

TOSS MEETING FOR
9-24-14

In attendance were: Steve Miele, Gary Filice, Mike Reagan, Bob Swet, Mike Stern, Don Northern

-Treasury Report: No report as our treasurer is sailing the high seas.

-TOSS SS-2 contest report (thanks Mike Reagan)

The only new holes put in the carpet were in the old part of the landing area. (ed. There was one put in the new carpet) The landings were worth 100points on a very short tape which made getting points VERY hard. The lift was great as usual at this field. The sink was also huge. Low saves are very common at this site, but you have to be prepared to do them. Many were not ready for this and had really short flights. I did low saves on 4 of 6 flights. Not as big a deal as it sounds as I ended up high on every flight. Gary took every flight to great height (too high for me, no need) but just could not get a landing, he even landed (Rick caught it in mid air) once in the pit area when a huge down wind came through. I had one AVA landing in a dust devil so ended with a zero landing and a cracked nose. Luck of the draw. I ended up second by .3 points that's 999.9 SC points with my open scoring more points then my RES which is new for me. Still keeps me in the lead for the yearly. It will come down to the last contest in San Diego next month. Missing the secret contest is still hurting me in the standings, as I have no throw away. Good thing Steve came and did not fly as he was needed to do Landing duty the whole time. (assisted by Andy and Bob, and Don on one retriever, THANKS!)

TOSS donated four drink coasters (made of Welsh slate) as additional prizes. These are striking in appearance and have the TOSS logo on them and are usually given as prizes at the TOSS monthly contest.

TOSS netted \$111.00 in our proceeds from the contest!

-Additional Schumacher battery chargers will be purchased for the remaining four winch setups.

-There was a Thousand Oaks Acorn article on the new Sapwi Regional Park, and the status of the Environmental Impact Assessment report. The Soaring site is shown on the park map and is designated as Zone 5. The remaining areas of activity around the park involve traffic flow and control at the park entrances. This will involve traffic signs and slow-down lanes for safety purposes. Here is the article:

Environmental analysis of proposed park available

By Becca Whitnall and Kyle Jorrey

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SAPWI TRAILS—Conejo Recreation and Park District is moving forward with a park in the **Lang Ranch** area. Courtesy of CRPD The last giant swath of unused land in the city’s boundaries, a 145-acre site in the **Lang Ranch** area of **Thousand Oaks**, could become a haven for runners, mountain bikers, model plane fliers and disc golf enthusiasts.

An independent environmental analysis of the Conejo Recreation and Park District’s plans for Sapwi Trails Community Park will be available to the public starting today.



Tom Hare, CRPD supervisor, has already seen the report. He says it shows that any impacts the proposed recreation area could have on the surrounding area could be diminished.

“Yes, we’re studying traffic and noise and lighting and aesthetics and all that sort of stuff. We’re getting that all together, and there’s nothing out there we can’t mitigate,” he said.



Courtesy of Conejo Recreation and Park District Once the report is officially released, the public will have 30 days to review it and make comments, Hare said. After that, the report and the accompanying comments will go before CRPD’s board of directors for final approval. The total cost of the environmental analysis and project design is expected to be around \$199,000 according to CRPD’s 2013-14 capital projects budget.

History

Bordered by Erbes Road, Avenida de Los Arboles and **Westlake** Boulevard, Sapwi Trails is the last community park planned for **Thousand Oaks**, according to the CRPD master plan.



AdChoices

It hasn't has come easy—or cheap.

The dream of building a community park amid the rolling hillsides of [Lang Ranch](#) dates back to T.O.'s earliest years, when planners identified the land—annexed along with another 2,500 acres into the city in



1968—as a perfect place to realize their vision.

Nearly 35 years later, in 2002, after the land around the park, once occupied by grazing cattle, had been lined with upscale homes, CRPD began taking steps to develop the property in the model of its existing community parks: There would be six lighted ball fields, a community center, tennis courts and several other amenities.

But 10 years and \$2.5 million later, the park district had to abandon those plans after a geotechnical study determined the site sits atop the remnants of a prehistoric seismic event, making the property prone to landslides and extremely expensive to stabilize.

Latest plans

The new draft master plan for Sapwi Trails, formerly [Lang Ranch](#) Community Park, is the product of several rounds of community meetings and reflects the surrounding neighborhood's desire to leave the land as undisturbed as possible.

In all, just 17 of the park's 145 acres will be developed for five major use areas, according to Denise Johns, CRPD park planner. See details at right.

“We’re following low-impact development standards. . . . That’s where you’re trying to capture water on site, you’re native planting, etc., so you’re not importing more water and more energy than exists on the site,” she said.

Except for security lights at the park's restrooms, there won't even be lighting, Johns said.

Area residents representing sports and activity groups that plan to use the park have helped with the design.

“Volunteers (who) we consider our experts at disc golf laid out the golf course,” Johns said.

The district expects the community’s disc golfers to be involved with building the course, as they did with Rabbit Flats, CRPD’s only course thus far, at the back of [Thousand Oaks Community Park](#). The involvement of the groups helps ensure the district develops areas that will be used and saves the district money, Hare said.

“When we built Rabbit Flats four or five years ago, we budgeted about \$40,000 for the project, and it only cost us \$20,000 because they literally provided several thousand man-hours of volunteer time.”

Another group planning to help with part of the park is the [Newbury Park High School](#) mountain biking club. Coach Peter Sullivan, who offered input on the biking skills area, said he looks forward to bringing team members out to practice and to maintain the tracks.

“There’s going to be different levels of pump tracks, which will provide excellent practice for kids to learn before taking those skills out to our great . . . trails,” Sullivan said.

Pump tracks are continuous loops of trail that cyclists can ride without pedaling, pumping their upper bodies to maintain momentum. The tracks are gaining popularity, he said.

Gary Filice of the [Thousand Oaks Soaring Society](#), which flies motorless model planes, said his organization also plans on helping to create and maintain the park, though he noted the flying area won’t require much maintenance. “We don’t need anything but a flat piece of land,” he said.

Hare anticipates the activity groups will be able to start work on their respective areas by the end of the year.

To see a copy of the environmental analysis of the proposed Sapwi Trails plan, go to www.crpdp.org/sapwi.

-Models for sale activity- Bob Swet had the winning bid at \$400 for the ICON I that included a complete ballast system and wing bag. David Swain bid \$100 on the Carbon Shrike and won the bid, Andy Tiffin bid \$50 on the FunOne design plane and won the bid. Andy also offered to assist in the sale of the remaining planes.

-Yearly TOSS Officer nominations. So far, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer are filled by the incumbents. The remaining positions are available.