



**TOWN OF FOUNTAIN HILLS
MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MCDOWELL MOUNTAIN PRESERVATION COMMISSION
MARCH 28, 2018**

AGENDA ITEM #1: CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

A public meeting of the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission was convened and called to order by Chair Bill Myers at 4:31 p.m., Wednesday, March 28, 2018 in the Council Chambers at Town Hall, located at 16705 East Avenue of the Fountains, Fountain Hills, Arizona.

AGENDA ITEM #2: ROLL CALL

Present at roll call were Chair Bill Myers, Commissioners Tom Aiello, Bill Craig, Stan Ruden and Ken Thornton. Absent at roll call were Vice-Chair Tom Barberic and Commissioner Klaus Schadle. Staff members present were Community Services Advisory Director Rachael Goodwin and Executive Assistant Jennifer Lyons.

AGENDA ITEM #3: CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No one from the public wished to speak.

AGENDA ITEM #4: CONSIDERATION OF APPROVING THE FEBRUARY 28, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

The following items were updates by Director Goodwin at Chair Myers' request:

- The water and sewer line extension agreement is still being working on and is the only piece still remaining. All other work for SRP and Epcor has been approved. The line extension specifically extends the water and sewer to the edge of our property out to the middle of the cul-de-sac to where it will connect to the main.
- The status of getting utilities to the cul-de-sac is still part of the Toll Brothers' development agreement terms and every indicator is that they are to have those by July 2020. The sale between MCO and Toll Brothers is not consummated yet, but every Wednesday we get an update saying it is expected the following week.

Commissioner Thornton made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 28, 2018 meeting, Commissioner Craig seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM #5: DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION OF MOVING OR CHANGING TIME FOR THE APRIL 25, 2018

Chair Myers made a motion to move of the April 25, 2018 meeting to April 18th at 5:30 p.m., Commissioner Ruden seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

AGENDA ITEM #6: UPDATE ON THE 2018 MMPC OBJECTIVES

Preserve Marketing and Fair Work Group: The Grand Opening should be a coordinated effort between the Town, the MMPC and the Conservancy. The Work Groups ideas/suggestions for the Trailhead Grand Opening include:

- | | | | |
|------------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| 1. A late October date | 2. A guest list | 3. Invite the press | 4. Speeches |
| 5. Events of that day | 6. Subsequent events | 7. Flyover | 8. Mementos |
| 9. Recognition plaques | 10. Transportation | 11. Refreshments | 12. Times |
| 13. Port-a-potties | 14. Videos | 15. Maps | |

Commissioner Ruden has reviewed our basic map and it has nine updates on it. Other ideas from the Commission for the Grand Opening include: putting trail building tools up there, some plugs for trail builders and guides, the Conservancy has mentioned having some guides up there for two hour stints during busy times, that we have patches to put on the shoulders of trail builders or trail guides and tents for shade. Scott Hamilton from Scottsdale has done 12 of these and is a good source of information.

Emergency Markers and Helicopter Landing Zones: Eight locations have been identified by Commissioner Craig and they have been forwarded to GIS Technician/CAD Operator Ken Valverde and Parks Supervisor Kevin Snipes. They both liked the idea of putting the markers every quarter of a mile (approximately). There are ten helicopter landing zones and Chair Myers has arranged for Commissioner Craig and Paul Garvey to go up on April 2nd and look at those sites because a couple maybe a bit too sloped.

Trail Counters: Commissioner Ruden reported that the trail counter at the Botanical Garden was installed in March. Three of the four trail counters are working fine which would be: the Botanical Garden, the Overlook Trail and Sonoran Trail at the north end. There seems to be a problem again with the Western Loop counter and Saturday he will check it out along with the trail builders.

*Graphs are attached To the minutes of the trail counter numbers.

Test 911: There was a final test where 911 was dialed from two different locations and it worked just fine. Our general conclusion was that the four major carriers in this area get very good 911 reception.

Five Layers of Protection: Commissioner Schadle has done a bunch of work on this and we think we are about as good as we can get. Scottsdale and a couple other entities have layers of protection to keep their Preserve from being sold or otherwise developed.

Quarterly Updates to Council: Chair Myers gave a ten minute update on the Preserve to Council on March 6th.

AGENDA ITEM #7: UPDATE ON THE SONORAN CONSERVANCY

- Hikes are going well.
- Planning for new hikes starts next month.
- They would like to develop Trailhead stewards to be there on weekends to answer questions.

- The Trailblazers have been awarded the “Legacy Award” by the Lower Verde Valley and River of Time Group and eight of us will be going to the dinner tonight to represent the Trailblazers.

AGENDA ITEM #8: DISCUSSION ON QR CODES AND SIGNS

Director Goodwin reported that according to our IT department the QR codes are routed to the existing Town website and the website that had been developed previously is no longer part of the loop. The Town will not control an external website and they have to come to the Town page. If the QR codes are not operable we need to figure out where the breakdown is and how to make it work. Several of the Commissioners verified that the last time they checked it did not work. When it was working, when you keyed on a sign it would give you information specifically about that trail. Director Goodwin agreed that information should be added to the Town website if it isn't already there. Ideally what we are trying to do is not to duplicate multiple sites. The Town site should be the authority on all things Town related and given that this is a Town related project it should always revert back to the Town website. Commissioner Thornton requested a copy of the QR symbol that IT is working from and go from there.

AGENDA ITEM #9: DISCUSSION ON THE 2018-2019 MMPC BUDGET

Numbers are still being finalized and Council is to receive the budget on April 9th. Council will then review it April 23rd, 24th and 25th. There have been zero supplements approved unless there is a revenue offset associated with it. So for the Commission that means don't expect new money or more money. For instance this year's budget has the Trailhead Grand Opening in it and we know we are not going to spend it so that should be reallocated for next year because it is not being spent this year, but anything beyond that do not expect that to be reinstated.

AGENDA ITEM #10: UPDATE ON THE ADERO CANYON TRAILHEAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT

Director Goodwin explained that both the Epcor and SRP agreements have been signed and everyone is moving forward. These should have been done before we had gotten this far on the project and she not sure why these were not, but it was prior her involvement. Public Works Director Justin Weldy was able to work with Epcor and SRP to get this done.

An updated Blucor schedule for the next three weeks was given to the Commission and a copy is attached to the minutes. The biggest thing they will be doing is the footings for the restroom. The grading and the sewer installation will be done this week. The footings will be poured and the restroom site is getting prepped as well as the ramada. There is one issue that we have run into that resulted in a slight change. At the northern end of the parking lot there is a bump out that goes into the head wall for drainage and it was built 30' too short. It is pure rock and they would have to do some significant blasting to make up that 30'. We did not want to do that so we joined with J2 and made a site visit to see what could be done. What we are going to do is leave it in place and readjust two parking spaces. We did not lose any parking spaces they are just rearranging them. What we do loose is a sidewalk which we do need to accommodate for but it was a small give in order to avoid a major issue.

At yesterday's meeting we received a sample of the roofing material for both the ramada and the restroom building. Tomorrow Parks Supervisor Kevin Snipes will be out on site with J2 as well as Blucor to look at the plantings. It is not longer possible to reuse a lot of plantings that were on site and we also reduced the number of incoming plant material so we need to be critical about where it is going to go.

The following are responses to Commission's questions by Director Goodwin:

1. Upper gate access: After review of the plans there is fire access gate that does allow for pedestrian access along side of it.
2. The sale from MCO to Toll Brothers is not consummated yet but it is imminent.
3. The public preliminary development agreement is not signed.
4. Completion of the Trailhead is still projected for July/August. A copy of the latest three week timeline from Blucor is attached to the minutes. Commissioner Thornton commented that this timeline does not allow for showing when a project has been completed. Director Goodwin responded that J2 does the inspections before they (Blucor) gets paid for what they do.
5. There will be a vehicle gate at the back of the Trailhead parking area.
6. The access for the eight miles of trails from the Trailhead is to the left of the car gate when you are looking at it from the parking lot. Discussion ensued among the Commissioners and concerns were expressed about trail access especially for wheelchairs.
7. Getting together with Scott Hamilton about planning (future item).
8. Status of the fire access road as indicated by our printed trail map as of October 2016. It is part of the Toll Brothers settlement agreement with the Town and they are being charged with grading, stabilizing and revegetating it. We do not have plans of what that will look like or when that will be completed or the timeline for such, but it is forthcoming.
9. The curb and gutter are going to be built out now and later construction will need to match it.
10. Bike rack – will need to check into.
11. There is a kiosk for maps and there will be a map holder.

AGENDA ITEM #11: CONSIDERATION OF ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Ruden made a motion to adjourn at 5:33 p.m., Commissioner Thornton seconded and the motion passed by unanimous vote.

McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission

By: _____
Bill Myers, Chair

Reviewed by: _____
Rachael Goodwin, Director of Community Services

Prepared by: _____
Jennifer Lyons, Executive Assistant

CERTIFICATION

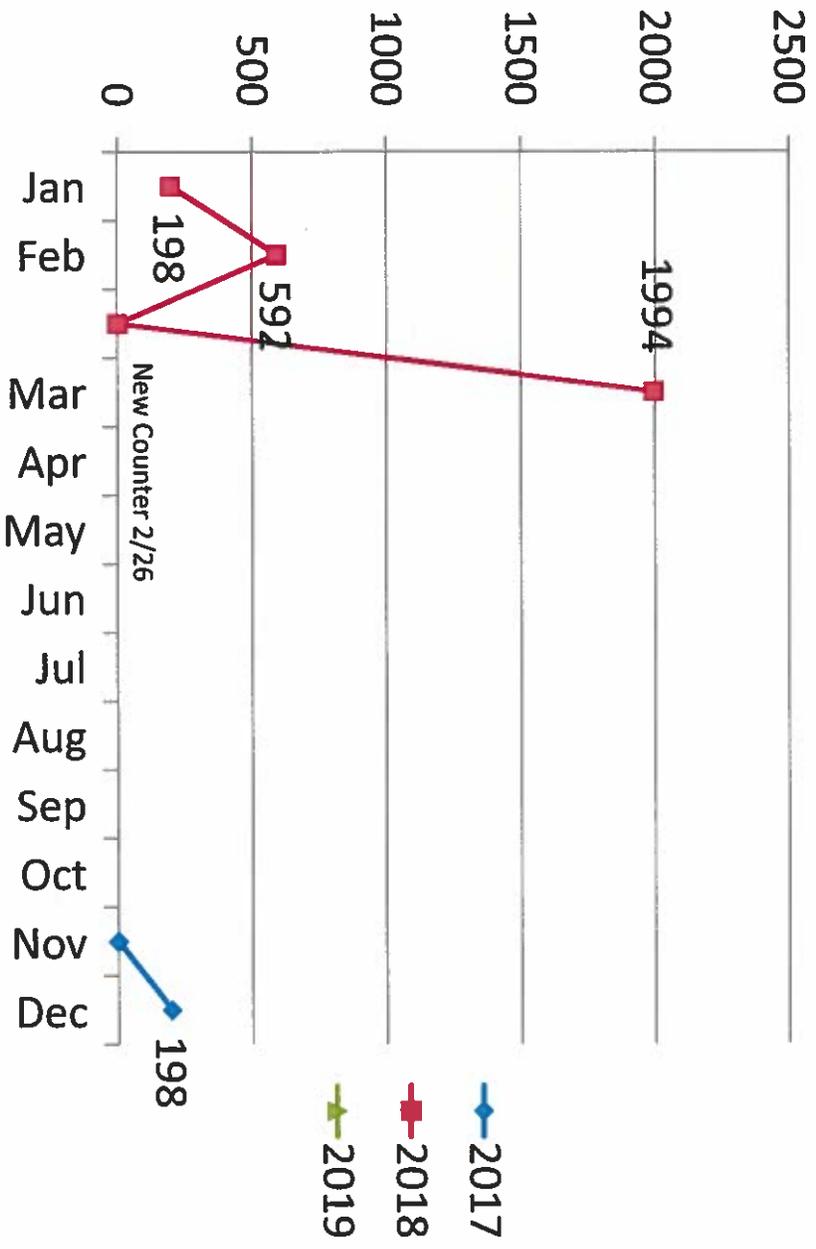
I hereby certify that the foregoing minutes are a true and correct copy of the minutes of the McDowell Mountain Preservation Commission Meeting held on March 28, 2018. I further certify that the meeting as duly called and that a quorum was present.

By: _____
Jennifer Lyons, Executive Assistant

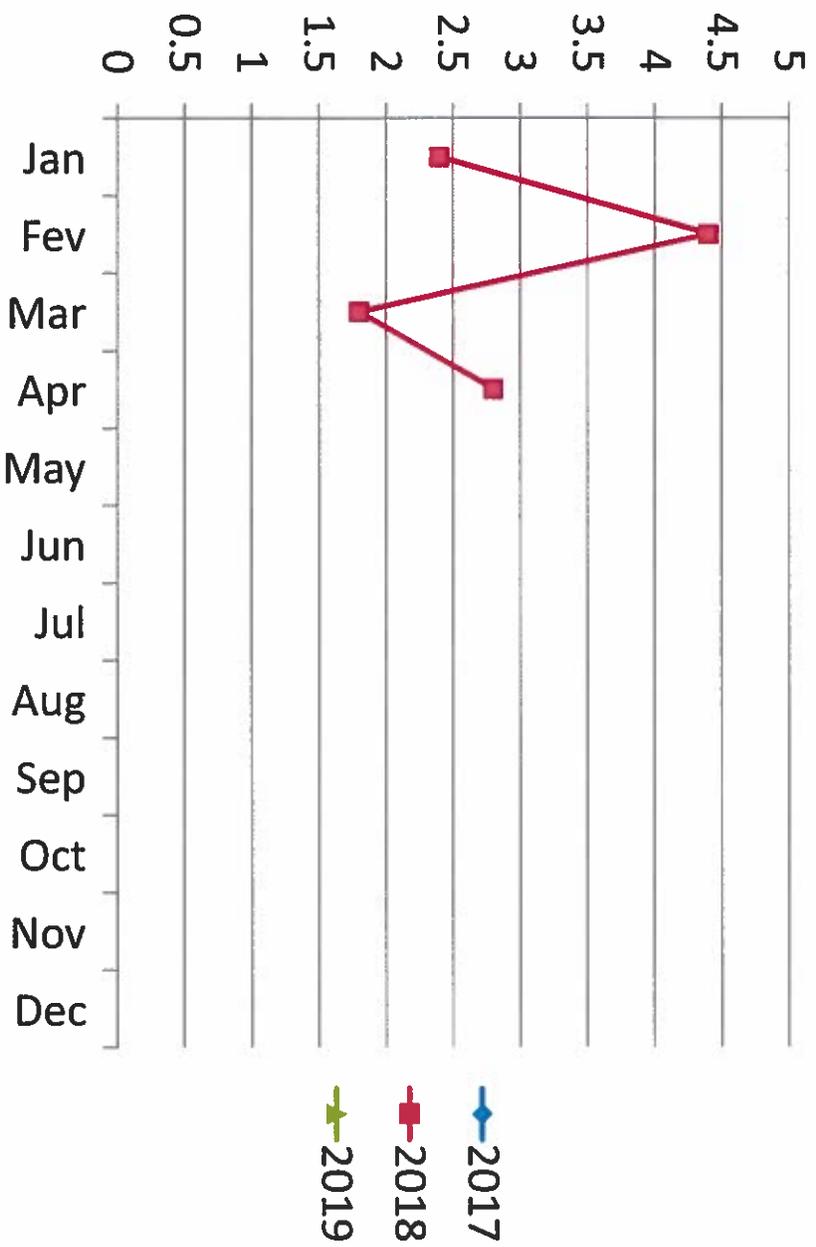
Dated this 18th day of April 2018

Sonoran Trail (Northern End)

Monthly Readings

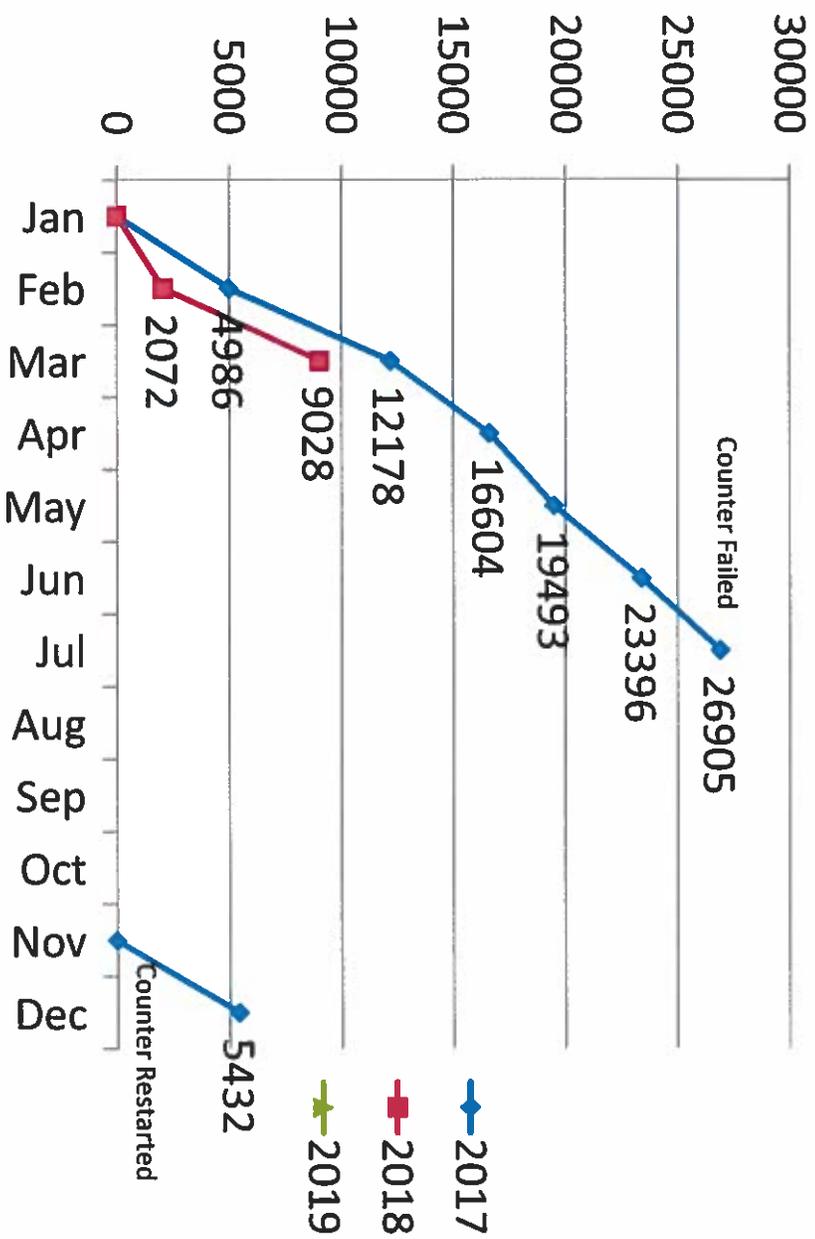


Botanical Garden Monthly Readings

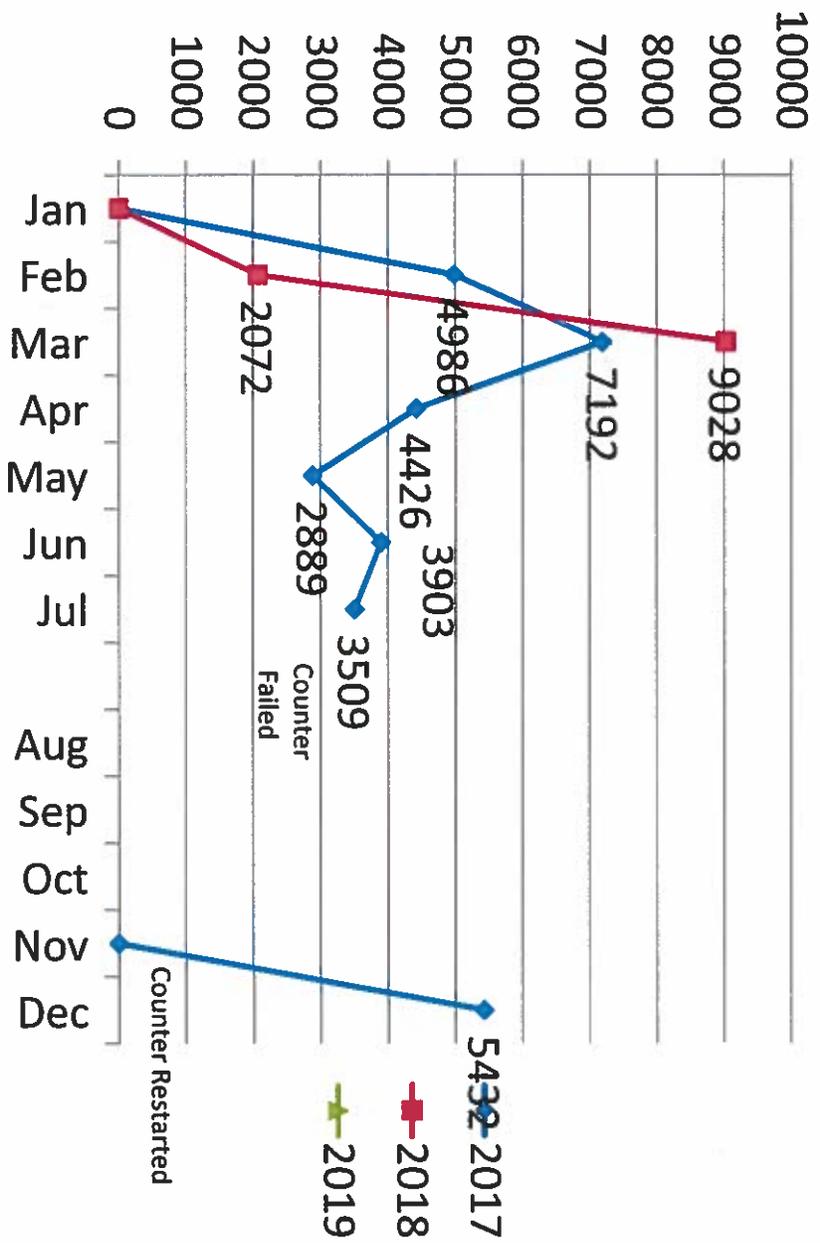


Lake Overlook Trail

Yearly totals by month



Lake Overlook Trail Monthly Totals





Adero Canyon Trailhead

Project No: FHACT7

Date: 3/27/2018

3 Week Look Ahead		T	W	T	F	S	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T							
		3/27	3/28	3/29	3/30	3/31	4/1	4/2	4/3	4/4	4/5	4/6	4/7	4/8	4/9	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15	4/16	4/17	
1	GRADING - CURB, LANDSCAPING																							
2	SEWER INSTALLATION																							
3	WATER INSTALLATION																							
4	RESTROOM CONSTRUCTION																							
5	POUR FOOTINGS																							
6	INSTALL STEM WALL																							
7	INSTALL PLUMBING																							
8	POUR CONCRETE FLOOR																							
9	ELECTRICAL CONDUIT INSTALL																							
10	RAMADA CONSTRUCTION																							
11	POOR FOOTINGS																							
12	INSTALL GABION PILLARS																							
13	GABION SEATWALL INSTALLATION																							
14																								

NOTES:
