

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 3, 2009**  
**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, March 3, 2009, 6:30 P.M. at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, California.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member-at-large  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
John F. Pilch, San Carlos Area Council  
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon  
Roger Utt, County of San Diego  
Nancy Acevedo, Member-at-large  
Mike Pent, Special Member  
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council Alternate  
David Boyer, MCAS Miramar  
Donovan Geiger, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Matt Rahn, SDSU

Members Absent

Judy McCarty, Special Member, excused  
Walter Odening, PhD, Member-at-large, excused  
Norman Greene, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board, excused  
Pete Cuthbert, City of La Mesa, excused  
Gene Hatton, City of Santee, excused  
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners

City of San Diego

Chirs Zirkle, Open Space Deputy Director, Steve Haupt Open Space District Manager, Tracey Walker Senior Park Ranger Mission Trails Open Space Division  
Nathan Batchelder, Councilmember Emerald's Office

Guests

Mojgan Poursadighi, Rachel Kulis, San Diego County Water Authority  
Gardner Grady, Kim Wiley, San Diego Mountain Bike Association  
Josh Higgins, Allied Climbers of San Diego  
Dan Briggs, San Diego Sheriff's Office Wireless Division  
John Bitterly, Version Wireless

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dorothy Leonard at 6:30 P.M.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (UTT / PILCH ) to approve the minutes of the January 6, 2009 meeting. The motion passed with the following corrections: Page #2, under Chairperson's report, Jan changed to Jay Wilson and Sharp changed to Sharpe. David Boyer abstaining.

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Dorothy Leonard reported:

- At the Task Force meeting of January 21st, the following actions were taken.
  - The proposed Park Use Permit procedure was continued as Councilmember Frye had some concerns about possible liability of CAC members. Opinions from the City Attorney's Office will be forthcoming.
  - The CAC appointment for Matt Rahn from San Diego State University was approved. A letter from Santee was received authorizing the reappointment of Gene Hatton to the CAC. This will be on the March Task Force agenda.

### STAFF/RANGER REPORT

Senior Ranger Walker reported:

- Ranger and MTRP Foundation staff are working on a special program to install upgraded surveillance cameras in several locations around several of our parking lots to help stem the continuing "smash and grab" vehicle vandalism issues around MTRP.
- Ranger Walker described the use of a UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) for mapping sections of the San Diego River for a variety of ecological reasons.
- Ranger and volunteer staff removed several fan palms and other associated non-native plants.
- Interpretive program and Visitor Center attendance statistics were reported.

### WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT

No representative to give a report.

### ACTION ITEMS

201. Sycamore Landfill Antenna Facility - Project No. 88040: The new physical changes suggested by the CAC were incorporated into the new Sycamore Landfill Antenna Facility design. Ranger Walker will be involved with the facility color choice.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (UTT / GADLER) to support the new antenna design changes with Ranger Walker assisting in the facility color choice. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

202. Use of "The San Diego Foundation" fund in amount of \$ 2,898.81 toward a new history of water / water conservation exhibit to replace the current history of water exhibit installed in 1995. Chair Dorothy Leonard described the agencies involved, possible monetary sources and proposed history of water project. Ranger Walker gave a brief description of the existing exhibit and its interpretive

goals. The newly proposed project would represent a significant upgrade in terms of content and innovation interpretive techniques.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (GADLER / MURPHY) to approve in concept to upgrade the exhibit and use The San Diego Foundation fund (\$2,898.81) for project "seed money". The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

## WORKSHOP

301. SDSU River Net project. Matt Rahn, San Diego State University representative to the MTRP CAC offered the following report. The San Diego River Conservancy and the San Diego River Park Foundation are partnering to establish the first wireless, autonomous watershed monitoring stations in the United States. The entire 52 miles of the San Diego River will eventually be outfitted with water quality, weather and wildlife camera monitoring stations. The Regional Water Quality Control Board has provided project funding from violation fines in the amount of \$240,000. This money will allow the installation of four stations. The first station will be installed in Mission Trails. Senior Ranger Walker and Foundation staff will meet with Matt Rahn to decide the exact location of the first station.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

401. San Diego County Water Authority Projects. SDCWA staff reported on the ongoing construction work going on in the park.

- Urgent pipeline repair work. Failure cause and necessity for tunneling under the San Diego River to complete the 1,200' reline of the 72" pipe. This was under the recommendation of the forensic analysis done in 2008. Project completion may be realized as early as March 9<sup>th</sup> 2009. Revegetation projects for all construction projects are under review at this time. The construction on the two portals (one on the North side of the river, the other on the South side) has been completed. Contractors have begun removing construction-associated materials from both sites.
- The Mission Trails Tunnel. The support trailer complex at the end of Claremont Mesa Blvd. has been completed including newly extended sound walls and improved access roads. The one-mile of tunnel project will begin in mid March of 2009. If all goes well, this project will be completed in the summer of 2011.
- The Pipeline #3 relining. This project begun a year ago is still on schedule and will be completed by the end of 2009.
- Habitat restoration contract. Recon will be the revegetation contractor for project related habitat restoration. Seed collections will continue around the site to ensure that native plant material will be utilized. A draft of the restoration plan will be presented to the CAC in May for comment. The areas set for enhancement are FRS #1, FRS #2 construction sites, the project related right of way easement areas, the San Diego River Crossing areas, Pipeline 3 relining construction area, portal areas, Pipeline #4 emergency repair site and the vernal pool restoration areas.
- Impacts of the FRS #2 delay. All trail and access roadway closures were very carefully selected to keep impacts to a minimum. It was reported that the SDCWA would like to keep the existing trail and access road closers in effect till the project end in the summer of 2013. The Claremont Mesa construction support sites will also remain closed till the ending of the project in 2013. However, FRS #2 construction hours may be altered to a Monday through Friday schedule in the near

future. SDCWA will return to discuss possible options concerning the necessary extended construction period.

- Approval was reached and the ongoing table and shade structure project is moving forward.

402. CIP Project Updates.

- a. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project. No staff report.
- b. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station status report. A 1472 is being routed to include the project into the FY 09 CIP Budget, hopefully getting it to council by late January or early February of 2009. All necessary departments have signed off on the 1472 and it should be submitted for docketing possibly in early March. It was noted by Chair Dorothy Leonard that the Foundation and CAC want to be involved in the selection process for the project architect and work with project staff to ensure a positive outcome.

403. City of San Diego Trails Master Plan. Open Space Trails Manager Rich Thompson gave an update of the progress on completing the extensive Trails Master Plan. Rick explained the rationale and process involved in creating his position and trail standards for the City of San Diego. Rick noted that for years there was no consistency in trail standards. His primary mission is to provide clarity and develop a trails policy document. Rick reviewed and explained trail categories along with detailing trail inventory, status and type of trail. Political need and community involvement has been and will continue to be a major factor.

404. Park Use Permit review. Open Space Deputy Director Chris Zirkle reviewed the status of the review process to date. An opinion on possible CAC member liability in making event recommendations is being sought from the City Attorney at this time. No opinion has been offered.

405. Status of the process to officially name the street at the Equestrian Staging Area "Equestrian Circle." An application is on file with Development Services and the project is moving forward. Development Services has asked the Fire Department if they have any problems with the street naming. If Fire has no problems with the process, the request for sign production will be forwarded to the sign shop. It is hoped that this process can be completed by the end of March.

406. MTRP Foundation Report. Chair Dorothy Leonard reported on the upcoming predator exhibit dedication to be held on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Efforts to make the Visitor Center a "green" building were explained.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Kim Wiley introduced himself at the new liaison from the San Diego Mountain Bike Association.

### ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Walker, Staff Representative