

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF January 7, 2014**

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large
Roger Utt, County of San Diego Park & Recreation Department
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
Frank Bathrick, City of Santee
Paul Ganster, San Diego State University
Dale Shockley, Member at Large
Mike Pent, Special Member

Members Absent/Excused

Kathy Warbuton, City of San Diego

City of San Diego

Matt Sanford, Park and Recreation Department
Steve Haupt, Park and Recreation Department

Guests

Kim Wiley, San Diego Mountain Biking Association
Gardner Grady, San Diego Mountain Biking Association
Jason Showalter, San Diego Mountain Biking Association
Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation
Jerry Bierman
Rich Thesing

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by chair Dorothy Leonard at 6:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH/ACEVEDO) to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 5, 2013. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard, Chair

- The MTRP Task Force postponed their November meeting to December 12th.
- The Task Force approved the CAC operating rules, and added a representative to the CAC from the Scripps Ranch Civic Association. Betty Ogilvie was reappointed to the CAC representing the Tierrasanta Community Council, and Rich Thesing was approved as her alternate. Frank Bathrick was appointed to the CAC as the City of Santee representative.
- The project funding priorities list was approved by the Task Force.

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

- Four of our five new Park Rangers are now on the job and being trained on the operations, and current projects. The last of the new Rangers will be starting on Saturday the 18th. Ranger Mika's last day with us is on the 17th. Thanks to the Foundation for purchasing and installing their new computers, and Jay and Ray Sifton for their assistance in figuring out the phone situation in the Ranger trailer and entry station – where the new Ranger offices are located.
- On approximately November 11, park staff began installing signage at the access points to trails created from 2010 to 2013, underneath the Spring and Oak Canyon bridges, at the Equestrian Staging Area, and other staging areas and trailheads near East Elliott. Native brush was also installed at the access points to these trails to deter their usage. Park Rangers have been observable on-site and have conversed with many recreationalists to explain what changes are in effect and the importance of following the posted signs. While the majority of comments received have been positive and supportive of the work underway, Park Rangers continue to observe several signs and their posts being torn down, sometimes within hours of installation, and new trails detouring around the native brush placed at the access points to unauthorized trails created after 2010. Further restoration efforts and blocking access to additional unauthorized trails is still pending at this time.

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

- The California Department of Fish & Wildlife stocked 400 pounds of Rainbow Trout recently and 200 pounds of these fish are tagged for a study the agency is doing to see how many people are actually taking the fish.

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

- The visitor center attendance for 2013 was 83,296.
- The free monthly Sunday concerts schedule is set through July and attendance is averaging 75%.
- Over 4,200 individuals have signed up to receive MTRP Foundation e-newsletters.
- Facebook and Twitter activity continues to increase - with 1,676 followers on Facebook.
- An information booth is set up at the Cowles Mountain Staging Area one Saturday a month from 8-10am with a MTRP Foundation Board member and a Volunteer Trail Guide providing information. This past Saturday nearly 400 people were counted going up the front of Cowles Mountain in just two hours.
- The art program continues to be successful. The current exhibition runs through January 31st and features seven artists offering 55 pieces of art.
- Nora Kearney-Johnson is teaching a children's art class nearly every Saturday afternoon. Linda Hawley, MTRP's "Mrs. Rogers", offers a "Natures Adventures!" class once a month for children three and up.
- The Foundation's partnership with the YMCA's in San Diego county continues. The Y's are bringing groups to the park on a regular basis. In February, an after-school program with the Jackie Robinson YMCA is scheduled.

COMMUNICATIONS (Non-agenda public comment)

- Gardner Grady expressed displeasure regarding a section of trail in the West Sycamore area.
- John Pilch informed the CAC that nine trees will be planted around the new playground at the Lake Murray Community Park. The San Carlos Recreation Council agreed to water and fertilize the trees for one year.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Mission Trails Regional Park Endowment Fund with the San Diego Foundation: Transfer of the distributable balance of \$1,035.77. (Earnings less San Diego Foundation management fee of .05%) to the MTRP Foundation – *Dorothy Leonard, CAC Chair*

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PENT/MURPHY) to approve the transfer of the distributable balance of \$1,035.77 from the MTRP Endowment Fund with the San Diego Foundation to MTRP Foundation. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan – *Matt Sanford for Jeff Harkness, Developmental Services Department, and Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*
- The project was submitted prior to Thanksgiving to the Development Services Department for a public assessment and an initial environmental review.
 - It is anticipated that an initial determination and a Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an Environmental Impact Review will be completed at the end of February, and the NOP available in early March.
302. Status of the creation of a CIP for an administration building and shade structure at the East Fortuna Staging Area – *Matt Sanford for Jeff Harkness, Developmental Services Department, and Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*
- The new legislative calendar was received after the CAC last met. All items that go to Council must first be heard by a Council Committee. The project will need to be first heard by the Council Infrastructure Committee. Because of the holidays, the first this committee will meet will be in February. As such it is anticipated that Council action for this project will not happen until the later part of February. Staff had previously reported that it was anticipated this item would be at Council in January.
303. Old Mission Dam Dredging and Maintenance Project Update – *Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division*
- The US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) completed their internal review of the permit and special conditions. They've added some new conditions which the project manager is not in full agreement with.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:05 PM.

The next CAC meeting will be Tuesday, March 4, 2014, at 6:30 PM.