

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2009  
MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK TASK FORCE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Task Force was held on November 19, 2009.  
Mission Trails Regional Park One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, California 92119

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Marti Emerald, City of San Diego  
Councilmember Donna Frye, City of San Diego  
Councilmember Brian Jones, City of Santee  
Councilmember Ruth Sterling, City of La Mesa  
Dorothy Leonard, Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee Chair

City of San Diego

Park and Recreation Department: Open Space Deputy Director, Chris Zirkle, Open Space District Manager Steve Haupt, Mission Trails Regional Park Senior Ranger Tracey Walker  
CPCI- Park Planning: Deborah Sharp, Jeff Harkness,  
ECP-EAP: Ali Darvishi  
San Diego City Water Department: Nelson Manville  
Council District 7 Staff Representatives: Chris Pearson

Members Absent

Supervisor Pam Slater, County of San Diego  
Supervisor Diane Jacob, County of San Diego

Guests

San Diego County Water Authority: Mojgan Poursadighi,  
City of Santee, John Coates  
San Diego Mountain Bike Association, Kim Wiley, Gardner Grady

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Marti Emerald at 12:15 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Approve the minutes of September 17, 2009 (Jones / Sterling) carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Chair Marti Emerald offered her congratulations to all the CAC Board Members that have been

reappointed or soon will be. Dorothy Leonard was recognized as being a pivotal CAC and Task Force member.

### CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE / FOUNDATION REPORT

CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard reported on recommendations for approval of Items 101 and 102. There is an amendment on 101. Leonard reminded the membership of the upcoming Arbor Day event to be held at the Equestrian Staging Area and the upcoming Holiday Party. The Mission Trails Foundation submitted a request to Sempra for a \$70,000 grant. While that was not granted, the Foundation did receive a grant from Sempra for \$25,000. The Foundation will be submitting another request for a grant from the San Diego Women's Foundation that is targeting educational programming that meets the Foundation's criteria.

### WATER DEPARTMENT

Lakes Program Supervisor Nelson Manville offered the following update on the Lake Murray program. Nine trees were removed due to interference with maintenance road surfaces. The program is in its annual staff maintenance sequence. Facilities covered include bathroom and public dock repair. Due to budget restrictions, the Lake Murray program will be moving out of the public boat rental business pending the opening of the new concession stand RFP. When this occurs, rentals may be deployed once again.

5000 lbs of catfish were planted, along with 400 lbs of trout. A new distance marker trail signage project was completed by an Eagle Scout. The Iron Rangers are having break-in problems. New gasket material was installed to mitigate for this problem.

### STAFF REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Senior Ranger Walker explained the costs associated with the SCWA removal of the additional 10' of the remaining concrete surfacing and sand material. The cost associated with the removal is an additional \$60,000.

We have increased patrols on Cowles specifically due to the high number of reported dog off leash, and dog defecation issues. The issuance of citations and increased patrol has resulted in a lower number of related infractions. Cigarette smoking has been targeted as well.

Barry Martin of the Western Tracking Institute continues his survey of fauna throughout MTRP. Martin may be using the SDSU aerial drone to spot and possibly facilitate the collaring of our mountain lion population.

### ACTION ITEMS

101. MTRP Ground Use Permit Process. Open Space District Manager Steve Haupt offered the following report. This is the suggested process that an organizer would have to follow for the issuance of a Ground Use Permit for any Open Space Park event with over 50 persons in attendance. There is one minor change that is suggested: On #3, the removal of "where appropriate".

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (Leonard / Sterling) to support the MTRP CAC's recommendation of support for the MTRP Ground Use Permit process as presented with the one noted change. The motion passed unanimously.

102. Mission Trails FY2010/2011 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List. CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard explained the proposed funding priorities and future needs list for clarification and approval by the Task Force. The definition of the term "Capital Improvements Projects" (CIP) was discussed and how that definition may affect MTRP projects. Projects, #2, #3 and #4 will be re-designated as:

- \* Project List item #2 will become 2.a. All OMD related projects will retain the same CIP # (20-100.3 / S-0061).
- \* Project #3 will become 2.b.
- \* Project # 4 will become 2.c.

The complete list was supplied at the Task Force meeting and is available by request.

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (Jones / Sterling) to approve the MTRP Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List with the above changes to projects # 2-4. The motion passed unanimously.

103. MTRP CAC appointments / reappointments. The following MTRP CAC members who terms expire January 2010 have been nominated to serve another term: Dorothy Leonard (at-large); David Boyer (MCAS Miramar); Dick Gadler (City of El Cajon); Norman Greene (City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board); Dale Peterson (Navajo Community Planners); Roger Utt (County of San Diego Park and Recreation Board).

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (Frye / Jones) to approve the nominations and reappointment of Leonard, Boyer, Gadler, Greene, Peterson and Utt to serve until January 2012. The motion passed unanimously.

104. 2010 Meeting Schedule

**MOTION:** It was moved and seconded (Frye / Emerald) to approve the 2010 MTRP Task Force meeting schedule with meetings to be held on the third Thursday of the odd numbered months. The motion passed unanimously.

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Update on efforts by the County of San Diego to acquire lands for the Stowe Trail. Santee Councilmember Brian Jones offered the following report. Supervisor Dianne Jacobs continues to work on this issue. There is a new Commanding Officer at MCAS Miramar, allowing a fresh contact to discuss the issue with. It may be necessary to contact our elected officials at the Congressional level to steer through the system and reach a resolution.

302. CIP Project Updates.

- a. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station status report. The building will be designed by As Needed Architect. Their contract was being negotiated about two weeks ago and finalized. It went before the City Council and was approved. The consultant is on line and ready to go as well. As soon as the notice to proceed is provided by Purchasing and Contracting, the project will begin. It will take approx 6 months to finalize the design review process. The bid and award process will take 4-6 months. It is anticipated that the project will take 10 months for construction. It is hoped that this schedule can be expedited.
  - b. Old Mission Dam Preservation (dredging and mitigation) (CIP20-100.3). Regulatory hurdles to moving forward with acquiring a long term permit were discussed. The only real hurdle centers around the Regional Water Control Board. The Army Corps of Engineers and Fish and Wildlife were willing to issue the permit. The RWCB required a full EIR to proceed. The Mitigated Negative Declaration was not enough, in their opinion. It was decided to do a Federal Environmental Assessment that would possibly meet everyone's needs. This requires that the ACE would take on the lead role in order to approach it in that manner. Things are on track and moving forward on multiple levels. It was suggested that the Task Force write a letter to the Regional Water Control Board expressing the desire to explore the possibility of obtaining a long term permit. Chair Marti Emerald will be writing the appeal letter. Agency regulations are known to vary and may be difficult to move through. Progress updates will occur on a regular basis.
  - c. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project (Long term permit for multiple dredging). The process description was combined with "b" above.
  - d. MTRP Resource Management Plan and Master Plan Update (CIP29-943.0). Detailed project updates to this point were presented. Jeff Harkness will be replacing Michelle Abella Schon as the new Project Manager. Park expansion plans are being folded into the Natural Resource Management Plan so future amendments will not be necessary. Use of antenna funds was discussed. It is anticipated that the contract will go to City Council in January.
303. Status of the transfer of the future West Sycamore area of MTRP from McMillan Land Development to the City of San Diego. It was determined that the northern border of the proposed McMillan land to be dedicated to the City has many encroachment issues. For that reason, it is thought that the process will take longer than anticipated.

304. MTRP Antenna Fund balances. The balance stands at \$179,829.00.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Senior Park Ranger  
Tracey Walker  
Staff Representative

Next meeting: March 18, 2010 @ 12:15 p.m.

Location: Mission Trails Regional Park, One Father Junipero Serra Trail  
San Diego California 92119