry about a renovation quote. He said he is available in October to come out to take a look.

7. Grape Day Festival on September 5: The festival hours are 12-5. Set up starts at 11am. Needed items from either the storage unit or the Ranch House include the pop-up, medium sized folding table, FODR table cloth, and a few folding chairs. Rick to bring the raccoon!

8. Daley Ranch Habitat Helpers Event October 24: We didn't receive the participant waiver form from Brian but Chris will send out the waiver we have previously used for our shuttle buses. Chris to post event announcements on our website, FB page and via an email blast. Donna to a draft announcement for everyone's

input. Rick to handle the press releases. The max number of volunteers can be accommodated. Chris will create a wait list if needed.

9. Annual Picnic on November 7: The event name changed slightly to “Daley Ranch Fest: 30th Anniversary Picnic”. Donna to create a logo and flyer for the event, to be used to invite other conservation groups to participate with a display table and/or a turn at the microphone. Rick and Jerry to draft a special invite letter for Eddie Grangetto.

10. Stanley Peak and Plant ID Signs. Rick was able to contact Mike Whalen but he didn’t have a digital copy of the art work. Next step is for Dave and Rick to take some close up photos of the existing signs to use to shop for a company to make replacement signs.
    No one seems to know who made the existing signs. An Escondido Rotary group may have been involved. Rick sent an inquiry to Greg Gould to see if knows anything.

11. Newsletter/Press Release: Articles for the next newsletter to include: A short Danielle bio, a Brocade thank you, announcements for the Habitat Day and Picnic events, and a “Turtles” species of the season.

The next FODR meeting will be on Friday, October 9, 2:00 pm at the train depot.