

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 1, 2011**

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Mike Pent, Special Member
Shannon O'Dunn, City of La Mesa
David Boyer, USMC Miramar
Dale Shockley, Member at-large
John Pilch, San Carlos Area Council
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council
Roger Utt, County of San Diego Park and Recreation Department

Members Excused/Absent

Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon
Gene Hatton, City of Santee
Matt Rahn, SDSU

City of San Diego

Matt Sanford, Senior Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Steve Haupt, Manager, Open Space Division, Park and Recreation Department
Gayle Havens, Lake Murray Reservoir Keeper, City of San Diego Water Department
Bryan Norris, City of San Diego Water Department

GUESTS

Jerilyn Hammerstrom, Max & Jakes Big Run
Paula Cook, Max & Jakes Big Run
Lori Ziebart, Cogentrix
Rick Neff, Cogentrix
Dave Dilday, Cogentrix
Jessica Luternauer, Southwest Strategies
Kim Wiley, San Diego Mountain Bike Association
Brennan Lindner, Generic Events
Kalin Myers, Sun Stride Foundation

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH/ACEVEDO) to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 6, 2011. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

INTRODUCTIONS

District Manager Steve Haupt introduced Matt Sanford, the new Senior Ranger for Mission Trails Regional Park. CAC members introduced themselves and gave a quick overview of their background and involvement with Mission Trails Regional Park. Matt introduced himself and provided an overview of his background and first two weeks at MTRP.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- The Task Force approved installation of a small monument sign at Jackson Drive and Mission Gorge Road as recommended by the CAC.
- The Task Force approved sending a letter in support of the County of San Diego's efforts, spearheaded by Supervisor Dianne Jacob, to provide public access along the old Stowe Trail at the eastern end of Miramar, connecting Mission Trails Regional Park at the south to Gooden Ranch and Sycamore Canyon Preserve at the north.
- It was reported at the Task Force meeting that the military fun run went very well with 850 participants.
- First Saturday of December is our annual Arbor Day with oak trees to be planted along the Oak Grove Trail.

STAFF / RANGER'S REPORT *by Senior Ranger Matt Sanford*

- A number of signs were stolen from the Climbers Loop Trail. They were installed at the request of the City's Fire and Life Safety Department. They served an important role and will be replaced. Steve Haupt stated that the City received an anonymous letter indicating why the signs were removed, along with other complaints about the park. Dale Shockley commented that the next time a letter like that is received to seal it in a paper bag and contact the police. They can recover fingerprints and DNA for possible identification.
- The gate at the entrance to the Equestrian Staging Area was modified to be ADA compliant. A bollard in the middle of the sidewalk needed to be removed to allow for handicapped individuals to safely maneuver the sidewalk.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S REPORT *by Gayle Havens, Reservoir Keeper for Lake Murray*

- The Mission Trails sign at the entrance to the Lake Murray Reservoir at Lake Murray Blvd. and Kiowa Drive, was repaired and looks great.
- Baltimore Drive had a small Mission Trails sign that was in bad shape. Mission Trails and Lake Murray staff determined it needed to be removed for safety reasons. Lake staff removed the sign in October.
- There is still open fishing and boating seven days a week. The new concession stand, run by Rock Mountain, is open Wednesday through Sunday.
- Rainbow Trout should be stocked by the Department of Fish and Game this year, but staff has not been officially notified of a date.
- Lake staff is being reduced as well as the hourly Lake Aide I staff.
- Dominic, from Boy Scout Troop 959 just completed a fence project on Baltimore Drive. \$1,000 was donated by Ken Hanken, a local resident.
- The next Eagle Scout project will be new roofs on the out houses.

- Signs are being produced for the lake road to slow bikers down and make it legal for lake ranger divers to cite violators. Racers have hit two pedestrians recently and both were injured. Dale Shockley recommended staff check with the city attorney to make sure they can legally cite speeding bicyclists. The new signs are specifically written to allow citations to be issued. There are 10 mph signs in place, but no authority to issue tickets.
- The water level is high and fishing is good.
- John Pilch mentioned El Capitan has kayak rentals and is promoting kayak use. Gayle indicated there are kayak rentals at Lake Murray and for \$2 you can launch all day.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

ACTION ITEMS

101. Rady Children's Hospital Institute 5K Hike/Run/Walk – February 26, 2012. *Presented by Jerilyn Hammerstrom*
A short history of the event was provided and copies of the application and support documentation were given to the CAC members. They normally have between 500 and 750 registrants and 500 to 600 actual participants with proceeds going to Rady Children's Hospital Heart Department. They also make a donation to the MTRP Foundation. Signs are given to park staff for posting throughout the park two weeks prior to the event to alert visitors of the impending event. The event is canceled in case of rain.
Senior Ranger Sanford stated staff recommends approval
MOTION: It was moved and seconded (MURPHY/PILCH) to support the event and recommend staff approval. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.
102. Generic 5K and 15K Run – February 5, 2012. *Presented by Brennan Lindner*
This will be the 6th year and the event has always been very successful. They have about 400 participants. They have four areas for medical and communication support. They set up the day before and have sweepers following the last runners to ensure they leave it cleaner than they found it. They use West Hills High School for overflow parking. Alternate event days in case the event has to be postponed due to rain are February 12 or 19, 2012. They make a donation to the MTRP Foundation.
Senior Ranger Sanford stated staff recommends approval.
MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH/SHOCKLEY) to support the event and recommend staff approval. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.
103. Sun Stride Foundation 5 and 10K run – March 3, 2012. *Presented by Kalin Myers*
Sun Stride is a non-profit organization filling energy source needs for third world countries. Mr. Myers handed out the required copies of documents. This is the fourth year and they have about 350 people participating. In case of a rain delay the alternate event date is March 17, 2012.
Senior Ranger Sanford stated staff recommends approval.
MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH/UTT) to support the event and recommend staff approval. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

104. FY2012/13 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List – *Presented by chair Dorothy Leonard*

The Chair went over the list provided to the CAC including the Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station, Old Mission Dam dredging, Mater Plan update, Bridge repair at Kumeyaay Lake, and Cowles Mountain Trail Rehabilitation. The Resource Management Plan is now part of the Master Plan update.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (MURPHY/DUNN) to approve the FY2012/13 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List as presented. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

The recommendation will be forward to the MTRP Task Force.

105. 2012 MTRP CAC Meeting Schedule – *Presented by chair Dorothy Leonard*

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (ACEVEDO/PILCH) to approve the meeting schedule for 2012 as presented. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

106. Second bench at Seda Drive Trailhead – *Presented by chair Dorothy Leonard*

Leonard reported that park staff has been given authority by the MTRP CAC and Task Force to approve park benches at trailheads, but there was no direction regarding the number of benches at any one location. There is one bench at the Seda Drive trailhead and a request has been made to place a second bench, in honor of the donor's nephew, close to the first bench. Senior Ranger Sanford visited the area and supports a second bench across the trail from the first bench.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (SHOCKLEY/PILCH) to support two benches at the Seda Drive trailhead with the second bench located in the area recommended by Senior Ranger Sanford. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

The recommendation will be forward to the MTRP Task Force.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Quail Brush Generation Project – *Presented by Rick Neff, Vice President, Cogentrix*

Cogentrix is the sponsor of this proposed cogeneration facility. They have built and operate a number of plants throughout the United States. This is strictly an electricity plant. SDG&E issued an RFP two years ago. It is for transmission support as more and more renewable projects come onto the grid. The site is immediately south of the Sycamore Landfill. The project is one of three selected for San Diego County. The stacks are four feet wide. There is a .2 of a mile section on SR 52 where you will see the stacks. The engines are gas fired. This will be about a \$150,000,000 investment. Permits will be needed from the California Energy Commission (CEC) and the City of San Diego. They are looking at 40 acres of land that would be required for mitigation and are meeting with the land owners. They have asked the City of San Diego and MTRP which are the most important parcels needed to expand the park. They will be deeding the mitigation land to the City/MTRP. They have submitted their application to the CEC and expect it to be declared data efficient by the middle of November. The CEC must complete their analysis in 12 months. Cogentrix will submit applications to the City following information coming from CEC. The presentation at this meeting is to provide an introduction to the project.

The Chair commented this project is within the MTRP Design District.

Q&A

- How big will the facilities be?
ANS: There will be an engine building for 11 engines that is 400 feet long and 60 feet wide. It is an all-weather and noise attenuated building and will be 30 feet high. The second building is the cooling system. It is 14 ½ feet high and the main building blocks the view. There is no water line for a fire system and they will have a 500,000 gallon tank. The system uses about 1 gallon a minute. It requires 700,000 to 800,000 gallons per year. There are exhaust stacks that are set at 100 feet from the base. The height of the stacks is a requirement of the air quality restrictions. There are the 232 KV transmission lines owned by SDG&E in proximity to the proposed site. They will have a tie-in to the KV lines.
- Can recycled water be purchased?
ANS: - No, there is a state statute prohibiting it. It has to be potable water because it may come in contact with humans. For a direct source, they would need a 6 inch flow for 15 minutes and there is nothing nearby that can be used.
- Can they use methane from the Sycamore Landfill?
ANS: The landfill has contracted with another agency. Neil Mohr at Sycamore Landfill is very interested, once his current contract expires.
- Do they own the land?
ANS: They have an option to purchase. The City Council has voted to rezone adjacent property owned by Sycamore Landfill for industrial use which is what they will need for this project.
- To what extent is this inconsistent with the MTRP Design District?
ANS: The height of the stacks. They are looking at a variance for the stacks. There are 11 stacks at 100 feet above grade. They know most of their services will come from the City of Santee even though the plant will be in the City of San Diego. They have played with color schemes and there is a landscaping plan in the engineering documents. They will have only native vegetation.
- Can you dig down and be able to lower the view shed of the stacks?
ANS: No, because the height of the stacks are based on the air flow and they need to reach a certain elevation above sea level.
- Can their water source be used to fight a fire?
ANS: To the extent allowable by law.
- When does this come back for a real review?
ANS: The date will be driven by the CEC schedule. They drive the project.
- Can the City's staff comments and recommendations come to the CAC?
ANS: I would assume the City will come back to the CAC with the comments and recommendations

Requests made by CAC members

- Have an architect look at their project design.

- An aerial photo with an overlay of what the landfill will be doing with their land, and what Cogentrix will be doing.
- A topographical map, including the long range plans of the landfill.
- Dave Boyer, CAC representative from USMC Miramar, stated that the Marine Corps Air Station is working on a master plan. Hopefully they can work together and make certain all are on the same page for the priorities of purchasing mitigation parcels.

302. **Antenna Fund Balance** *presented by District Manager Steve Haupt*

\$260,863 of the total fund balance of \$1,078,966 is not yet encumbered and is available for other projects.

303. **Park Expansion** *presented by District Manager Steve Haupt*

a. **West Sycamore**

- McMillin has provided a full map of their area to the City. Lane MacKenzie from the city's Real Estate Assets Department has not signed off on it until other city staff review the map.
- The area north of Sycamore Canyon Road which the City and MTRP does not want is approximately 20 acres. McMillin may just give it to the adjacent property owners.
- Lane is checking on whether the document on file, and approved by City Council for the Rancho Encantada project, indicates whether or not the 20 acres +/- must be part of the MSCP, or whether the document stipulated something like "a major portion of the property is to be included within MSCP boundaries."
- SDG&E has just petitioned McMillin to use an additional piece of the McMillin property for 45-60 days related to pulling new cable.

b. **East Elliott**

- The City currently has acquired 717 acres in the East Elliott area and there is a donation of an additional 17 acres going to council before the end of the year.
- When the MTRP Master Plan Update is adopted, the new acreage the City has acquired and the McMillin property, will be included within the new boundaries of MTRP. This does not impact the ability of a property owner to develop his/her property

An update on the map with a little more details on what has happened to East Elliott was requested for the January 2012 meeting. Steve Haupt responded that he will invite Lane MacKenzie to the next CAC meeting.

304. **CIP Project Updates**

a. **MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan** *Senior Ranger Matt Sanford reported for Mark Carpenter with KTUA*

Staff is reviewing trails in the park. Park and Recreation Department met with environmental staff and determined current plans are not viable. A new timeline will be provided for the next meeting. The Natural Resource Management Plan, the Draft Master Plan, and the EIR will now be processed sequentially.

- b. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building *Senior Ranger Matt Sanford reported for Ali Darvishi*

Contract was awarded to Coctaw Construction. Preconstruction meetings are being scheduled. Carlos Contreras is the resident engineer. The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of April.

- c. Old Mission Dam Enhancement Project *Matt Sanford reported for Jeannette DeAngelis*
Additional funding is now available and Jeannette has met with Dudek, the firm that will oversee the project.

305. MTRP Foundation report – *by Jay Wilson, Executive Director*

- Visitor center attendance for October was 6,323 compared to 5,772 in 2010. This is a 9% increase. Year to date we are at 71,961 and in 2010 year to date was 63,158. That is an increase of 13% over 2010.
- The first Halloween Storytelling in the amphitheater was held Saturday night from 6:70 – 7:30 PM with 65 children and 38 parents participating.
- November 8, MTRP will be the site host for the SDG&E 2011 Environmental Champions Grant awards. The Foundation will know for certain then if the grant application submitted has been funded. For this grant the Foundation partnered with the San Diego County YMCA.
- Enjoy the fabric art as you leave the gallery. It will be on display through November 4.

The meeting adjourned at 8:37.

The next CAC meeting will be Tuesday, January 3, 2012, 6:30 PM.