



**Canoa Ranch Conservation Committee
Minutes
Regular Meeting**

**December 8, 2015
Natural Resources, Parks and Recreation Department**



Quorum was established and Chair Sheridan called the meeting to order at 4:30p.m.

Committee members present: Chair Tom Sheridan, Vice-Chair Dan Brocious, Amanda Castillo, David Yubeta, Dr. Wade McLean, Patricia Preciado-Martin
Stan Riddle attended via conference call
Members absent – Nan Walden, Karen Cesare

Staff Present: Robert Vaughn, Simon Herbert, Valerie Samoy

Committee recited The Pledge of Allegiance.

Dr. McLean made a motion, seconded by David Yubeta, to approve the September 8, 2015 minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously with 1 abstention.

New Business

1. Canoa Ranch post bond election report – Robert Vaughn gave an overview of projects that will continue at the ranch in calendar year 2016. Current budget will allow small repairs and maintenance. Upgrade electrical system. Budget may allow small restoration projects, uncertain at this time (\$25,000 - \$50,000). NRPR would like more public/private partnerships to help with funding of future restoration projects. NRPR is planning a fundraising event in March. Stan Riddle requested that the CRCC invite Friends of Canoa to the next meeting to inquire what its plans are to help with funding for ranch projects in light of bond failure. Chair suggested forming a subcommittee to explore ways to increase outreach to the community via special events, lecture series, workshops – volunteers for this subcommittee (Chair Sheridan, Patricia Martin, Amanda Castillo and Dan Brocious) David Yubeta thanked staff, ranch management and the dedicated group of volunteers for the good work taking place at the ranch. Continue work on building volunteer cadre.
2. Tuesday CRCC meeting dates/times for 2016:
Tuesday, March 8, 2016 at 4 p.m. at Canoa Ranch
Tuesday, June 14, 2016 at 4:30p.m., NRPR
Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 4:30p.m., NRPR
Tuesday, December 13, 2016 at 4:30p.m., NRPR

Stan Riddle left the meeting via phone at 5:10p.m.

Discussion to develop and expand the oral history program at Canoa. Staff to work with the Communications Office to make copies of the oral histories that have been done and make them available to visitors to listen to at the ranch, with help of an audio device (DVD with earphones). Work with Communications Office to put some of these oral histories on the Canoa Ranch website. Put together a training session for volunteers on oral histories. Several committee members described exhibits at museums where visitors can view an exhibit with an audio element making for a powerful exhibit and story. A suggestion was made to pursue grants to help with the development of programs for the ranch. Make contact with the U of A grad students and other sectors of the community to help transcribe the oral histories into manuscripts. Member asked about holding events at the ranch like weddings, meetings, company events and how the ranch recovers costs. Robert Vaughn responded that there will be a fee schedule in place and the ranch will have its own liquor license, helping to draw more events to the ranch.

Future Agenda Items

An update from subcommittee on work for holding lecture series and workshops at the ranch.

Call to Public

Request made to increase PR for the ranch. A member of the public questioned what the role is of the CRCC and questioned CRCC's enthusiasm for the ranch. Same member would like to have a library at the ranch. Suggestion was made to donate books to public libraries and/ or bring a proposal for a ranch library to the CRCC to consider at a future meeting.

Adjournment

Wade McLean made a motion, seconded by Patricia Preciado- Martin to adjourn. Duly motioned and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35p.m.