

**EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 25, 2008**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairwoman Seamans called the meeting to order, the time being 7:04 p.m.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Susan Seamans, Chairwoman  
Dale Allen  
Christine Amin  
Susan Brtis  
Melody Colbert  
Jim Moore  
Andy Rein

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carol Dean-Porter  
Priscilla Regur  
Vicki Shinn

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andy Clark, Community Services Director

**MINUTES, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 26, 2007**

MEMBER AMIN moved, seconded by MEMBER MOORE,

THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 26, 2007 EQUESTRIAN  
COMMITTEE BE APPROVED AS SUBMITTED.

HEARING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN SEAMANS SO ORDERED.

**AUDIENCE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

### **ETI CORRAL #8 REQUEST FOR HORSE SHOW FEES WAIVER**

Elizabeth Holmes addressed the Committee indicating that this organization needed the waiver of the barn rental fees again as their budget was just breaking even. Chairwoman Seamans requested and received information about the group's annual expenses and revenues. Representative Holmes described measures that will be taken to increase promotions of their Horse Shows.

MEMBER AMIN moved, seconded by MEMBER MOORE,

THAT THE HOWLETT PARK BARN RENTAL FEES BE WAIVED  
DURING 2008 FOR THE ETI CORRAL #8 HORSE SHOWS.

HEARING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN SEAMANS SO ORDERED.

### **LOS SERRANOS AWARD CIRCUIT REQUEST FOR HORSE SHOWS FEE WAIVER**

Representative Becky Martin stated that this organization's Horse Show budget was also near "break even". She noted that their Horse Shows are now drawing participants from longer distances and they have added new events to their Shows. Chairwoman Seamans asked Representatives Becky Martin and Elizabeth Holmes whether posting each group's 2008 Horse Show seasons on the City's website would be beneficial. Both Representatives responded positively.

MEMBER AMIN moved, seconded by MEMBER ALLEN,

THAT THE HOWLETT PARK BARN RENTAL FEES BE WAIVED  
DURING 2008 FOR THE LOS SERRANOS AWARD CIRCUIT HORSE  
SHOWS.

HEARING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRWOMAN SEAMANS SO ORDERED.

### **CHADWICK SCHOOL CROSS COUNTRY TEAM MEETING UPDATE**

Community Services Director Clark reported that during a meeting with Chadwick School officials it was determined that there were at least five (5) high schools cross country running teams using the City's bridle/hiking trails. The Chadwick School cross country team coach noted that their group was in full compliance with the trail use safety measures which Equestrian Services Supervisor Fitton shared with them. Staff has begun the process of contacting the other identified schools. Member Colbert noted that whenever she had encountered the Chadwick team on the trails they were respectful of trail safety measures.

## **BRIDLE TRAIL CROSSING DRIVEWAYS CONCERNS**

Community Services Director Clark indicated that resident Sheryl Steckle has reported hearing of horse riders having footing incidents on the Palos Verdes Drive North Trail across three (3) driveways between Dapplegray Lanes HOA and Dapplegray Park. All three (3) driveways' concrete had been re-scored by the City in 2007 and in addition, had warning signs posted per the City's insurance carrier. Resident Steckle also recommended the epoxying of a matting material on each driveway crossing to enhance the footing. The Community Services Director stated that the City Manager suggested that an Equestrian Committee Posse be formed to meet on-site and review the trail crossing condition.

Members Allen, Amin, Colbert, and Moore all voiced opposition for a Posse to be formed for the review of the trail's safety condition and that they had not heard of any incidents since the City had implemented the insurance company's improvement measures. Several Committee Members stated that they had recently ridden their horses on this trail and that a hazardous trail condition did not currently exist. Further, Committee Members believe that attaching the recommended matting material would not be effective in improving the footing over the three (3) roughened concrete driveway surfaces.

## **MAYOR'S BREAKFAST RIDE**

The Community Services Director announced the Saturday, May 10, 2008 date change for this event. He encouraged Committee Members to join the ride which will begin at 8:00 a.m. in Chandler Park.

## **CITY OF RPV TRAILS NETWORK PLAN AT PORTUGUESE BEND NATURE PRESERVE**

Member Allen reported that a lengthy public meeting concerning trail use regulations for the Portuguese Bend Nature Preserve had been held by the City of Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV) on February 23, 2008. He noted that this is one (1) of five (5) Preserves that this City is developing restoration plans and trail use regulations. Mayor Seamans suggested that the RPV Preserve's final trail maps and regulations be promoted on the City of Rolling Hills Estates' website in the future. Discussion ensued about the dangerous situations for equestrians and hikers as well as habitat damage by the mountain bike users in the RPV Preserves.

## **EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE VACANCY APPLICATIONS**

Chairwoman Seamans announced that City Council was in the process of filling vacancies for the Equestrian Committee (1), Planning Commission (1), and the City's new Environmental Advisory Committee (3). Community Services Clark noted that former Committee Member Kline had received recognition at the February 12, 2008 City Council meeting for her twenty-five (25) years of volunteer service on the Equestrian Committee.

## **EQUESTRIAN ISSUES LOG**

The Equestrian Committee reviewed the log maintained by staff.

## **COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Community Services Director Clark noted that he had been in contact with Member Allen, PVP Horsemen's Association President, concerning the requested installation of trail signs on the Peninsula's trails. Member Allen indicated that the Association would be discussing this issue at their next membership meeting.

Member Brtis reported that a large pile of asphalt chips and bags of shavings were blocking needed parking spaces at the Peter Weber Equestrian Center. It was noted that the proposed Equestrian Center renovation project would increase the number of parking and trailer storage spaces.

Member Moore requested that information be placed in a future City newsletter reminding residents not to dump swimming pool water on the trails. He also indicated concerns that the new trail crossing signs on Rolling Hills Road were not effective in stopping traffic when equestrians were within the crosswalk and that a Sheriff's Department "sting operation" was necessary. Community Services Director Clark indicated that an article and photo about this issue could be put in the City's upcoming Spring Newsletter. Member Colbert reminded staff that the PV Drive North equestrian crossing safety issues at Hawthorne Boulevard, Crenshaw Road, and Eastvale Road remain unresolved.

Member Allen indicated that there was interest in holding Dressage Horse Shows at the Howlett Park Equestrian Center, however, the dressage arena with its concrete borders did not meet the national organization's standards. He recommended that staff contact resident Pam Schachter for current specifications. Member Allen also noted that the proposed Chandler Ranch Homes development is within the City's Horse Overlay Zone and originally had a bridle/hiking trail planned to be installed around the perimeter of the development. Since the proposed trail is currently not on the developer's housing plans, he believes that it is important to have it re-established before the Planning Commission considers this project.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Dressage Arena Standards  
Equestrian Traffic Safety Issues  
Trail Name Signage  
Reconvene Peter Weber Equestrian Center Ad Hoc Design Committee  
Chandler Ranch Homes Development Trail  
Stables Fund Fees

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Clark  
Community Services Director

