

Special Meeting at Park to discuss trail layout, etc.

7:15 Quorum @ Madla Natural Area

Susan, Don, Frank, Jen present.

Aug 8-2012

1. Met with contractor James Swisher on driveway apron and footing for stone entry.

Entry will have swell for water to drain along roadway to other side of apron. Two hackberries may need removal along roadway to allow for drainage. Gravel removed will be placed behind gate and to the right. Other fill removed will be placed to right of gate completing existing berm

Stone entry walls topped with cedar will run straight line from existing gate post to approximately existing corner fence post (in a bit from there). Diagonal angle of concrete entry will be matched on both sides of drive with curve expanded on east side. Concrete footing to run under the straight planned entry walls. Note: It was decided that there was not enough curve to the wall to keep, so straight wall was chosen to simplify adding cedar.

Gate and end posts will be stone approx. 18" square with gate stone posts to be set to handle existing gate. Metal piping approx. 6" diameter will be sunk approximately 6ft down and inside of stone posts to give stone strength to hold bigger future gate. James will work with contractor Stone to see who will pay for metal posts but James will set it. James will work with contractor Stone to set rebar stubs out of concrete for the masonry blocks that the stone will go against. Jen will check with contractor Stone to see if his plan is for masonry block with stone facia.

Vote was taken to allow contractor Swisher to go with plan discussed and marked on the ground at \$7700 with approximately an additional \$200 for the additional pipe work. Swisher will provide spec for approval.

Motion by Jen, 2nd by Susan. Unanimous. Swisher to begin work in about a month, and take a week to complete, completing by end of September.

It was noted the importance of having all heavy material, trucks, etc. done before entry apron project begins.

Further discussion on signage for front. Several options were discussed. Jen mentioned possibility of mesquite from her cousin.

2. Group moved to pavilion area and discussed trail signs, etc.

Jen brought up an idea on naming trails. It was decided to discuss in full board meeting.

Inside the pavilion will be story boards describing the trails and how to get to them. One idea was a standing accordion type sign bolted to the floor of the pavilion so people could walk around it and see

various story boards. Trail storyboards would give distance, severity of trail, etc. Other storyboards would tell history, special things about the natural area, butterfly garden, etc.

A trail plan was discussed. A perimeter trail, sometimes referred to as the handicapped trail will run around the entire perimeter inside the tree line, also serving as a fire break. Three major plain trails, one from the Circle of Friends and two from the butterfly garden will run to the perimeter trail. (Envision this as a wheel and three spokes.) All the trails in the woods will then enter and exit on the perimeter trail (wheel) which then gives access to the pavilion or circle of friends. (A wheel within a wheel.)

Locations of major signs were chosen. The three major trail head (or spoke) signs will be two cedar posts set to be 8 feet above ground about 6 feet apart with a possible sign on a T or hanging saying "Trails" or something like that. A single post 8' out of ground with directional signs will mark where trails depart into the woods from the perimeter trail ... at this time we envision 3 such markers. All of these locations were marked.

Jen will talk to Ron about getting the "spokes" and perimeter "wheel" cut. She will then direct the cutting.

Jen will contact Laurie about volunteer trail blazer people who could refurbish some of the trails.

Frank will talk to Rodney to see how much he would charge to auger the post holes needed. It was decided that 9 cedar (not stripped) posts are needed.

Rodney will do driveway work, small creek by pavilion, move rock, and move dirt on back of butterfly garden. Don will talk to Rodney to avoid him excavating over the Gay Feather plants on the south of pavilion.

A path around butterfly garden is envisioned off of which will be two trail heads as discussed earlier.

Mulch from existing piles could be placed on the "spoke" trails eliminating some of the mulch. It was thought there might be some rock and metal in mulch but this could be removed once it is spread.

Hiring temporary workers was discussed to do things like the mulch. At this time we will put the word out by word of mouth to find people to help do things like spread mulch etc. Once we have some more jobs defined we may want to use City sign to attract workers.

Discussion also on making signage out of cedar and color coding. Frank will ask Rodney if he is equipped to do routing of signs into split cedar. Color coding was discussed for trail markers, trail severity indicators and the like. Idea: cut 4 ft cedar posts at angle on top and either color or place a sign.

Meeting ended at 10:06am.