

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2010
MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK TASK FORCE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Task Force was held on September 16, 2010 in the classrooms of the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center, One Father Junipero Serra Trail, San Diego, California 92119.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Brian Jones, City of Santee
Councilmember Donna Frye, City of San Diego
Dorothy Leonard, Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee Chair

City of San Diego

Park and Recreation Department, Open Space Deputy Director, Chris Zirkle
Park and Recreation Department, Open Space District Manager, Steve Haupt
Park and Recreation Department, Open Space Senior Ranger, Rick Thompson
Council District 6 Staff Representatives, Mary Ann Kempczenski
City of San Diego Water Department, Nelson Manville
City of San Diego Water Department, Gayle Havens
Engineering and Capital Projects, Ali Darvishi
Engineering and Capital Projects, Joe Diab

Members Absent

Councilmember Ruth Sterling, City of La Mesa
Councilmember Marti Emerald, City of San Diego
Supervisor Pam Slater, County of San Diego
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego

Guests

Bill Maertz, City of Santee, Director of Community Services Department
Jeff Brazel, Sycamore Estates (Rancho Encantada - MTRP West Sycamore), McMillin
Manuel Oncina, Manuel Oncina Architects Inc. (MOA)
Patrick Banning, MOA

CALL TO ORDER

In the absence of Chair Marti Emerald, the meeting was called to order by Donna Frye at 12:20 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: That the minutes of the Task Force meeting of May 27, 2010 be approved. (Jones / Leonard). Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON REPORT

Councilmember Marti Emerald was not in attendance, so there was no report.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE / FOUNDATION REPORT

Leonard reported that:

- A large park monument sign at Mission Gorge Road and Father Junipero Serra Trail is being replaced due to long-term degradation. Work is moving forward with the sign anticipated to be completed before the November Task Force Meeting.
- Replacement fire pits for the Kumeyaay Campground have been approved for purchase by the MTRP Foundation Board of Directors, and are currently in the process of fabrication. Cost is approximately \$3,000 to \$4,000. These fire pits are consistent with those found in almost all other campgrounds and are expected to last for over 20 years. The previous fire pits were of a questionable design and lasted less than 10 years. Demolition of old fire pits and installation of new fire pits is being done by South Bay Fence. A roll-away low-side dumpster is being provided by Sycamore landfill at no cost to the City. Sycamore Landfill will dispose of the debris pro bono.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORTSA. City of San Diego Water Department

Lakes Program Supervisor Nelson Manville presented a comprehensive report on Lake Murray that was inclusive of his last two reports including current status. The lake is temporarily being lowered to complete additional repairs. Work is being done by the Water Department and it is hopeful that all will be completed in approximately two weeks. Manville provided photos of current work in progress. Real Estate Assets Department (READ) is managing the bidding process for concessions, including boat rental and other visitor amenities. At the time of this meeting only one bid has been submitted. Vandalism (fires) continues, but has created no major problem. An ongoing issue with a male exposing himself to visitors has finally been resolved, with SDPD apprehending this individual, hopefully ending this problem. Tree trimming continues, as well as weed abatement. Sewer line access gate has been closed since July 2010, but work is nearly completed. "I Love a Clean San Diego" is planning projects for Lake Murray. Manville introduced his newly appointed Reservoir Manager Gayle Havens, who has worked at Lake Murray for many years and will be representing Lake Murray at future CAC and Task Force meetings. Trail and pathway connections to MTRP Open Space are being explored at this time, and will hopefully create more viable connectivity between the Lake and the main body of MTRP.

B. City of Santee Community Services Department

Bill Maertz discussed the Santee River Park Greenbelt through Santee which is moving forward faster than anticipated. Construction moving forward (as early as next week), with work on Mast Park West, bring the final connection closer to MTRP. The Town Center portion is currently under construction, and expected to be completed soon, and Santee is

working on potential funding through the San Diego Grant for improvements of the Mission Creek portion. The last two pieces are on the eastern end, and Santee is working with the River Conservancy for funding for acquisition and construction costs. Last piece is Carlton Oaks, which is going before City Council in San Diego, with potential for an easement across adjacent lands. Ultimately the corridor would connect from the Lakeside Conservancy, through Santee, to MTRP. Entire project is moving forward more quickly than anticipated.

C. Park Staff/Ranger's Report

- Senior Ranger Thompson reported the results of a follow-up meeting on July 22nd with Fire, to discuss ways to improve response time. Surprisingly, with the exception of Captain Wilson, all other Fire representatives said that responses are as good as ever, if not better. Senior Ranger Thompson again offered a park tour to interested Fire staff to help in becoming more familiar with locations, access, and possible improvements to rescue sites.
- Staff is working on cleanout and repair to all storm drains in anticipation of winter rains (and possible inspections).
- Major trimming has been completed along Mission Gorge Road to clear bike lanes.
- MTRP has been in contact with "I Love a Clean San Diego" for potential cleanup projects.
- Preparation is in process for the major repairs planned for the Cowles Mountain Trail.
- Ranger Thompson is working with the San Diego Mountain Bike Association to do a training workshop on trail design, layout, and construction, as well as an understanding of the City regulatory requirements, and compliance to permitting both with regulatory agencies, and those internal to the City of San Diego.

COMMUNICATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

101. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building - Review and Approval of 100% Drawings: Manuel Oncina, Manuel Oncina Architects, Inc.

Ali Darvishi introduced himself to the Task Force to present the 100% drawings/plans for the Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building that was approved by the CAC at their September 2010 meeting. Darvishi introduced Manuel Oncina, the principal architect for Manuel Oncina Architects Inc. Oncina explained the fact that this design had to fit within a specific footprint of land at the staging area, providing restrooms, maintenance storage and work area, and a larger room that would be used initially as an operational event center. When future facilities (planned) are completed this operational event center would become more of an equestrian related portion of the overall facilities (tack room, etc.), as well as an event central operations area. Manuel provided drawings, provided samples of materials to be used in design and construction, and multi dimensional video graphics. Oncina explained that he and others worked with the MTRP CAC ad hoc subcommittee and city staff on many changes that resulted in the current configuration. The design is unique and provides a visual representation of a bird in flight. All exterior and interior components were kept simple, yet designed for the most current in energy

conservation. Additionally, major concerns for securing the facility when staff was not around were addressed to provide maximum security. **MOTION:** That the 100% drawings be approved. (Jones / Leonard). Motion carried unanimously.

102. Custom Address for Equestrian Staging Area Buildings: *Dorothy Leonard*
The entry street/loop identified as “Equestrian Circles” has been named and signage provided that identified this as a City street. Building numbers, similar to those used at other MTRP Facilities (Visitor Center, Campground) are being requested. The administration building (to be built), and the comfort station/service building (in process) would be numbered correspondingly as One Equestrian Circle (administration building) and Two Equestrian Circle (comfort station/service building). **MOTION:** That a request be submitted for custom addresses for the comfort station/service building and the future administration building at the Equestrian Staging Area with the future administration building being One Equestrian Circle and the service building being Two Equestrian Circle. (Leonard / Jones). Motion carried unanimously
103. MTRP West Sycamore area phased land transfer from McMillin Land Development to the City of San Diego and benefits to MTRP from SDG&E in compliance with Sunrise Powerlink mitigation measures related to staging yards in the West Sycamore area: *Jeff Brazel, The Corky Mcmillin Companies, and Paul Nussbaum, SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink Project.*

Jeff Brazel (The Corky McMillin Companies) discussed the approximate 1,200 acres of open space land to ultimately be transferred to the City of San Diego. This will be known as MTRP West Sycamore. Brazel identified work to be completed before the land transfer can take place, including completion of proposed trails and other improvements, based on the approval of the City of San Diego. He also discussed a proposed MOU between SDG&E and McMillin to formalize the proposal to use this identified land as a staging location for construction of the Sunrise Powerlink. Trails (with the exception of Beeler Canyon) will be constructed, and 24/7 security will patrol the SDG&E area.

Lane MacKenzie explained that the proposed MOU is being reviewed by the City Development Services Department (DSD). The current plan is for the City to accept the West Sycamore area of MTRP in two phases with the Sunrise Powerlink lay down area to be phase II and all other lands phase I.

SDG&E made an offer to help the City with land management while this project is in-progress, including the possibility of providing fencing and gates as needed. The SDG&E lease with McMillin for use of this staging area will be for a period of two years, after which the land will revert to McMillin for rehabilitation and other improvements agreed upon between McMillin and the City of San Diego. The two year limit is based on planning, permitting, and other timing needed to complete project work.

MTRP CAC chair Dorothy Leonard read the motion adopted at the September 7, 2010 CAC meeting. “That the MTRP CAC recommend to the Task Force the approval of the concept of SDG&E use of the 26 area MSCP bubble for the Sunrise Powerlink lay down

area on condition that SDG&E work with Park Managers and the MTRP CAC to provide benefits to MTRP in compliance with Sunrise mitigation measures.”

Senior Ranger Rick Thompson identified the proposed bubble location (SDG&E Sunrise Powerlink lay down area) on the map, and the MSCP Open Space land outside of this bubble. Leonard added that trails must be completed before any land is transferred to the City. It is also important that City staff and consultants have access through the area during the two year construction period. **MOTION:** That the Task Force approve in concept SDG&E use of the 26 acre MSCP bubble for the Sunrise Powerlink lay down area on condition that SDG&E work with Park Managers and the MTRP CAC to provide benefits to MTRP in compliance with Sunrise mitigation measures. (Leonard / Jones) Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION

301. CIP Updates

- a. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan Updates; *Dorothy Leonard for Jeff Harkness*

Leonard reported that the consultant’s contract was approved by Council in July. Notice to proceed is anticipated by the end of November. Most likely it will be January before work on the Master Plan update actually moves forward.

- b. Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project: *Rick Thompson for Jeannette DeAngelis*
Ranger Thompson read information provided by DeAngelis that previous work performed by Urban Corps and other delays has put this contract behind by approximately two years. While Urban Corps did substantial work removing arundo, when work stalled, arundo began re-establishment. Additionally, Urban Corps was not fully qualified to fulfill project all requirements. Currently, the proposal is to transfer \$60,000 to the Dudek contract because they could do the work in compliance with regulatory agencies requirements and within the proposed timeline. DeAngelis anticipates having Dudek on-board by November or December. If no major delays are encountered the remaining funding should be enough to complete all requirements for the five year monitoring obligations. DeAngelis also plans on concurrently working on long term permitting for continued maintenance/periodic dredging behind the dam.

ADJOURNMENT

The Task Force meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15PM.

NEXT MEETING:

The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for November 18, 2010, 12:15 to 1:45 PM

Respectively Submitted by:
Senior Park Ranger
Mission Trails Regional Park