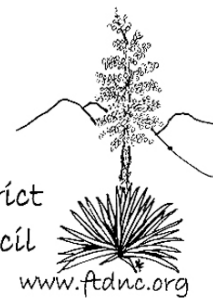


Michael Carpenter  
Kevin Davis  
Dawn Jacobs  
Joshua Jeffrey  
Jess Lewis  
Tamara Lopertito

Kelly Rose  
Laurie Thoms  
Jaycynda Trifone-Woodruff  
Sharon Washington  
Josie Zarate

Foothill Trails District  
Neighborhood Council



**FOOTHILL TRAILS DISTRICT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE**  
**Meeting Minutes**

**May 12, 2016, 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm**

**FTDNC OFFICE**

**9747 Wheatland Ave, Shadow Hills, CA**

*Equestrian Committee Meets Every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each Month at 7:30 pm*

- 1) **Call to order, Pledge of Allegiance.** *Meeting called to order at 7:03 pm.*
- 2) **Welcome by new Chair,** Laurie Thoms, introduced herself with a short bio and stressed her commitment to retaining the area's equestrian lifestyle.
- 3) **Comments by Public Representatives / Public Comment** – Ricardo Benitez, representing State Assemblyperson Patty Lopez, invited meeting participants to join in a Brunch/horse ride with Patty Lopez on May 22, gathering at Orcas Park at 9:30 am. Lunch will be provided. Ricardo reiterated that Patty's office is always open to her constituency and this was an opportunity to get acquainted in a casual setting. Patty is re-running for the CA State Assembly and the election is June 7.
- 4) **Presentation and/or new projects with possible action:**
  - b) Presentation by Nancy Woodruff, Land Use Committee, regarding equine waste disposal issues; Nancy Woodruff, Land Use Committee Chair, spoke on a local equine waste management issue recently brought before the committee. A May 3, 2016 emailed letter from Royan Herman, owner of Peacock Hills Ranch, expressed a concern shared among large commercial barns having difficulty disposing of large quantities of manure. The cost to do so is becoming prohibitive and the options are limited. (Copy of letter is attached). She outlined what local recyclers currently accept, and noted that Lopez Canyon has been limited by the federal government on how much animal waste they can accept. Nancy suggested that equestrians engage in some activism: write to other neighborhood councils, Mr. Fuentes' office, and directly to the recycling processors (i.e., Recology, Sun Valley/Peoria) for information on what waste is accepted, where, and how much they would accept. She noted that any NC action item must be approved by the Board.
- 5) **Updates with possible action:**
  - a) Donna informed the group that the Patty Lopez Brunch/Ride on May 22 which Mr. Benitez previously mentioned will provide brunch for a maximum of 50 participants. A Park Ranger detail is expected to attend to the Assemblyperson's event.
  - b) Donna also reported that a formal presentation of the Equestrian Museum concept is in the works.

- c) Vikki Brink reported that the DMV video project is on hold until after the Horse Fair. Thanks to the efforts of Patty Lopez, Vikki and Donna had a meeting with the DMV in Sacramento to present concerns and suggestions for equestrian road safety. The dangers of night riding was discussed and it is expected that reflective riding gear may be a safety requirement and may be subject to legal enforcement. The DMV will introduce equestrian-oriented rules and testing in next year's publication of the DMV Driver's Manual.
- d) A right-of-way bridal path project along Foothill Blvd paralleling the 210 freeway is under discussion with CalTrans with Kelly Rose as point of contact. Mr. Benitez spoke with a CalTrans engineer who suggested "adopting" the path. Patty Lopez' office will advocate for a safe transition bridal path into Hansen Dam at the bridge overpass. The EQComm questioned whether it was legal for the NC to pay the liability insurance premium (TBD). Michael Carpenter, NC Treasurer, shared his own experience from 7 years ago that it took 4 years to find out under whose jurisdiction the path that led into the dam fell. In 2007 the City Mayor furnished material to maintain the path. Mr. Carpenter still has the railroad ties and hardware provided by the City on his property, but no one has ever come to do the work.. He stated that currently riding a horse there was trespassing until the issue was resolved.
- 4) **Presentation and/or new projects with possible action** (*Cont'd from previous item 4*):
- a) Presentation by Michael Carpenter to request FTDNC Sponsor an Equestrian CycLAVia, which would be the precursor to the formation of an Equestrian Chamber of Commerce;  
Mr. Carpenter spoke of a past plan to hold four events in four different areas for the "State of the Horse". He then submitted his written proposal for 1) an EQLAVIA Event; and 2) an Equestrian Chamber of Commerce, both for committee members' review and asked for comments by the next month's gathering on June 9.
- c) New items from the floor:
- Cindy Bloom, from SAFE, made a presentation to fight against the High Speed Rail's plans to build the railroad through the E2 Route, which will bisect our District. They have counted 48 horse facilities within 2 miles of the E2 route proposed by the CHSRA. She said we are at a critical juncture: the CHSRA is taking soil samples in the area and SAFE is appealing for equestrian support. She said the idea of an Equestrian Chamber of Commerce was a good idea and so was an Equine Council to attempt to unify the local equestrians into a group.
  - Gerardo presented his intended goal in establishing an Ad Hoc Committee for Culture, Arts and History and asked for help with documentation of "preservation of historic trails."
- 5) **Updates with possible action** (*Cont'd from previous items*):
- Equine Health & Pleasure Fair (10-15 mins.)
    - Responsibilities were outlined before and during event day, assignments accepted;
    - Flyers Distribution assignments accepted (events, restaurants, bars, music venues, post on bulletin boards and in public areas, etc.);
    - Set up, booth, cleanup, and other job assignments accepted;
    - Reflector set giveaways to be handled by EquestriSafe booth.
- 6) **Notification of public hearings and/or community equestrian events:** Sylmar NC Fair, "Make Every Horse Count" will be held May 15. Michael, Kelly and Laurie will attend. FTDNC Equestrian Health and Pleasure Fair will be held May 21.
- 7) **Committee member comments** : None
- 8) **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 9:03 pm. The next meeting of the committee is Thursday, June 9.