

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 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, November 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
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council Alternate
Shannon O'Dunn, City of La Mesa
Dale Shockley, Member-at-large
Gene Hatton, City of Santee
Mike Pent, Special Member
David Boyer, MCAS Miramar
Donovan Geiger, Tierrasanta Community Council
Matt Rahn, SDSU
Norman Green, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners

Members Absent

Nancy Acevedo, Member-at-large, excused

City of San Diego

Chirs Zirkle, Open Space Deputy Director, Tracey Walker Senior Park Ranger
Deborah Sharp, CPCI – Park Planning
Chris Pearson, Councilmember Emerald's Office

Guests

Mojgan Poursadighi, San Diego County Water Authority
Gardner Grady, San Diego Mountain Bike Association

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 (HATTON / GADLER) to approve the minutes of the September 1, 2009 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Green, Peterson and Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Dorothy Leonard reported:

At the last MTRP Task Force meeting of September 2009, the Task Force

- Approved all CAC action items including the County Water Authority habitat restoration plan.
- Accepted the resignation of Judy McCarty from the MTRP CAC. Chair Leonard circulated a card for CAC members and City staff to sign, expressing the membership's appreciation for all contributions to the City of San Diego, and her efforts in support of Mission Trails projects and programs. Judy will be sorely missed. It was noted that Councilmember Emerald has written a letter of thanks to Judy as well. Judy will continue on the Foundation's Advisory Board.

STAFF/RANGER REPORT

Senior Ranger Walker reported:

- A vehicle was found on Father Junipero Serra Trail with a suicide letter. After a search with cadaver dogs etc., nothing was found.
- Arson investigations around MTRP continue.
- Work continues on the upcoming Explore Mission Trails Day.
- The mosquito count is still below last year's levels. County Vector Control has expressed satisfaction with our efforts in mosquito eradication to date.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT

No representative to give a report.

COMMUNICATIONS

None offered.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Lake Murray Community Park playground upgrades. A review of the project to rebuild the playground on the Northern side of the lake. This facility has fallen into extreme disrepair requiring an upgrade effort. The project organizers are asking for a letter of support from the Mission Trails Citizens' Advisory Committee.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH / PETERSON) that the CAC send a letter of support for the Lake Murray Community Park playground upgrade. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

102. T-Mobil wireless facility permit. A detailed report of the City proposed modifications to the T-Mobil site was offered. Perimeter irrigation, landscaping, the addition of black fencing, fire prevention measures and facility color were discussed. It was noted by T-Mobil that there is no water access for irrigation or landscaping at the site. CAC member Dale Shockley made a site visit

resulting in some helpful recommendations.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (MURPHY / HATTON) to send a letter to Development Services recommending the installation of aluminum slats in the perimeter chain link fence, paint the fence in a color that will match the surroundings and coat the fence with a clear fireproof material, put a layer of number two mineral aggregate on the inside and outside of the fence once it has been cleared of vegetation. No landscape plan should be attempted. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

103. MTRP Ground Use Permit Process. Senior Ranger Walker read comments submitted by Don Steele into the record. It was pointed out that most of Don's concerns were valid and folded into the document earlier.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (MURPHY / O'DUNN) to accept the Ground Use Permit Process document as presented. The motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.

104. MTRP Master Plan amendments regarding re-designating MTRP access point from Colina Dorada to Calle De Vida (Pages 46/47 of Draft Revised Plan). Open Space Deputy Director Chris Zirkle asked if the intent of the park entry reference in the document was to name the entrance at Calle De Vida as the primary entry. It was noted that the entrance at Colina Dorada encroached on School District property. Senior Ranger Walker noted that the entrance off Calle De Vida would be very difficult to maintain and raises some vehicle access safety concerns as well. For hikers and bikers, it would be fine. Chair Dorothy Leonard suggested that we simply move the Kiosk at Colina Dorada and reposition it further up the trail off School District property. Pending further study of the trail at Calle De Vida no further changes in the document's verbiage would be needed. The Kiosk at Colina Dorada would be removed from maps.

105. MTRP FY 2010/2011 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List.

- a. Rick Thompson gave a report on the status / progress of the Cowles Mountain trail rehabilitation project. He noted that the maintenance road off Barker Way had been completed with all serious ruts repaired.
- b. Kumeyaay Lake outflow bridge improvement. After being updated on the dilapidated condition of the outflow / bridge, Open Space Deputy Director Chris Zirkle asked for Engineering to meet on site and provide a technical assessment of the bridge's condition and a correction estimate. On site, an immediate warning was issued to direct the Fire Department not to drive any heavy pump trucks over the bridge.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (MURPHY / HATTON) to move this forward to the MTRP Task Force with the amendments as stated: for items 7 and 8 to be listed as priority one. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

106. 2010 Meeting Schedule.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PENT / PILCH) to accept the 2010 meeting schedule as presented, moving the November meeting to the 2nd Tuesday due to elections on the 1st Tuesday. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

WORKSHOP

None

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority Projects.

- The tunnel construction is going very well and is on schedule. The Arizona crossing at the San Diego River Crossing has been finished. A bollard has been installed to indicate water level at the crossing site. RECON has started with the Flow RS-1 revegetation site. The vernal pool site plans will be available soon. Copies will be provided to Josh Garcia and Senior Ranger Walker.
- Councilmember Emerald inquired about the removal of a large concrete (100'x30') slab adjacent to the river crossing. It is believed that it is part of an old bridge that may have been built by the Navy. This area was designated a mitigation site for the County Water Authority. RECON reported that there is about 10 feet of additional dirt that was in place prior the concrete pad's construction. This dirt needed to be removed since the root systems of the native plant material scheduled to be planted in that location couldn't reach the soil. A change order was issued to cover the removal of this dirt at an additional project cost of \$50,000. Copies of the final revegetation report were handed out in printed and CD format. Senior Ranger Walker will have copies for those wanting one.

302. CIP Project Updates

- a. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station status report. The City Council approved the as needed consultant. It will take about three weeks for the notice to procedure to become active. The project scope of work and timeline have been completed and are set. It is anticipated that the Purchasing and Contracting Department will be issuing a notice to proceed by November 15th of this year.
- b. Old Mission Dam Preservation (dredging and mitigation). The process to continue the mitigation process has been an issue. The concurrence for this factor was met in October of this year.
- c. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project (long term permit for multiple dredging). It is anticipated that the plan establishment period will start in April of 2010. This will signal the attempt to obtain a long term permit for this project.
- d. MTRP Resource Management Plan and Master Plan Update (CIP29-943.0). Staff is in the process of reviewing a proposed project scope of services plan. If the contract is approved, in the first quarter of the new year, the public workshops, the Master Plan refinements to the draft, and a draft environmental document should be completed by October 2010. The approval process can then begin with an anticipated completion date of April 2011.

303. Mountain Bike Skills Park. It was determined that the Skills Park would be considered a "high risk" under state law. This fact affords the city some protection from law suits. Since then, city staff has met with members of the Skills Park proponents including an out of town consultant and members of the SDMBA (San Diego Mountain Bike Association). This meeting resulted in a better understanding of the project by both groups. A letter was drafted to Risk Management to ensure all the proper questions were being asked. There are still questions raised by the City Attorney about operation requirements.

304. Status of the transfer of the future West Sycamore area of MTRP from McMillin Land

Development to the City of San Diego. There are a number of issues that need to be dealt with prior to the City accepting the land. These include encroachment issues along Sycamore Canyon Road.

305. Park and Recreation Department budget adjustments for FY 2010. The City is facing a \$179,000,000 short fall for FY 2011. The Mayor has asked all departments to commit 20% budget cuts for consideration at the mid year. On December 14th it is anticipated that the council will adopt the reductions.
306. MTPR Antenna Fund balances. No new information was offered. A meeting with the City Auditor will be held to determine the balances. Without knowing accurate balances, there is concern that during these times, the Antenna Fund may be used for other (non- MTRP related) projects.
307. Mission Bay and Regional Park Improvement Fund projects. In 2008 Proposition C was approved by the voters. This changed the way money is allocated from leases in Mission Bay to other Regional Parks in the City system. The Mission Bay Park Committee is now responsible for oversight of funds to be spent in Mission Bay Park. The Park and Recreation Board is the body responsible for distribution of funds to other parks. The Park and Recreation Board will have to come up with its own protocol and project prioritization system. This has not happened yet.
308. MTPR Foundation Report. A written report of the accomplishments of the MTRP Foundation for the 2008/2009 fiscal year were handed out. Copy attached.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tracey Walker, Staff Representative