

**EQUESTRIAN COMMITTEE MEETING  
MINUTES  
JANUARY 23, 2006  
7:00 A.M.**

***\*LINARES RESIDENCE, 4609 PALOS VERDES DR. N., ROLLING HILLS ESTATES\****

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Zuckerman called the meeting to order, the time being 7:10 a.m.

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT**

Steven Zuckerman, Chairman  
Kristine Amin  
Susan Brtis  
Melody Colbert  
Shirley Kline  
Jim Moore  
Dave Pierson

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT**

Carol Dean-Porter  
Pat Killen  
Priscilla Regur  
Vicki Shinn

**STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT**

Andy Clark, Community Services Director  
Linda Fitton, Equestrian Services Supervisor  
Dave Negrete, Maintenance Superintendent  
Roy Beall, Zoning and Code Administrator

**MINUTES, MEETING OF NOVEMBER 30, 2005**

THERE BEING NO OBJECTION, CHAIRMAN ZUCKERMAN ORDERED

THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 30, 2005 APPROVED AS PRESENTED.

**AUDIENCE ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**LOS SERRANOS ANNUAL CIRCUIT FEE WAIVER REQUEST**

Community Services Director Clark indicated that this was an identical request as presented and approved by the Committee for this organization's 2005 horse shows.

MEMBER PIERSON moved, seconded by MEMBER BRTIS

TO APPROVE WAIVING THE BARN RENTAL FEES FOR THE LOS SERRANOS ANNUAL CIRCUIT HORSE SHOWS HELD AT THE ERNIE HOWLETT PARK EQUESTRIAN CENTER DURING 2006.

AYES: All in favor.

**4609 PALOS VERDES DRIVE NORTH DRIVEWAY ISSUE**

Zoning and Code Administrator Beall gave a brief history of the Linares residence driveway project, which was in progress, and the on-going review by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works. This agency is contracted by the City to approve driveway permit applications and to ensure compliance with County driveway standards. He indicated that the City's preference for the driveway was to have either asphalt or raked-finished concrete installed. Chairman Zuckerman clarified that the Committee's focus would be only on the driveway's crossing of the 15-foot bridle trail easement and that no other issues related to any other areas of this driveway would be addressed by the Committee. Members Kline and Pierson indicated that asphalt driveway crossings have sometimes been a safety concern for equestrians in other areas along Palos Verdes Drive North and therefore recommended against asphalt to replace the slick concrete driveway section that was recently installed on a substantial slope across the bridle trail. Community Services Director Clark reported that staff had considered using a concrete saw to cut grooves or to "score" the slick concrete surface. However, due to its substantial slope, staff felt it would have little impact on improving the footing for horses. He indicated that installation of a commercial matting material could also be investigated, but Committee Members responded that the steep cross-slope would continue to be a safety issue.

Audience Member Reggie Nunn stated that the Committee should also be concerned about the footing of walkers and joggers who regularly use this trail and pointed out that three (3) plastic pipes were recently installed approximately 4 inches above the driveway surface, causing a tripping and safety hazard for all trail users. Staff responded by immediately covering the three (3) pipes with an orange safety cone.

In response to a property line fence inquiry by Member Colbert, Zoning and Code Administrator Beall clarified that the City was pursuing legal action to have Mr. Linares remove a new fence and pilaster columns built within the City's bridle trail easement, which is adjacent to his front property line. Member Colbert further suggested that a combination of grinding to roughen the surface and the use of in-laid rough pavers could be considered, however, Committee Members again felt the cross-slope would still be a footing problem for horses.

Discussion ensued about the removal of a 15-foot wide section of the driveway's concrete material, congruent with the bridle trail, and replaced by decomposed granite (DG). Audience Member Dale Allen pointed out that a large amount of water would flow down this new driveway causing the potential need for a drainage system to be installed above the proposed DG. Chairman Zuckerman concurred that a French drain system, designed by a licensed engineer, would be required for this proposed solution to the trail safety issue.

Property owner, Francisco Linares, addressed the Committee, describing the water flow that he observed on the new driveway approximately ten (10) days prior when it rained. He indicated that his original driveway material proposal was the installation of pavers, which are prohibited by the RHE Municipal Code in the City's rights-of-way. If they had been allowed, Mr. Linares felt that they could have been easily removed to resolve the current trail safety issue.

MEMBER KLINE moved, seconded by MEMBER MOORE

TO RECOMMEND THAT CITY COUNCIL REQUIRE MR. FRANCISCO LINARES TO REMOVE THE 15-FOOT SECTION OF CONCRETE DRIVEWAY INSTALLED ACROSS THE CITY'S BRIDLE TRAIL EASEMENT AT 4609 PALOS VERDES DRIVE NORTH AND FOR THE CITY TO REPLACE THIS DRIVEWAY WITH A DECOMPOSED GRANITE TRAIL SURFACE AND A DRAINAGE SYSTEM DESIGNED BY A LICENSED ENGINEER.

Ayes: 6  
Noes: 0  
Abstain: 1

## **COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Member Colbert reported that the Hawthorne Tunnel regularly had substantial amounts of water in it from irrigation run-off flowing from the property immediately adjacent the tunnel on Saddlebow Lane. Chairman Zuckerman indicated that the State of California's storm water pollution regulations required all property owners to take measures to prevent irrigation water from flowing off private property and into public storm drain systems. Zoning and Code Administrator Beall responded that he had made recent attempts to notify the property owner of the irrigation run-off problem, but that this home was currently vacant. He assured the Committee that he would increase his efforts to resolve the wet tunnel problem for all Hawthorne Tunnel users.

Community Services Director Clark distributed copies of the City Manager's letter that the Equestrian Committee recommended City Council to approve to send to the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts regarding a timeline update on the release of the proposed Golf Course EIR and for consideration to allow the City to move two (2) of the Peter Weber Equestrian Center's barns, currently located on settling soil, onto native soil located immediately south of the Center's property boundary.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Peninsula Equestrian Evacuation Plan Presentation  
PVP Horsemen's Association Map

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Fitton  
Equestrian Services Supervisor