

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 9, 2010
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 9, 2010, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member-at-large
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners
Norman Green, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
Shannon O'Dunn, City of La Mesa
John F. Pilch, San Carlos Area Council
Dale Shockley, Member-at-large
David Boyer, MCAS Miramar
Nancy Acevedo, Member-at-large
Mike Pent, Special Member
Matt Rahn, SDSU
Gene Hatton, City of Santee

Members absent

Donovan Geiger, Tierrasanta, Community Council, absent
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon, excused
Roger Utt, County of San Diego, excused

City of San Diego

Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Rick Thompson, Senior Park Ranger
Robin Shifflet, City Park Planning

Guests

Martin Gogill, SDCWA
Jack Neely, SDCWA
Mojgan Poursadighi, SDCWA
Brennan Linder, EXTERRA
Paula Cook, Max & Jake's Big Race
Jerilyn Hammerstrom, Max & Jake's Big Race
April Reed, Sun Striders
Marilyn Rhoades, SunStriders
Paula Kim SunStriders
Claudia Tedford, ICRF
Josh Higgins, Allied Climberes of San Diego
Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dorothy Leonard at 6:35 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION It was moved and seconded (PETERSON/SHOCKLEY) to approve the minutes of the September 7, 2010 meeting with the removal of the name Patrick Manning as an at-large member. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Dorothy Leonard reported on the following:

- Status of the request for a custom address at the Equestrian Staging Area. A letter from Park and Recreation Department Director Stacey LoMedico was received, reporting that the request for the special address had been denied. It appears that the City still considers the circular street named Equestrian Circle as a driveway. The Project Manager is going to follow through as the street sign has been installed, the road is paved all the way around, and the fee for the street name has been paid. No mail will be delivered to the comfort station, so we will follow up and pursue a special address when the administration building is constructed.
- Task Force actions at the September meeting. The Task Force supported the CAC recommendations to (1) approve the 100% drawings for the Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building, (2) the request for a custom address for the Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building and future administration building, and (3) approved in concept SDG&E use of the 26 acre MSCP bubble for the Sunrise Powerlink lay down area on conditions that SDG&E work with Park Managers and the MTRP CAC to provide benefits to MTRP in compliance with Sunrise mitigation measures.

STAFF/RANGER'S REPORT

- Mission Trails Senior Ranger Rick Thompson reported on several projects involving erosion control, and a couple of drainage swales needing upgrading. He further stated the Rangers are gearing up for work on the Cowles Mountain trail. Recently a deer head was found in the middle of the road on the side of Kwaay Paay.
- Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director for Open Space, reported the County Department of Health is very impressed with mosquito control at Kumeyaay Lake and he praised MTRP staff for their efforts.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT

Gayle Havens, Senior Reservoir Keeper for Lake Murray, updated the committee on a variety of items. She showed final repair photos of the washout at north end of Lake Murray. The Lake Murray Reservoir has been up and down in recent weeks. There was a fire on October 13 - one

of the privy's burned down and it was arson. They are having two to three arson fires per month. Locks have been cut relating to the Lake Murray Trunk Sewer Construction Project. At Alvarado Bay adjacent to the large parking lot, they have replaced all the culverts for storm water protection. At the tennis courts a doctor suffered a heart attack and the AED was used to save his life. Lake Murray will receive one trout stock in November and two in January. New signs are being installed asking people to not feed the critters – mostly the squirrels. Lake Murray will be closed on Thanksgiving. A number of fund raising fun-runs and walks have been held for a variety of causes.

COMMUNICATIONS

Jay Wilson, a member of the Lake Murray Park Project involved in raising funds to replenish the children's playground equipment at the Lake Murray Community Park, updated the committee on their progress. To date they have raised of \$60,000 and they had a very successful fund raising event at the Mission Trails Visitor Center in September.

ACTION ITEMS

101. XTERRA trail event on February 6, 2011 presented by Brennan Lindner – This event is part of a series of seven runs in parks throughout California. It will include a 5K run in the grasslands and a 15K run up Fortuna. A permit application has been submitted, with the goal of exposing runners to parks. San Diego Search & Rescue will be available on this challenging course. Sweeps cover the course to ensure everyone is accounted for and to pick up trash. Donations are made with \$1,000 being donated to MTRP Foundation last year. The event was started in 2002 and the organization incorporated in 2004. "Generic Event" is the name of the organization. \$476 is the ground use permit fee to the City. MOTION It was moved and seconded (HATTON/SHOCKLEY) to support the event scheduled for February 6, 2011. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.
102. SunStrides Fun Run presented by Mindy Rhoades. Copies of the application were distributed for this March 11, 2011 event. This is a fun run with an entry fee. SunStrides raises funds for different groups such as orphanages in Tanzania. The exact route for the run will be determined depending on weather on race day, working with Ranger Naidas. Chairman Leonard reminded event organizers that notice needs to be placed at the event site at least one week in advance to inform the general public about the upcoming event. They will work with Ranger Naidas regarding posting the notice as well as providing information that can be placed on the MTRP web site. MOTION It was moved and seconded (PILCH/PENT) to support the SunStrides fun run event scheduled for March 11, 2011. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.
103. MTRP FY2011/2012 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List The proposed FY 2011/2012 Funding Priorities and Future Needs list was presented by Leonard. Murphy asked about the river crossing at the end of the Jackson Drive (San Diego River Crossing) entrance. The master plan includes some type of pedestrian crossing at this location. Murphy asked that this river crossing be given a higher priority on the future needs list. He stated that it might give us a better opportunity to secure funding if we have something

ready to go. Staff was asked to come back with a report in January. Chris Zirkle stated concern with moving forward because there is no funding for the engineering and design. It is very difficult to find funds for design. MOTION Moved and seconded (MURPHY/O'DUNN) to approved the proposed MTRP FY2011/2012 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List, with the proposed construction of a suspension or truss pedestrian bridge across the San Diego River on the San Diego River Crossing trail moved up to the third item on page 3. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.

104. 2011 MTRP CAC Meeting Schedule – MOTION Moved and seconded (HATTON/PILCH) to adopt the 2011 meeting schedule. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.
105. Max and Jake's Big Race – February 27, 2011 – The mothers for Max and Jake made a presentation including a video of past events and their success. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this fund-raiser go to Rady Childrens' Hospital with \$100,000 being raised to date. Signs will be posted throughout the park prior to the event. Over 40 volunteers plus MTRP staff and volunteers work the event. MTRP will be invited to participate in the expo following the event. MOTION Moved and seconded (MURPHY/PENT) to support the Max and Jake's Big Race permit. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) projects in MTRP - Mojgan Poursadighi gave a status report on the tunnel project. The construction was completed ahead of schedule and under budget after 18 months. All impacted areas have been restored with hydroseeding. The Dirt parking lot at Clairemont Mesa Blvd. has been restored. Construction will start in summer of 2011 for Mission Trails FRS II Project. There was also an update on pipeline projects 3 and 4. CWA staff showed graphics outlining the areas of the project. Construction should begin the end of 2012. Restoration in the park is progressing well from previous projects. CWA is still planning a CAC field trip to the restored areas in early 2011, and to work on the vernal pool interpretive panels. Mojgan introduced Jack Neely who will be replacing her as project manager for the MTRP projects. She is accepting another assignment with SDCWA.
302. San Diego River Park Master Plan and Proposed Community Plan and Zoning Amendments – Robin Shifflet with the City of San Diego Park Planning and Community Investment Department made a presentation on the Draft San Diego River Park Master Plan. A hand out was presented to all CAC members. All impacted master plans along the river will be updated including the Mission Trails Design District. Two-thirds of the 17.5 miles of the river within the City of San Diego is privately owned. Robin requested comments from the CAC on the draft plan by the end of December. Leonard asked if they could be presented after the January 2011 CAC meeting. MOTION Moved and seconded (MURPHY/GREENE) to refer the draft San Diego River Park Master Plan to the MTRP CAC Master Plan ad-hoc subcommittee for review and recommendations to the CAC at a future meeting. Motion passed unanimously with David Boyer abstaining.

303. CIP Project Updates

- a. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan Ranger Rick Thompson reported on behalf of Jeff Harkness and stated the consultant will be at the January 2011 meeting.
- b. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project – Jeanette DeAngelis provided an update stating the contract with the Urban Corp has been terminated and she has been working with city staff to put a comprehensive biological overview in place. She is also working to secure a long-term sole source contract for completion and monitoring the project for up to five years. Mitigation should start in February and construction should take four to six weeks. Once the mitigation site is completed she will pursue the long term permits needed for periodic removal of siltation behind the dam.
- c. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station – Ranger Rick Thompson reported for Ali Darvishi that they are currently working with Development Services to obtain the necessary permits. They plan to advertise the project in April, award the contract in July, start construction in September or October, and be ready for use in March 2012.

304. City of San Diego proposed FY2010 budget impacts on Open Space Division of Park & Recreation Dept. Chris Zirkle stated the city is facing a major budget deficit for FY 2012. The Mayor has called for a 24 percent reduction in the Park and Recreation Department budget. That is \$11.4 million for Park and Recreation alone. There will be some significant cuts in programs and facilities. For MTRP it could mean the visitor center and the campground could be closed. Two hundred positions in the department could be lost and cuts could come as early as January 2011. Discussion followed included asking how the MTRP Antenna Funds could be used to help keep the Visitor Center open.

305. Citizens Advisory Committee Indemnification Training – Chris Zirkle presented the City's position on requiring training before volunteers can be indemnified by the City of San Diego. The Park and Recreation Department is willing to provide training classes to CAC members at a time convenient for the volunteers should they wish to be indemnified. Leonard presented information she has received from City staff regarding the requirements and noted that most of the courses do not apply to CAC members. Leonard suggested that the CAC support requesting that the City Council initiate an amendment to a City Council policy which would provide for indemnification of Park and Recreation Department CAC volunteers modeled after Council Policy 700-42 for Recreation Councils. Since this was not listed as an action item no formal action could be taken by the CAC. By general consent of the members present Leonard was asked to take her recommendation to the MTRP Task Force at the November 2010 meeting.

306. MTRP Foundation Report - Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation Executive Director, reported on the following: (1) visitor center attendance January to October 2010 was 63,109, an increase of 11,123 over the same period in 2009; (2) a \$2,500 grant has been received from Beckman-Coulter to fund the Trail Guide Discovery Stations; (3) the Sempra Foundation

Grant for the MTRP Foundation Environmental Education program has allowed us to reach over 900 students and their parents.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.