Crozet Trails Crew

Monthly Meeting, La Joya Old Trail

January 14, 2016 6:30 pm

*Present: Jessica, David, Terri, Bob, Phil, Janet, Pat, Nikki, Clover, Colleen, Joe, Amy, Teri, Steve, Adriane, Bob S, Mike, Dan, Helen, Bevin, Tony*

Welcome newcomers!

1. Building:
   1. Bridge at Crozet Park - The dog park is now open! We relocated the trail around it that connects with the Crozet Connector Trail. There is a “temporary” bridge that was built for the 5K a few years ago, that connects to private property. If a developer buys that land it will become permanent, but in the meantime we need to finish or recreate a bridge along that route which we can dedicate to last year's 5K winners. Phil recommends another location. We decided to put rails on the “best” bridge, over a gully between the two dog parks. This was the first bridge ever built. This will be our 5th dedicated bridge. We will use some of the grant money we need to spend to fund this project.
   2. Henley Hornets trail - goes around Beaver Creek Lake. We want to extend the end with a system of boardwalks. We hope to fund this project with a grant application and money we raise. A lot of design & engineering will be required. Dan explained that the BOS sees it as a water facility, not a walking destination. There are some geocaches in that area, but they are only accessible by boat. Build a dock / landing to start. A sign would also be helpful, but property owners may take it down. We should take boats out and decide where / how to start; a planning visit will be on our spring priority list. Recent traffic counters have revealed major use of Beaver Creek Park.
   3. Creekside Trail – phase 4 of Creekside, on left as you drive out Jarman’s Gap Rd, is being built now. They have put in a bridge which connects to our trail. When finished, we can add a trail on the other side of it. This will be the project for a midweek workday on Wed. Jan. 27
   4. Upper upper loop at Mint Springs – hiking this will be out workday on Sunday 1/24. It will be a 2 hour hike that includes more flagging & training than clearing. We will plan how to design the trail to a nice overlook with good views, including switchbacks. There is only a primitive route there now.
   5. There is a new park opening in the Ragged Mtn area south of Sieg bldg called Hedgerow Park. The first foray will be on Jan 23. The Tales of the Ragged Mtn were written about this place.
2. Planning
   1. Trail amenities along Connector Trail (signs, benches, bird boxes etc.) – could use grant money we need to spend. This will encourage people to use the trail. There is an example at our 5K water stop, which Tom Guterbock placed a bench at our water stop, there. Any amenities need to be outside the utility bush hog area. On one of our next walking workdays we will scope out locations.
   2. “Skaters” Trail at CCP – 8’ paved perimeter trail, we could consider donating a bench or sittable/ skatable sculpture. Need an overall vision. Many working on alignment, county approval, getting ready for contractors to bid. Will have wooden bridge topped with skatable surface designed & built by contractor. Funded by grant, with strict rfp requirements.
   3. West Lake Hills – waiting on developer to get approval – will bridge at end of Park Ridge be high enough to allow our trail to go underneath?
3. Other
   1. Officers – we report to CCP board, don't necessarily need officers. Current officers have been on the job for 2 years, are happy to pass the torch. No one volunteered to replace them, but Terri volunteered to update the web page more frequently with workday pix, etc. Thanks Terri!
   2. Finances – need to spend $500 this year. Our balance is $8300. Need mower / weedeater service & sharpen hand tools. Can use county shop at Mint Springs. CTC tools need black polka dots repainted. Some tools may need replacing. Would love to get our own bushhogger, but no place to store it.
   3. We are tentatively planning a Pro Re Nata social in March – Bevin will investigate
   4. Douthat State Park retreat – April 1-3 Friday to Sunday. We have reserved a 6-bedroom lodge + 2 smaller cabins. 2 bedrooms are still available at $60/person/ night.

Next workdays:

* Sunday, 1/24 at Mint Springs Park, 9 am – CANCELLED FOR SNOW
* Midday workday to work on Creekside trail, Wed. 1/27 10 am - POSTPONED

Next Meeting: **Thursday, February 25th** (Jess will be out of town), 6:30