

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF March 4, 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
Jim McGinn, Scripps Ranch Civic Association
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon
Frank Bathrick, City of Santee
Dale Shockley, Member at Large
Mike Pent, Special Member
Rich Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council (alternate)

Members Absent/Excused

Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council
Paul Ganster, San Diego State University
Mike Pent, Special Member

City of San Diego

Matt Sanford, Park and Recreation Department
Steve Haupt, Park and Recreation Department
Laura Ball, Park and Recreation Department
Liz Saidkhanian, Councilmember Sherman's office
Rebecca Smart, Park Ranger MTRP
Levi Dean, Park Ranger MTRP
Araceli Dominguez, Park Ranger MTRP
Andrew Miller, Park Ranger MTRP
Christine Axtmann, Park Ranger MTRP

Guests

Jay Wilson, MTRP Foundation
Jerry Bierman
Victor Runco, Dirt Devil Racing
Brian Cox
Alyson Wright, REI

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (GADLER/SHOCKLEY) to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2014. The motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard, Chair

- CAC appointments on the March 13 Task Force agenda
 - ♦ City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board – Robert Chavez
 - ♦ Navajo Community Planners – Jay Wilson
 - ♦ At-Large member – reappointment of Dorothy Leonard
 - ♦ City of El Cajon
 - ♦ County of San Diego Parks Advisory Committee
- City Council Budget Approval
 - ♦ Funding to reopen the campground for overnight camping, including startup costs, staffing and supplies.
 - ♦ Energy efficiency improvements to the visitor center.
- I will be representing the CAC at the San Diego City Council Infrastructure Committee meeting Wednesday morning regarding creating and funding for the East Fortuna administration building and shade structure CIP.
- The members of the CAC Master Plan ad hoc subcommittee have read the public draft of the MPU and NRMP. We will be responding to City staff in two documents.
 - ♦ One will be a list of typos and minor edits which can be corrected without public comment.
 - ♦ The other will be a memo with comments regarding incorrect information in the documents which for which a public response will be required. A copy of the memo will be sent to CAC members. The two most glaring problems are:
 - i. MPU Page 6-7, top paragraph, first sentence – “The ongoing income from the antenna facilities atop Cowles Mountain (which the City Council and County Board of Supervisors have designated to support capital improvements in the park) are managed by the foundation.” We are asking that this sentence be deleted since it is incorrect. The MTRP CAC makes recommendations to the MTRP Task Force regarding use of the MTRP antenna Funds.
 - ii. NRMP Page 2-42, third paragraph – “Recreational activities, especially when conducted at night (which would be illegal, as MTRP is closed at night), can reduce wildlife movement through choke points.” Delete the words “(which would be illegal, as MTRP is closed at night).”
- Any other CAC comments and recommendations will be made after a public presentation of the documents at a CAC meeting.

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

- Our new Park Rangers have been on the job for a couple of months now and we're already seeing a positive impact on the day-to-day operations, and with maintenance and enforcement issues around the park.
- The new Rangers are: Rebecca Smart, Levi Dean, Araceli Dominguez, Andrew Miller, and
- Christine Axtmann

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

- No report.

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

- Attendance for February 2013 was 7,415 and 6,888 in 2012.
- Our 6th Grade program we were asked to develop by the SD Unified School District has been approved and meets all the new Common Core Standards.
- In the past month we have developed a program with the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts to support merit badges. We will be offering programs for 25-35 scouts at one time to attend a 2-3 hour instructional program and field trip. Alicia Berg, the Foundation Education Program Instructor, is becoming a Merit Badge Counselor for the Boy Scouts and will be able to sign off on merit badges. Like our other educational programs, the funding is through an SDG&E Environmental Champions Grant.
- Alan Ziegau, the Chair of Southwest Strategies, a prominent Public Relations firm, is coming on board pro-bono to help with public relations and marketing.
- We were invited to again participate in the San Diego Festival of Science & Engineering – the week of March 15-22. Event targets school children to interest them in science and engineering. Our day is Sunday, March 16 at the Visitor Center - There will be discovery tables staffed by Volunteer Trail Guides. The SD Astronomy Association will have telescopes on the Terrace to view sunspots and prominences.
- Introduced Brian Cox, one of the principals of LightSpeed, the firm that will be donation tents and air mattresses to the MTRP Foundation for use by 6th graders from the San Diego Unified School District for an overnight stay at the Kumeyaay Lake Campground.

COMMUNICATIONS (Non-agenda public comment)

- None.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Dirt Devil Racing “Stairway to Heaven” 15k Trail Run on August 10, 2014 – *Dr. Victor Runco, Dirt Devil Racing*

- 350 to 400 participants expected.
- Setup time will be at 5am. The race starts at 7am and ends at 11am.
- Event organizers will be in the Equestrian Staging area at the beginning of the race assisting with parking, and will sweep the course after the event is over to pick up trash and remove trail markers.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (PILCH/GADLER) to approve the Dirt Devil Racing “Stairway to Heaven” 15k Trail Run on August 10, 2014. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

102. REI 5k Trail Run on May 3, 2014 – *Alyson Wright, REI*

- 50 to 100 participants expected.
- The REI Running Series is designed to be accessible, affordable and an overall really good time. This run will be marketed to REI members, customers, as well as the overall San Diego community. This run is meant to be small and low impact while providing a fun way for beginners and enthusiast to enjoy a trail run experiences at a low cost.

- It will be taking place Saturday, May 3rd with our rain day being Sunday, May 4th. Total time in the park being 8 hours. Set up from 6am to 9am, race from 9am to 11:30am and 11:30am to 2pm for cleanup and break down. We will use a few sandwich boards and flags to help direct runners. We will be absolutely sure to follow and adhere to the Leave No Trace principals during the event and will make sure to send 2 staff to walk the course after the runners finishes and pick up all sign's, flags and trash left behind.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (ACEVEDO/GADLER) to approve the REI 5k Trail Run on May 3, 2014. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

103. Appointment of an ad hoc CAC Quarry and Trail Naming Subcommittee to make recommendations for two quarries and three unnamed trails shown in the Draft MTRP Master Plan Update (pages 5-47).

- Leonard reported that there are three trail sections and two former rock quarries in MTRP that are unnamed in the Master Plan Update (MPU).
- Murphy suggested that we also clarify what the names of the Clairemont Mesa Blvd and East Fortuna Staging Areas are for the MPU.

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (BATHRICK/THESING) to approve the appointment of an ad hoc MTRP CAC Quarry and Trail Naming Subcommittee to make recommendations for (1) two un-named quarries and three unnamed trails shown in the Draft MTRP Master Plan Update, (2) names for the Clairemont Mesa Blvd and East Fortuna staging areas, and (3) to approve the appointment of Dick Gadler and Dick Murphy to this ad hoc subcommittee. Motion passed with David Boyer abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Presentation on the City of San Diego Trail Policies and Standards – *Laura Ball, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Department, Open Space Division*
The City's Trail Policies and Standards can be found online at: <http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/documents/index.shtml>
302. Old Mission Dam Dredging and Maintenance Project Update – *Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division*
Our consultant, Dudek, is finalizing the maintenance and monitoring plan for the long term management of the dredging site. This is the last condition that the US Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) need completed before the permit can be issued. It will most likely take some negotiation with USACE because of their desire to have a third party manage the endowment funds for maintenance in perpetuity.
303. MTRP Master Plan (MPU) and Natural Resource Management Plan (NRMP) – *Matt Sanford for Jeff Harkness, Developmental Services Department, and Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*
We are waiting for sections of the Developmental Services Department (DSD) to complete their review of the MPU and NRMP as a Public Project Assessment. A Draft Notice of Preparation (NOP) of an Environmental Document and Scoping Letter have been provided

to DSD staff to assist in the Environmental Review Process. We are anticipating the NOP meeting will be held in April and will work with scheduling the meeting at the Visitor Center once we hear back from DSD.

304. Status of the creation of a CIP for an administration building and shade structure at the Equestrian Staging Area – *Matt Sanford for Jeff Harkness, Developmental Services Department, and Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*

The proposed Council Action will be presented to the Infrastructure Council Committee tomorrow morning at 9am and will require one more step after that to complete the 1472. It is anticipated that the City Council will take action on this either March 24th or 25th.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

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