

Minutes of the Bridle Path Homeowners Association

Special Meeting

Subject: Horse Cart Rules

Wednesday, October 18, 2006; 8:00 P.M.

Hillside Middle School Cafeteria

2222 Fitzgerald Rd

I. **Call To Order** 8:14 p.m.

II. **Welcome and Introduction** (Jim Pantaleo, Pres.) All board members present: Jim Pantaleo, Ken Nies, Leslie Berquist and Juli Weltsch. The position of Secretary is currently open.

III. **Verification Of Quorum:** 517 homeowners represented including proxies.

A. Statements to overturn proposed cart rules from original petitioners:

Don Welcker: Carts will now be in street, so not safe. Disrupts footing in arenas, targets horse carts is the issue on each item.

Sandy Welcker: carts do not spook horses, and paragraph 4 picks on cart people, carts are legal on any street, do not let board discriminate against

Laura Paxson: horse drawn carriage company, must have slow moving vehicle sign and lights with signals, if a carriage can not turn around it does not belong on bridle path, courtesy and common sense need to be taken. (Paxton explains how carriage work using model - must have a cut under carriage on bridle path) Minis cannot be driven in street. Hooves cannot take it.

B. Statements to uphold proposed cart rules from the Board of Directors **Jim Pantaleo**) Horsecart issues were first addressed by the board in March and upon researching the current CC & R's, the board found no cart rules had ever been put in place for Bridle Path. **Jim Pantaleo** personally went to the city and looked at the original Bridle Path plans which stated that the burden of developing rules was the responsibility of the board of directors. The board then set out to establish a set of comprehensive rules keeping in mind safety & liability issues.

The board also asked the member of the Arena & Trails Committee for recommendations. These recommendations were received by the board and some were incorporated into the rules issued by the board. However the final rules were a creation of the board and all five members of the board voted unanimously to issue them. In addition, further research revealed the following:

1. Horse carts are a vehicle as defined by the city
2. City states carts are forbidden on public easements set aside as equestrian trail or path
3. Griffith Park - no vehicles on trails
4. Challenger - carts allowed only in areas set aside for that purpose
5. No bicycles are allowed so why should carts be allowed.

C. Statements from open floor:

Eric Allen: Not a good idea to set a speed on a gate. Lived in New Jersey for awhile and has some experience with the horse-drawn carts/Ahmish experience - and feels carts ok on street, however he has seen carts going down our streets at a high rate of speed, with no lights and they do not slow down to cross the streets - feels this is dangerous.

Janice Woods-Allen: Co-chairs the Arena & Trails (A & T) committee with Nancy Reaves. The process that the committee went through to arrive at recommendations was: Arena & Trails was asked by the board of directors to come up with recommendations because of an incident that happened at the first st. arenas. They felt that it's not an issue of the carts it's an issue of speed. She has personally witnessed a cart driver running at a marathon trot (very fast), not slowing to cross streets or slowing when near other horses. The A & T Committee submitted recommendations that allowed carts only walking or at a slow trot. The board of directors made additional changes to their recommendations. A & T committee believes that absolutely no carts should be allowed in mountain park. Industry Drivers rules says drivers must stop to accommodate other horses.

Jeannie Callan: doesn't make sense to have carts in the street, too dangerous.

Kim Kelley: horses are allowed, why not a horse and small cart. Large carriages not what we are talking about here.

Joan Leuck-Waak - sympathises to cart people but this is not about carts, it's about safety. We all know the perils of the speed of cars on First Street, there is no space for a cart to turn around along there. Local equestrian centers do not allow cart training - they have shows but no training. Would like to see our streets safer by getting speed limits lowered.

Tom Slauson: this is an equestrian area, doesn't see a problem with carts being on the bridle path at a slow trot or walk. Smaller carts are better on the bridle path than street, but not bigger carts.

Nancy Reaves: footing of arenas not good enough to support carts, 3rd arena can take it. Thought we were more than gracious to offer 3rd arena for cart use(as stated in recommendations to board from A & T Committee). Does everyone understand that a cart is a vehicle - if you vote to uphold you are voting to allow vehicles on BP. This area not good enough to support training.

Don Welcker: the carts are not ruining the arenas - going down to First St arena is not fair, does not want kids in the street on carts.

Sometimes daughter is out by herself, and takes advantage - don't limit use of carts because of the actions of one person. Sandbags are up now so they will not be driving. Everybody should be able to drive on bridle path.

Laurie Mitchell: agrees on both sides of what is going on, the big issue is safety, nobody knows how a horse is going to react. What about pulling out of a driveway - there will be an accident. Absolutely no carts should be allowed in mountain park, there is nowhere to get out of the way. Would like to see it safe for everybody, we go elsewhere to practice barrel racing because the conditions here are not safe. 3rd arena is good for carts because ground is harder.

Sue Smith: this is a safety issue, we are talking about wheels in motion - should not allow any kind of wheels, been that way as long as I lived here - go by original intention of developer

Michelle Goyette: She sits lower on her cart, visibility is an issue on street, she's always very courteous, had no problems, can turn on a dime, and there is plenty of room to maneuver around her. She lives on dog alley 12 homes from arena, why should she have to trailer to the arena?

Jennifer de la Torre: Carts should be allowed on the bridle path at a walk only,Sandy Welcker sent Jenifer an email that the events committee sign she posted on Rambling spooked Sandy's horse so Sandy should understand that a cart can spook a horse as well.

Michael Schiller: before we allow carts on streets we must mitigate traffice issues and need to stop young girl who drives down Mellow ane at 15-20 mikes an hour

Jodi Slotar: need to have restrictions, She drives her mini cart in her cul de sace path - stays in her cubicle, does not want to go in street with so many cars parked along the streets she would be riding out in the middle of street. Must find some middle ground. She is always very courteous and uses common sense but let's not completely restrict the activities of those who are respectful and courteous.

Andrew Steinfeld: Has no agenda here. Change is necessary. He moved his family here for the unique environment. He thinks we need to find middle ground. We are very fortunate to live in this community.

Dean Julian: has no horses, make new rules to address safety issues

Leliti Chafee: She moved here because it is an equestrian area, horses do spook, can spook at anything. We should have carts and horses and be able todo whatever we want. Everyoe should be safe and courteous. If you begin to restrict things you open up yourself to a bunch of other issues.

Leslie Berquist: 5 members worked since march , we were elected to do this, and continue to work toward what is the best for the community.

D. **Jim Pantaleo** calls for vote, O'Neill & Associates is appointed inspector.

Results will be published in the November, 2006 newsletter.

IV. Meeting adjourned by **Jim Pantaleo** at 9:56 p.m.

Name

Date

Minutes take by Julie Weltsch, Assistant Secretary
Approved by board 13-NOV-2006
Submitted by Eric Allen, current Secretary
24-NOV-2006