

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 4, 2012**

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
John Pilch, San Carlos Area Council
Dale Peterson, Navajo Community Planners
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon

Members Absent/Excused

Eamonn Powers, City of Santee
Kathy Warburton, City of San Diego
Matt Rahn, SDSU
Dale Shockley, Member at-large
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large
Roger Utt, County of San Diego Park and Recreation Department

City of San Diego

Matt Sanford, Park and Recreation Department
Steve Haupt, Park and Recreation Department
Jeff Harkness, Development Services Department

Guests

Mark Carpenter, KTU+A
Kim Wiley, SDMBA
Douglas Kot, US Green Building Council
Craig Balben, SDCWA
Koh Kasuyama
Sue Kasuyama
Allen Shafter
Jim Mayler
Jeff Vincelett
Robin Vincelett
Carol Massa
Stephen Houlahan
Judi Ravetti
Constance Carroll
Martha Barnette

CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (GADLER/PILCH) to approve the minutes of the meeting of July, 3 2012. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Dorothy Leonard reported that she attended a US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) meeting on 8/28 regarding the work plan for the environmental cleanup of the former Camp Elliot property north of SR52 – future East Elliot area of MTRP. The work plan covers the development and finalization of the data collection program which will include surface and digital mapping to determine the impact area from live-fire training exercise with tank, anti-tank and artillery detachments. Data collected will be used to make decisions on what areas will need subsurface clearance of Sectors 1 through 4 which are now combined into one area for the purpose of the study. USACE staff are working with City staff on Right of Entry Permits.
- It is anticipated that work will begin the 3rd week of October. The project team is planning a community information meeting the evening of September 20th in the Visitor Center Theater. Lloyd Goddard, USACE Project Manager, will be making a presentation at the 9/20 MTRP Task Force meeting.

STAFF / RANGER'S REPORT – Matt Sanford, Senior Park Ranger

- Fortunately there have been very few emergencies in the park; save for one individual that we believe was bitten by a rattlesnake around the entrance to the campground. Paramedics quickly responded and transported him to a hospital. It may have been a “dry” bite due to the lack of pain and swelling the person was experiencing.
- Update on recent work at the VC:
 - The concrete floor has been sanded and painted/sealed.
 - The refurbished animal track rubbings cabinet should be finished and brought back to the VC this week.
 - City painters have finished painting the back hallway and the classrooms. They still need to paint the inside of the theater cube entrance and to complete refinishing the wood on the ramp hand rails, etc.
 - Once the painters are finished, we will contact the cleaning crew and arrange to get the carpet throughout the building cleaned.
 - The replacement information monitor for the reception area will be installed this week.
- There have been a couple of recent Groupon ads for rock climbing in MTRP. The company, The Southern Terrain, has provided me with their proof of insurance listing the City of SD as additionally insured, and they are permitted under the Adult Outdoor Fitness section of the current Park & Recreation permit fee schedule.
- The County of San Diego mosquito larvacide applications at Kumeyaay Lake have finished for the year. There were a total of 6 aerial applications done this summer, and the County informed us that they've been very pleased with the low trap count. Not one count exceeded 50 mosquitos, which is a significant improvement compared to years past.

- Grading work on the Barker Way Service Road will be taking place later this month. Superior Ready Mix will be doing the work on several of the most degraded sections of road. The MTRP Foundation will be paying for the labor and equipment, and the City will be paying for the materials. The project will last about 2 weeks, and the road will be closed during this time.
- The West Sycamore trails construction is nearing completion. The contractor, Brookfield Estates, finished constructing all the trails, and has installed 4 kiosks and several trail markers on the land that will eventually be deeded over to the City. They will be building a staging area and park entrance sign at the end of Stonebridge Parkway once SDGE vacates the property. Hope to have more information on when the City will be taking ownership of this land at the next CAC meeting, but that is still on hold at this time.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S REPORT – *Gayle Havens, Reservoir Keeper*

- On Saturday, September 15th, we will have over 200 volunteers at the lake to help cleanup Lake Murray as part of the I Love a Clean San Diego Coastal Cleanup Day.
- Fishing has been good, and the lake level is good.
- There are 3 Boy Scout community service projects underway.

MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – *Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation Executive Director*

- Attendance is down this year. The Visitor Center closing last week was a big reason why.
- The Summer Concert Series continues at the Visitor Center. Guitarist Peter Sprague was here last month and was very popular. Kris Burns will be performing the History of San Diego through Music this Saturday, 2PM at the outdoor amphitheater. The Santee Community Chorus will be performing on the 16th.
- The art exhibitions also continue at the Visitor Center. 95 artists submitted their work for next year's art exhibition, and 20 were selected.
- We hosted 8 YMCA's for week long camps in MTRP through a grant provided by SDGE. 575 children visited the park twice, and the MTRP Foundation Education Program Instructor visited each YMCA twice.
- We're waiting to hear back from SDGE about a \$50,000 grant we submitted in conjunction with the San Diego City schools. We hope to host over 3,000 sixth graders from the City school's starting in January.

COMMUNICATIONS (Non-agenda public comment)

- Judi Ravetti expressed concerns over the potential rezoning of the parcel that the proposed Quail Brush power plant will be located on.
- Dorothy Leonard stated that the MTRP CAC will only vote on the design aspect of the proposed power plant as it relates to the MTRP Design District, once it is referred to the CAC by the City of San Diego Developmental Services Department.
- Stephen Houlahan expressed concerns over the proposed Quail Brush power plant project, the Sycamore Landfill expansion, and the Castlerock development in the future park property north of SR-52.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Military Day at MTRP Equestrian Staging Area, November 3, 10AM to 2PM, sponsored by the Sierra Club and San Diego Children and Nature Collaborative – Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation Executive Director, representing the Sierra Club

- I was invited to a San Diego Children and Nature Collaborative meeting recently, and we discussed ways to get service member's kids outdoors more to let them know what outdoor recreation opportunities are available in their communities. There is currently a military day dealing with kids in nature in Camp Pendleton each year, and we thought it would be a good idea to organize a similar event for the southern portion of the County at MTRP.
- The Sierra Club will be coordinating this event, and volunteers will be provided to assist with parking and other logistics.
- So far there are 8 confirmed exhibitors, and no more than 25 will be on hand. All of the exhibitor's booths will be interactive.
- There is no charge to attend this event, but hamburgers and hot dogs will be sold by the Lake Murray Kiwanis Club.

MOTION: On recommendation of the Senior Ranger that the MTRP CAC support the event. Moved and seconded (PENT/PETERSON). Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

102. Recommendation to create a CIP to construct the covered picnic area at the Equestrian Staging Area as identified in the Site Development Permit, utilizing Antenna Funds for the project – Dorothy Leonard

- The MTRP Master Plan Site Development Permit for the Equestrian Staging Area shows the covered picnic area, in addition to the comfort station and the administrative building.
- The covered picnic area proposal is to start the process using antenna funds, which currently has \$406,047 in it.

MOTION: Moved and seconded (MURPHY/GADLER) that the MTRP CAC supports the recommendation to create a CIP to construct the covered picnic area at the Equestrian Staging Area as identified in the Site Development Permit, utilizing Antenna Funds up to \$150,000 for this project. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority pipe relining project – Craig Balben, SDCWA

- The pipe relining project began around the middle of August.
- The soundwalls around Portal 1 (near SR-52) are up. The soundwalls for portals 2 through 4 are next, but won't be constructed until after the Least Bell's Vireo nesting season is over on the 15th.
- We've reminded the contractors to watch their speed, and to be careful of park visitors while working in the park.
- The project field offices will be located at Superior Ready Mix instead of the Jackson Drive Staging Area.
- The work on the Jackson Drive portals will begin in mid-September, and the traffic control measures will go up around that same time.

- The water level at Lake Murray will begin to go down starting in October, due to the pipeline being shut down for this project.

302. Creating an energy efficient MTRP Visitor & Interpretive Center – *Douglas Kot, San Diego Green Building Council*

- The San Diego Green Building Council (SDGBC) created a Green Assistance Program where volunteers from the Green Building Community are utilized to assist other non-profits in greening the operations and maintenance of their buildings.
- A preliminary assessment of the MTRP Visitor Center was done, and the results were positive. We expect to unleash the full volunteer team in the next few months.

303. CIP Project Updates

- a. MTRP Master Plan Update (MPU) and Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) – *Jeff Harkness, Development Services Department, and Mark Carpenter, Consultant with KTU+A*
- A revision of the MPU draft was provided to the MTRP CAC Ad-Hoc Committee.
 - City Open Space staff are in the process of finishing their review of the NRMP.
 - The NRMP is taking on a different structure than past NRMP's. City Open Space staff have added in an additional review period that will allow CA Fish & Game and US Fish & Wildlife Service to review the plan ahead of public comment.
 - We're hoping to submit the MPU and NRMP to the regulatory agencies by Christmas, and to initiate the EIR process early next year.
 - We're now looking at the Fall of 2013/early 2014 for approval of the MPU, NRMP, and EIR.

Public Comment

- Allen Shafter expressed concerns over a social trail on the back side of Cowles Mountain near Wing Span Drive, and asked that it not be listed as an official trail within the MTRP Master Plan update.
- Jim Mayler asked that the social trail near Wing Span Drive not be listed as an official trail on any park publications, or within the MTRP Master Plan update. He also asked that no more improvements be made to the trail.
- Jeff Harkness stated that if it's not a significant trail then it can be closed, but it will be closed to everyone, including nearby residents.
- Mark Carpenter stated that KTU+A mapped all the existing trail footprints around the park, and that this trail had a lot of question marks about it. It would have to go through the public process for it to be closed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:41 PM.

The next CAC meeting will be Tuesday, November, 13 2012, at 6:30 PM.