

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 15, 2011
MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK TASK FORCE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Task Force was held on Thursday, September 15, 2011, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Marti Emerald, City of San Diego
Councilmember Lori Zapf, City of San Diego
Councilmember Ruth Sterling, City of La Mesa
Dorothy Leonard, Chair of Citizens Advisory Committee

Members Absent

Supervisor Pam Slater, County of San Diego
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego
Councilmember Rob McNelis, City of Santee

City of San Diego

Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Steve Haupt, Manager, Open Space Division
Mel Naidas, Acting Senior Ranger for MTRP
Gayle Havens, City of San Diego, City Lakes

Guests

Bill Maertz, City of Santee, Director of Community Services Department
Nadia Moshirian, Representative for County Supervisor Pam Slater-Price
Mark Carpenter, KTU&A, Consultant for Mission Trails Master Plan Update

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marti Emerald at 12:18 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION It was moved and seconded (STERLING/EMERALD) to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 21, 2011. Motion carried.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – NONE

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Marti Emerald noted the new signs are up on the Climbers Loop Trail as part of the pilot program to evaluate the sign program. She also referenced the back-up power plant being proposed north of State 52, and just west of the Sycamore Landfill. San Diego will definitely need additional power needs and the new plant could provide power for 65,000 homes. The benefit to MTRP is they will be donating mitigation land to the park.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Water Department's Lake Murray – Gayle Havens, Lake Murray Reservoir Keeper.
- When asked about city residents having a discount for lake use fees, Gayle responded they do not.
 - When asked about stocking the lake Gayle responded that California Fish and Game stocks the lake at no cost to the City. Last year the lake had two stocks of cat fish at 500 lbs. each.
 - Councilmember Zapf asked if there was any reason the City does not have a two tiered fee system. Dorothy Leonard commented it is something the City Council could look at. Councilmember Zapf then stated, it looks like we need to raise the rates. Gayle commented that the rates were recently raised.
 - Gayle reported that the new concessioners are doing well, but she did not know what revenue the City receives from the concessioners. Rocky Mountain Recreation is the concessioner and they are selling the required fishing permits.
 - Lake staff are working on the lake road including cutting down brush. All the fire breaks are cleared and 194 people preregistered for the I love a Clean San Diego event.
- B. City of Santee Community Services Department – Bill Maertz reported the following:
- SD River Trail – A mural was recently completed on the bridge with the San Diego River Park Foundation. There are six large panels.
 - Councilmember Zapf asked how Santee was able to pay for the murals? Bill responded that it was an Eagle Scout project so it did not cost the City of Santee anything.
- C. Park Staff/Ranger's Report – Senior Ranger Mel Naidas reported the following:
- There was a recent 5K run with 850 participants including 196 children. The event was flawless – no injuries and everything went very well.
 - Agency Against Drug Abuse has a fun run/walk scheduled for October 16 with an anticipated attendance of 500.
 - A crew has signed up to help clean up the park as part of the I Love A Clean San Diego event. There will also be a crew over by Big Rock Trail.
 - The individual who died at the park last week died from a health issue, and not a snake bite as reported by the media.
 - MTRP volunteers continue to do an outstanding job.

COMMUNICATIONS There was no non-agenda public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Approval of proposed small monument sign at the San Diego River Crossing trail head parking lot (Mission Gorge Road and Jackson Drive).
CAC chair Dorothy Leonard presented the proposal, as approved by the MTRP CAC, for a small monument sign at the parking lot at Mission Gorge Road and Jackson Drive

to identify the area as part of MTRP. Funding would come from the MTRP Foundation's Public Fund account.

MOTION That the proposed small monument sign be approved. Moved and seconded (ZAPF/STERLING). Motion carried

102. Support of County of San Diego's efforts to secure authorization from the Marine Corps for public use of the historic Stowe Trail between Goodan ranch and Sycamore Canyon Preserve to the north and Mission Trails and Santee to the South.

Bill Maertz reported on the proposal being advocated by Supervisor Jacob for this 3.5 mile connection between MTRP and Good Ranch/Sycamore Canyon Preserve. The trail would be maintained by the County and a fence would be installed. The Marine Corps would be held harmless. A letter of support from the Task Force is being requested.

MOTION – That the MTRP Task Force chair send a letter of support for the proposed license agreement requested by the County of San Diego which would authorize public use of the historic Stowe Trail, a major link between Goodan Ranch and Sycamore Canyon Preserve to the north and Mission Trails Regional Park and Santee Lakes to the South. Moved and seconded (LEONARD/EMERALD). Motion carried.

INFORMATIONITEMS

301. CIP Project updates

- a. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan – Mark Carpenter from KTU&A reported the following:
 - He is working on a draft of the document and will be setting a date for the scoping meeting.
 - Anticipates that the Resource Management Plan draft will be completed this fall.
 - The Master Plan draft should be completed the first of the year. The last update of the plan was in 1985 with the first plan adopted in 1976.
 - He was hoping to have a scoping meeting during the summer but it should be in October.
- b. Old Mission Dam Preservation Project – Acting Senior Ranger Naidas reported for Jeannette DeAngelis.
 - Additional funding is approved but not yet available to finalize the contract for the additional work needed to obtain the “on-going” permits. Some of the biological studies need to be completed. At this time there is not a tentative start date.

- c. Equestrian Staging Area Comfort Station Acting Senior Ranger Naidas reported for Ali Darvishi
- There were five bids and four were disqualified because they failed to initial some changes on the bids and the fifth bid was significantly over budget.
 - New bidding starts the 18th of this month.
 - Construction may be delayed until after Explore Mission Trails Day on May 19, 2012, depending upon when the contract is finalized.

ADJOURNMENT

The Task Force meeting was adjourned at 12:51 PM.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 12:15 PM.