

Nature Reserve Committee Meeting Minutes
05-02-2011

Meeting came to order at 7:00 PM in the Bella Vita arts and crafts room.

Attendance:

Larry Alvarez – chairman

Dorothy Darden – Board Liaison

Absent - Wayne Johnson

David Southard

David Winchell

David Kitelson

Bob Dennett

Charles Parham

Marjorie Parham

Michael Stelling

The committee acknowledged and welcomed the new members who were informed of our mission statement.

Old business: Chris (Village Builders salesman) did not find a contractor to volunteer to install a stair from Lake Bella Vita to the nature trail. David Southard said that the Bella Vita Veterans were looking for a project. David Winchell is to inquire as to a group effort with the nature reserve providing funds.

The foot bridge across the Clear Creek from Sleepy Hollow has been removed, although it is lying on the ground on the other side.

New Business: The committee acknowledges that a pet cat carcass was found in the neighborhood and was probably the victim of a juvenile bald eagle that has been spotted in the area.

A Muscovy duck was found dead on Lake Bella Vita bank and Charles Parham, who had examined the carcass, suspects this duck was probably the victim of a skunk.

The committee will hold a Round-up Round up on Saturday May 14, 2011, meeting in the driveway of Larry Alvarez, 2414 Monaldo Drive at 8:30 AM. Bring spray cans to mix Roundup herbicide to use in controlling brush and vegetation along the trail or some hand clippers. One or two hours work.

David Southard who requested an additional addenda item queried the committee as to some published reports that the Lake Bella Vita was a catch and release lake and objected to this as a poor lake management tool and received no objections. David's e-mail:

John,

Thanks for your info. The reason the issue has arisen is that 'catch and release' has been published twice in BV materials. However, I could not find anyone that knew why, or the source. As far as I can tell that is because the

'catch and release' clubhouse policy has not been published yet. I requested agreement from our Nature Reserve committee that we believed the lake was fair catch. The committee agreed and I asked that members from our Nature Reserve committee on the Clubhouse and Facilities committees quiz their committees re the issue and our position. At some point it reached you!

Does the discussion you emailed represent the core of the committee reasoning leading to the 'catch and release' policy? Or is this your singular viewpoint? I cannot discern this from your email.

I am questioning this policy because from a fishery management perspective 'catch and release' is not necessary, not required, and not necessarily a good thing for the lake. Using the term 'catch and release' causes confusion since it is generally considered a fishery management tool and exercise. (The term also comes with some baggage from that arena.) It appears BV is using the term generically to manage social issues with the lake. Let me put together some info for the committee re the fishery management issues so the committee is at least aware of potential 'unintended consequences' of the policy. If this info has already been reviewed and incorporated in your decision please let me know. 'The beauty of the and' assures me there is an application of policy that ameliorates any fisheries issues.

Ruth and I will be traveling but I will try to have info for your next meeting.

Thanks for your response to this inquiry.

David

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.