

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 18, 2010
MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK TASK FORCE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Task Force was held on Thursday, November 18, 2010, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Marti Emerald, City of San Diego
Councilmember Ruth Sterling, City of La Mesa
Dorothy Leonard, Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee Chair
Bill Maertz, City of Santee

Members absent

Supervisor Pam Slater, County of San Diego
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego
Councilmember Brian Jones, City of Santee

City of San Diego

Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Rick Thompson, Senior Park Ranger
Chris Pearson, Community Development Manager for Councilmember Emerald
Battalion Fire Chief Ben Castro
Deputy Chief Ken Malbrough
Fire Captain Tim Wilson
Ali Darvishi, Engineering & Capital Projects
Jeannette DeAngelis, Senior Planner
Gayle Havens, Senior Reservoir Keeper for Lake Murray

Guests

Mojgan Poursadighi, SDCWA
Martin Coghil, SDCWA
Jack Neely, SDCWA

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marti Emerald at 12:25 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION It was moved and seconded (LEONARD/EMERALD) to approve the minutes of the September 16, 2010 meeting. The motion passed with Ruth Sterling abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Marti Emerald led a discussion regarding the need for improved identification signage on hiking trails, particularly on Cowles Mountain and Climbers Loop. Members of the Fire-Rescue Department shared their concerns. One of the suggestions is to have a type of marking system used in the City of San Jose Parks as suggested by Capt. Tim Wilson. There is concern about how the markings would look. Primary rescues are on Climbers Loop and Cowles Mountain. The Climbers Loop is the most challenge. According to the Fire-Rescue Department, the challenges have been locating the patient. Anything that can assist in locating the patient will be helpful. Seconds and minutes make a difference. Fifty percent of the time the challenge has been locating the patient. The discussion was limited due to the Brown Act and Marti Emerald stated this would be an action item at the January meeting. Leonard requested that this item be presented to the MTRP CAC for a recommendation prior to being considered by the Task Force. Emerald concurred.

CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE/FOUNDATION REPORT

Dorothy Leonard reported on the following:

- Addresses for the Equestrian Staging Area buildings. Information in a letter from Park and Recreation Department Director Stacey LoMedico indicates that the City does not consider Equestrian Circle a street, but rather a driveway. Staff in Development Services apparently did not complete the process of changing the name of the street to Equestrian Circle. As a result, the request for custom addresses for the comfort station/service building and future administration building have been denied. Since no mail will be received at the comfort station/service building the members of the CAC believe the custom street address is not as important as at the future Administration building. Marti Emerald stated she would call Fire Chief Minard to help resolve the matter of confirming that Equestrian Circle is a street and that a custom address, similar to the addresses at the visitor center and campground, would be appropriate at the Equestrian Staging Area as well.
- Staff is now implementing the permit process, approved by the CAC and Task Force in November 2009, for events held in Mission Trails. Groups are being reminded that applications must be submitted several months prior to the event and that no more than one major event can be held on a weekend and preferably no more than two in a month. This will provide time to notify the public about upcoming events which limit the public access to trails impacted by the event, and to limit the number of events held in a calendar year.
- CAC recommends approval of item 101 on the meeting agenda which is the FY2011/2012 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List.
- The closing of the MTRP visitor center is on the Mayor's list of possible budget cuts for FY2011/2012. The MTRP Foundation is looking into options for keeping the center open.

STAFF REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

A. City of San Diego Water Department

Gayle Havens, Sr. Reservoir Keeper for Lake Murray reported the following.

- Success of the storm water repair across the maintenance road at the north end of the lake.
- Lake Murray Sewer Trunk Line project is progressing very well.
- Reservoir level has been changing rapidly because of repairs along the system.
- There was a fire on October 13 in one of the restrooms located along the maintenance road.
- People are cutting locks by the tennis courts. The area is closed because of construction.
- A life was saved at the tennis courts because of the AED at the site.
- The lake was stocked with 2,000 pounds of trout. There will be two more stocks in December.
- Feeding of the animals is being curtailed. Signs are going up to tell people not to feed the animals.
- Gates will be closed at the lake on Thanksgiving.
- Lots of money is being raised by nonprofit organizations with run/walks at the lake
- Ranger Thompson asked about the report of a Golden Eagle nest in a pine tree at the Lake. Gayle had not heard of it and will look into it.

B. City of Santee Community Services Department

Bill Maertz discussed the new park west trail which is nearing completion. It comes up to San Diego River at the Carlton Oaks Country Club.

C. Park Staff/Ranger's Report

Sr. Ranger Thompson reported the following –

- Staff met with SDG&E and arranged for another grading of the Cowles Mountain Barker Way Service Road, a service provided periodically over the past 12 years. Grading the road will make it possible for staff to truck supplies to drop off points where it can be transported to the main trail for the Cowles Mountain trail rebuilding project.
- A lot of special events are being scheduled. Events for 2011 have been docketed for CAC recommendation/support with one-half of the total number allowed in a year already committed.
- All staff radios are being programed to be on the same tac with PD, Sheriff and Fire. In the past staff has always needed to work through one agency and not everyone. Now they will be in communication with everyone.

COMMUNICATIONS There was no non-agenda public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

ITEM 101 Project Funding Priorities & Future Needs List –

Dorothy Leonard went through the document listing the project funding priorities and future needs list.

MOTION Moved and seconded (LEONARD/EMERALD) to approve the list as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 102 Task Force Meeting Schedule for 2011

Dorothy Leonard presented the proposed 2011 meeting schedule which continues to be the third Thursday of the odd numbered months.

MOTION Moved and seconded (Leonard/Emerald) to adopt the 2011 Task Force meeting schedule. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 103 Reappointments of the following MTRP CAC members

Members with terms expiring in January 2013: Nance Acevedo and Dale Shockley, at-large members; Shannon O'Dunn, City of La Mesa; David Boyer MCAS Miramar; Dr. Matthew Rahn, SDSU; John Pilch (April Boling- alternate), San Carlos Community Council; Donovan Geiger (Betty Ogilvie – alternate), Tierrasanta Community Council. Leonard reported that Tierrasanta Community Council had not had a representative in attendance at a CAC meeting since January 2010 and that the CAC Operating Rules state that she is to notify the Task Force chair if a member misses three or more meetings. Since Geiger and alternate Ogilvie have not been attending meetings Leonard recommends that their nominations be referred back to the Tierrasanta Community Council.

MOTION Moved and seconded (LEONARD/EMERALD) to accept the list with the exception Donovan Geiger (Betty Ogilvie – alternate) for Tierrasanta Community Council. Motion passed unanimously.

ITEM 104 Indemnification of Park and Recreation Department CAC Members

Dorothy Leonard received a memo from the city regarding why CAC members needed to take an extensive list of classes to receive indemnification from the City, most of which are not applicable to CAC member responsibilities. It was stated in order to be indemnified CAC members must be treated like a City employee. City Council Policy 700-42 for Recreation Councils provides for indemnification of Recreation Council members. On behalf of the CAC, Leonard suggested that the Task Force support requesting that the City Council initiate an amendment to a City Council policy which would provide for indemnification of Park and Recreation Department CAC volunteers modeled after Council Policy 700-42 for Recreation Councils. Chris Zirkle stated that only those who want to be indemnified need take the training courses and that once staff knows who and how many want the training courses they will determine where and when the classes will be held.

Leonard indicated there are members of the MTRP CAC who want to be indemnified but would prefer not being required to attend classes that don't relate to the function they perform as CAC members.

MOTION It was moved and seconded (LEONARD/ STERLING) that the San Diego City Council be asked to develop and adopt a policy that treats Park and Recreation

Department CAC members the same as Recreation Council Members, or that they be included in City Policy 700-42. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA) projects in MTRP - Mojgan Poursadighi
- a. Update on Mission Trails pipeline. Pipeline tunnel construction was completed ahead of schedule and under budget. All areas in the park have been restored and hydro seeded. The areas at the end of Clairemont Mesa Blvd. are restored to preconstruction condition.
 - b. Flow Regulatory Structure II construction is to start next summer. If this changes SDCWA staff will let Task Force members know. The re-vegetation areas are restored. Staff will take the CAC on a field trip to the site in early 2011 when the vegetation has begun to grow. Task Force members will be invited to participate in the tour.
 - c. Mojgan concluded her update stating she has taken a new assignment within the SDCWA and Jack Neely will take her place.
 - d. Pipe Realignment Project - Martin Coghill, Project Manager reported that last year SDCWA finished pipeline 3 in the park. Pipeline 4 is scheduled for 2012. It follows the same alignment as pipeline 3 until it reaches Mission Gorge Road and then it follows Jackson Drive to Lake Murray. It will be a 12 month project. The biggest challenges will be along Jackson Drive. One lane each way will be maintained during construction to minimize the impact. Martin showed aerial photos of the entire project. Leonard commented that SDG&E will be stringing new lines through the park. SDCWA will follow up with SDG&E.
303. CIP Projects updates
- a. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan - *Rick Thompson reported for Jeff Harkness*
 - On October 20, the city executed an agreement for the MTRP Master Plan update and Resource Management Plan. The Agreement was signed and mailed October 21, 2011. The consultant is now meeting with city staff. Leonard stated she has reminded Harkness that the consultant is to work with the MTRP CAC Master Plan ad hoc subcommittee as well.
 - Old Mission Dam Maintenance Project – Jeannette DeAngelis
At the last meeting Jeanette told the Task Force that a new contractor was needed. Dudek is her preference. Questions were raised by Marti Emerald about the firm because of issues with a major sewer project elsewhere in the city. Jeannette stated the current contract is too old and is now moving forward with a sole source contract with Dudek. City has an “as needed” contract with a landscaped contractor. Jeannette is waiting for the city to complete the contract. It is hoped the Notice to Proceed will be issued no later than February 2011 so the project can be completed prior to bird breeding season. There is \$200,000 available for the landscape contractor. She will not be working on the long term contract for dredging behind the dam until there are some plants in the ground. There are two acres of additional mitigation that may be required because of the delay in finishing

the project in a timely manner. Marti Emerald commented that the Kumeyaay Lake Outflow Bridge needs a CIP designation.

b. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station/Service Building – *Ali Darvishi*

In September staff received approval of the 100 percent drawings from the Task Force. Plans are being reviewed by city staff at this time and requests for a building permit are being processed. As soon as staff has the plans and the permit they should be able to advertise the project, hopefully in May, and break ground September 2011. Plan is to have the facility open in May of 2012. Leonard asked why Equestrian Circle is not officially a street. Ali asked if he should come back in January with an update or merely give an update for Senior Ranger Rick Thompson to provide the Task Force.

AJOURNMENT

The Task Force meeting was adjourned at 1:50 PM.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Task Force will be held January 20, 2011 at 12:15 PM.

Submitted by:

Rick Thompson, Senior Park Ranger
Mission Trails Regional Park