

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 5th, 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, May 5th, 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
Mike Pent, Special Member
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council Alternate
David Boyer, MCAS Miramar
Norman Greene, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
Matt Rahn, SDSU
Shannon O' Dunn, City of La Mesa
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners

Members Absent

Judy McCarty, Special Member, excused
Gene Hatton, City of Santee, excused
Nancy Acevedo, Member-at-large, excused
Donovan Geiger, Tierrasanta Community Council, excused
Roger Utt, County of San Diego, excused

City of San Diego

Chirs Zirkle, Open Space Deputy Director, Steve Haupt Open Space District Manager, Open Space Division
Nelson Manville, City of San Diego Water Dept
Nathan Batchelder, Councilmember Emerald's Office

Guests

Mojgan Poursadighi, Craig Balben, San Diego County Water Authority

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 (PILCH / GADLER) to approve the minutes of the March 3rd, 2009 meeting. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Dorothy Leonard reported: The Task Force approved the use of The San Diego Foundation fund towards a new history of water / water conservation exhibit to replace the current history of water exhibit.

STAFF/RANGER REPORT

Open Space Manager Steve Haupt reported:

- Ranger staff has installed a new siphon system to better control the level of Kumeyaay Lake to draw the water level up and down to facilitate better coverage for the Vector Control Larvicide drops.
- The Kumeyaay Lake grant has been completed removing much of the non-native aquatic water primrose infesting the lake. This action will enhance our efforts to remove the mosquito larva during the larvicide aerial drops.
- The Natural History Museum BioBlitz event held last week was a major success as over 1200 species were catalogued by the 50 scientists during the 24 hour event.

Open Space Deputy Director Chris Zirkle reported on the rationale for lake level manipulation and the history of Kumeyaay Lake's problems.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT

Mission Trails Foundation Executive Director Jay Wilson conducted a volunteer project with La Mesa Middle School repairing several Lake Murray picnic tables. Sempra Energy will complete the project in the next several weeks. Work continues in spraying invasive plant material in primary diversion ditches around Lake Murray.

Fish report: Bluegills are hitting very well at this time. Last week's fishing tournament resulted in 35 bass being caught.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Mission Trails Regional Park Endowment Fund with the San Diego Foundation: Transfer of the distributable balance (2008 earnings less San Diego Foundation management fee) in amount of \$1,367.03 to MTRP Foundation for a project to be determined at a later date.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PENT / MURPHY) to move the distributable balance of \$1, 367.03 to MTRP Foundation for projects to be determined at a later date. The motion passed, with David Boyer abstaining. .

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. San Diego County Water Authority Projects. SDCWA staff reported on the ongoing construction work taking place in the park.
- The concerns of Mr. Phil Moses were addressed regarding trail closures and the reasons for

the existing schedules.

- The parking lot at Jackson was partially operational for the BioBlitz event. Staff did have a few problems with the security guard controlling the main gate at Jackson. After some opportune counseling, the problem was effectively mitigated.
- The Mission Trails Tunnel project that started back in October of 2008 is on track to be completed by June of 2011. The project 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 tunnel project that began in mid March of 2009 should be completed in the summer of 2011 if all goes well.
- The Pipeline #3 project will be completed by June, at the latest.
- The shade structure project is moving forward, with all necessary permits being obtained.
- The Arizona Crossing project will begin in November of 2009.
- The SDCWA staff will provide a large map of the park outlining trail closures and other issues relating to current park projects. It was felt that this will better facilitate understanding and physical location of park related issues.

202. CIP Project Updates.

- a. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project. The process for getting long term dredging permits for the Old Mission Dam continues. The various resource agencies will be contacted to obtain permits for repeated dredging. Monies for this purpose are being transferred at this time.
- b. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station status report. This project is now with the Engineering and Capital Projects Department. There will be a full report on this project at the next MTRP CAC meeting.
- c. MTRP Resource Management Plan and Master Plan update. The City Planning Department has provided the Purchasing Department with request for proposals (RFP) to start the consultant selection process.

203. On April 13th, the Mayors' office issued the FYI 2012 budget. That document is available on line. The CIP budget is being considered by council committees at this time. That budget will be revised by the Mayor, including new updated information. It appears that further cuts in the service budget will not be forthcoming due to the public response as reflected in the "San Diego Speaks" survey. The budget deficit projected as \$60M is being closed by \$30M in employee concessions and \$30M in "more or less" one time revenues. The Open Space budget is about what we had with two significant additions. The first addition is an Associate Management Analyst for our Brush Management program grant. The second is the addition of two Park Rangers. This is due to the increased acreage incurred by the Open Space Division. One of those positions will be coming to Mission Trails, the other to Penasquitos. Funding to pump Kumeyaay Lake has been allocated, if required. As noted above, the installation of two siphons earlier this month may be all that is needed rather than expensive mechanical pumping. There is no new information relating to the addition of new West Sycamore lands to report at this time.

204. 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 as of this date.

205. MTRP Foundation Report. Explore Mission Trails Day is coming up and final preparations are being completed. The new MTRP interactive trail map has been uploaded onto the MTRP web site. New information cards from the San Diego Mountain Bike Association have been made available at the Visitor Center main desk.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Phil Moses commented on the SDCWA current MTRP projects currently underway. He proposed an updated schedule to allow patrons into the park in a more equitable manner.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Walker, Staff Representative
For Steve Haupt, Open Space Division District Manager