

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 1, 2012**

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members Present**

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, 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 Committee  
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon  
Matt Rahn, San Diego State University  
Mike Pent, Special Member

**New appointments to be confirmed by the MTRP Task Force**

Kathy Warburton, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board  
Francis Eammon Powers, City of Santee

**City of San Diego**

Steve Haupt, Manager Open space Division  
Matt Sanford, Senior Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park  
Ed Zwibel, City of San Diego Police Department

**Guests**

Stephen Goldfarb, Santee  
Sandy Schielke, Santee  
Mia Mortellan  
Lennea Brown, Santee  
Retha Knight, Stop Santee Power Plant  
Matt Kostrinsky, San Diego  
Rose Dermody, Santee  
Sandy Kuntz, Santee  
Joe Spencer, Santee  
Van Collinsworth, Santee  
Charles Ringer, Santee  
Kevin Brewster, Santee  
Patricia Murphy, San Diego  
Pat Sartausky, Santee  
Mike Walker, Santee

**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/GADLER) to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2012, noting that Senior Ranger Sanford was present. The motion passed with David Boyer and Matt Rahn abstaining.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

- The Task Force, at their May meeting, approved the reappointment of Roger Utt to represent the County of San Diego Park and Recreation Committee on the CAC.
- Dianne Jacob updated the Task Force on the status of the Stowe Trail.

**STAFF / RANGER'S REPORT**

Senior Ranger Matt Sanford reported the following:

- Staff is getting ready for Explore Mission Trails Day
- Staff is working on a lot of park beautification projects throughout the park with the help of The Alpha Project.
- This past Saturday 45 employees and family members spread 75 cubic yards of wood chips at the Equestrian Staging Area. Most of the mulch was donated by Neil Mohr, the General Manager of Republic Services, Inc. that operates the Sycamore Landfill.
- Spending a lot of time in the future West Sycamore area of the park. The developer of Stonebridge Estates is building many of the trails in that area for the City, including a staging area and a new park sign, as required in the Development Agreement between McMillin and the City of San Diego. City staff is monitoring the work and making appropriate recommendations.
- Staff is closing out some of the FEMA grants received as a result of the erosion damage from the storms in 2010 and 2011. More repairs will be made at the Visitor Center and at the Equestrian Staging Area.
- Bids have been obtained from several firms to make major repairs on the Cowles Mountain Service Road. Grant funding is also available for this project.
- Kumeyaay Flag Raising ceremony for Jane Dumas went well. There was an excellent presentation from representatives of the Kumeyaay Nation and a very good crowd. The Kumeyaay Nation flag will be flown daily at the Kumeyaay Lake Campground along-side the American and California flags.
- The East Fortuna Comfort Station is nearing completion. The dedication ceremony is on Saturday, May 12, at 1:30 p.m.

**PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT – OPEN SPACE DIVISION**

No Report

**WATER DEPARTMENT'S REPORT**

No Report

## NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Ed Zwibel, the Eastern Division Police Department's Community Relations Officer introduced himself and indicated he will be attending CAC meetings.

Due to the number of speakers in opposition to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant, the chair made the following statement as to the role of the MTRP CAC. The CAC's role is to comment on the project in relation to the Mission Trails Design District Ordinance with comments sent to the City of San Diego Development Services Department. The MTRP CAC does not have the authority to approve or disapprove the project.

The following individuals spoke in opposition to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant: Joe Spencer representing Dianne Jacob's Building Better Health Committee, Van Collinsworth representing Preserve Wild Santee, Charles Ringer and Sandy Schielke.

Matt Kostrinsky spoke in support of reopening the Kumeyaay Lake Campground at least on weekends.

## ACTION ITEMS

101. Distancia Events 5k fun-run, October 20, 2012, 7 to 10AM (Estimated attendance – 300 to 500; starts at Equestrian Staging Area) – *Kalin Myers, Events Director* This item deferred to the July 3, 2012 meeting at the request of the applicant.
102. Letter in Support of the County's efforts to acquire land for the Stowe Trail from Mission Trails to Sycamore Canyon.

The Chair stated that a copy of the resolution adopted by the San Diego City Council in support of "San Diego County's efforts to secure Stowe Trail for recreation, conservation, and as a wildlife corridor" is available. She also stated the County Board of Supervisors has allocated funds for the purchase of the land.

**MOTION:** Recommend that the MTRP CAC take a position to support the County of San Diego's efforts to acquire public access to the portion of the Stowe Trail located on MCAS Miramar land. Moved and seconded (UTT/MURPHY). Motion passed with Mr. Boyer abstaining.

Public comment – Van Collinsworth spoke in support of the agenda item.

103. FY2013 Budget recommendations for MTRP – *This item was taken after item 302, a report on the Mayor's proposed FY2013 Budget.*

In response to a question regarding the cost of operating Kumeyaay Lake Campground, Chris Zirkle responded that the operating budget is \$156,048 against \$40,000 projected income. It was also noted that Councilmember Zaph is pursuing other options for operating the campground, working with Park and Recreation Department staff.

**MOTION:** That funding for Kumeyaay Lake Campground be restored and that overnight camping be made available at least two nights a week during the 2013 fiscal year. Moved and seconded (PENT/MURPHY). Motion passed with Boyer abstaining.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### 301. CIP Project Updates

#### a. Master Plan and Resource Management Plan

Sr. Ranger Matt Sanford reported for Park Designer Jeff Harkness

- *Master Plan Update* – The CAC ad hoc subcommittee and various City departments have provided comments on the initial draft of the Master Plan Update (MPU). These comments are currently being processed to address revisions and identify topics that may require further discussion prior to preparing a full draft MPU. Incorporation of comments may require modification to some recommendation maps. Once any modifications have been reviewed and supported, technical studies for the environmental document can be developed at the same time as completion of the draft MPU. Once the draft MPU has been reviewed and is ready for public distribution, a public scoping meeting on the environmental document will be scheduled, hopefully in June or July.
- *Natural Resource Management Plan* – City Open Space staff has provided Recon with comments on the initial draft of the NRMP and revisions are currently being processed.

Public Comment – Van Collinsworth, Sandy Kuntz, and Rose Dermody spoke in opposition to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant which would be located within the East Elliott area of MTRP as proposed in the MPU.

#### b. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station

Senior Ranger Matt Sanford reported that the building looks very nice and the contractor is waiting for the final building inspection.

#### c. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station Dedication

The dedication ceremony is Saturday, May 12 at 1:30.

### 302. Mayor's FY2013 Budget

Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director of the Open Space Division reported the following:

- The Mayor has declared an end to the structural budget deficits. There is actually a little bit of a surplus and some of it will benefit the Park and Recreation

Department, however there is no increase proposed in the budget for the Open Space Division.

- The Chair mentioned that the additional land in West Sycamore is due to come to the City soon and there is no funding for additional staff for that area.

Public comment – Kevin Brewster spoke in opposition to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant in conjunction with his support for reopening the Kumeyaay Lake Campground.

### 303. MTRP Foundation Report

Jay Wilson, Executive Director of MTRP Foundation reported the following:

- Visitor Center attendance for the month of April was down from 9,000 last year to 8,059 this year.
- Mission Trails Regional Park received recognition from *The Reader* stating “Mission Trails is the Best Outdoor Resource in the County of San Diego.” The Reader has a weekly circulation of 120,000.
- The Foundation sponsored education programs, funded through corporate grants, continue to be successful and a new volunteer grant writer is working on new proposals.
- The Foundation will be reprinting three of the brochures available for the public.
- Concerts continue each month and are already booked for next year.
- MTRP is collaborating with a number of departments at San Diego State University.

Public Comment – Retha Knight commented on the Foundations’ acceptance of funds from SDG&E and Cogentrix and requested that “Stop the Power Plant” committee be given a booth at Explore Mission Trails Day. The following requested that the Foundation take a position in opposition to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant: Patricia Murphy, Pat Sartausky, Mike Walker, Van Collinsworth and Sandy Kuntz.

Discussion regarding the role of the CAC as it relates to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant, and the timeline for CAC participation in the process.

Chris Zirkle stated that Dorothy Leonard, as the Chair, summed up the CAC’s role very well. He further commented no action has been taken by the City to date. The first item will be a plan amendment request to the City of San Diego Planning Commission. The CAC could form a subcommittee and that should be an agenda item at the next CAC meeting.

Questions of City staff for a response at the next meeting, in response to public comment on the items.

- What is the City policy in regards to the distribution of information by individuals and non-city organizations on City property?

- What is the City policy in regards to the placement of flyers, brochures, etc. in the Visitor Center, to be picked up by the public?

Because of the continual comments from the public about the role of the CAC as it relates to the Quail Brush Peaker Plant, the chair stated she will request a deputy city attorney attend the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM