

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MARCH 1, 2016**

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Frank Bathrick, City of Santee
David Boyer, USMC Miramar
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council
Mike Pent, Special Member
Barbara Perkins, Scripps Ranch Civic Association
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners
Roger Utt, County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Committee
Kim Wiley, User Group Representative, SDMBA
Carol Lockwood, City of La Mesa alternate

Members Absent/Excused

Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large
Robert Chavez, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Board
Paul Ganster, San Diego State University
Craig Maxwell, City of La Mesa
John Pilch, San Carlos Area Council

City of San Diego

Andy Quinn, Park and Recreation Department
Steve Haupt, Park and Recreation Department
Rex Narvaez, Public Works
Sheila Gamueda, Public Works

Guests

Ben Stone, SDMBA
Kevin Loomis, SDMBA (alternate)
Rich Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council (alternate)
Susie Murphy, SDMBA
Crystal Shaw, Team Parker for Life
Stephen Goldfarb

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM by CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (Gadler/Bathrick) to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 5, 2016. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – *Dorothy Leonard, Chair*

The MTRP Task force met on January 21st and took the following actions

- Approved using additional MTRP Antenna funds for the Mission Trails Field Station project as recommended by the CAC.
- Approved moving forward with solar panels for the park to be located at the Bushy Hill and campground day-use lots and on the flat roof over the classrooms at the Visitor Center as recommended by the CAC.
- Approved the MTRP FY2016/2017 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List as recommended by the CAC.
- Approved the following reappointments to the CAC – Dorothy Leonard, Member at large, and Dick Gadler, City of El Cajon. Reappointments for City of Santee, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board, Scripps Ranch Civic Association, Navajo Community Planners, and County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Committee are pending recommendations from the organizations and agencies.
- Approved the reappointments of Dorothy Leonard and Dick Murphy as CAC chair and vice-chair.

MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – *presented by Betty Ogilvie*

- For the 2016/16 school year, through February, the SDG&E Environmental Champions Grant Fieldtrip program has brought 2,503 students to Mission Trails for a 3-4 hour educational experience that includes:
- The first 6th grade overnight camping experience is scheduled for Thursday and Friday, April 28 and 29, for 35 students from Muir Middle School. This program is also funded through the SDG&E Environmental Champions Grant.
- The 2016 Amateur Photo Contest began today, March 1st, with photos being accepted through May 31.
- Free concerts continue in the Theater primarily on Sundays at 3 p.m.
- The first after-hour wedding on the Visitor Center Terrace has been booked for August.

STAFF/RANGERS REPORT – *Sr. Park Ranger Andy Quinn*

- MTRP Park Rangers Levi Dean and Heidi Gutknecht received the Director's Award for the 5 Peak Challenge. They also received the Merit Award from the California Trails Greensway Conference Award Program.
- Xterra 15K event was a success.
- On February 6, we hosted the Volunteer Recognition awards ceremony in our Visitor Center Theater. Thank you to the MTRP Foundation for their continued assistance.
- Cowles Mountain continues to be very busy.
- Old Mission Dam dredging has commenced.
- The vehicle break-ins are on a rise.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT – *No Report*

COMMUNICATIONS (Non-agenda public comment)

Brian Elliott, a representative from Scott Peters office introduced himself. Mission Trails Regional Park is in the 52nd Congressional District under Scott Peters. One of the areas of concern is wild fires. The congressman has been very proactive on finding ways to stop wild fires before they happen and making sure the government is applicably funding them.

Ben Stone from the San Diego Mountain Biking Association communicated information about the Stowe Trail. The SDMBA is working on both potential projects as far as an alternative, but also the original alignment which was brought back to life with congressional interest. They are trying to work out a potential alignment and have spoken with Padre Dam staff in regards to getting them to fund the potential connections to avoid the SDG&E river crossing. The connection within the jurisdiction of the City of San Diego is needed. City of San Diego interest in making that happen is needed. If a purchase agreement cannot be made, an easement would be a wise approach with the directions of the CAC.

Tom Donnelly from Allied Climbers of San Diego asked about if there had been any progress planning wise on climbing access on South Fortuna mountain. It was recommended to be proposed climbing in the draft Master Plan. Nothing has happened for 15 years.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Dirt Devil Racing 15K and 21K, August 13, 2016 – Victor Runco will present at the May 3, 2016 meeting.

102. Team Parker for Life 5K, June 25, 2016 – *Crystal Shaw*

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Pent/Gadler) to support the recommendation of the Senior Ranger to approve the Team Parker for Life 5K. Motion carried unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

103. Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day, June 11, 2016 – *Susan Murphy, SDMBA (San Diego Mountain Biking Association)*

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Pent/Gadler) to support the recommendation of the Senior Ranger to approve the Take a Kid Mountain Biking Day. Motion carried unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

104. Sewer Group 835 project information for location within Mission Trails Regional Park – *Rex Narvaez and Sheila Gamueda, City of San Diego, Public Works – Engineering Dept.* Sewer Group 835 will replace the aging and deteriorating sewer mains. The location is near Lake Shore Drive and Jackson Drive near Lake Murray. One tenth of an acre of environmentally sensitive land will be affected (coastal sage scrub). Hiking trails will not be disrupted. There will be a revegetation plan restoring everything back to its original condition. There will be biological monitoring during the construction. Construction is scheduled to begin the end of 2016. The existing main is about 800 feet. No CAC action needed

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Mission Trails Field Station project update – *District Manager Steve Haupt reported for Jason Grani, City of San Diego Public Works, Engineering and Capital Projects Dept.*

The design team is moving forward with construction documents. They should be ready for submission to development services in approximately a month. We will also route plans for city wide plan check at the same time. We are still on schedule to go out to advertise in December.

Dorothy Leonard proposed to have Frank Bathrick represent the MTRP CAC, along with herself representing the MTRP Foundation, to provide citizen oversight of the project. This will be placed on the March 2016 Task Force agenda for approval.

302. Old Mission Dam Dredging/Maintenance project update – *Steve Haupt, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept.*

The heavy lifting has been completed. Light hand work will be taking place the next few days. There were no major problems.

303. MTRP Master Plan and Resource Management Plan update – *District Manager Steve Haupt reported for Jeff Harkness, City of San Diego Planning Dept. / Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*

A professional tracker was hired to review the last version of the proposed trails. As a result of his site visit, the consultant has revised a couple of the trail alignments within the East Elliott area. We are now waiting for written confirmation from the tracker that the revised trail alignment addresses his goal to avoid areas of wildlife movement. Verbally he was supportive. Once we have that, we will meet with the MTRP MPU CAC ad hoc subcommittee to review a revised draft document, and will also meet with SDMBA representatives to present the proposed trail alignment. As it currently is proposed, it is felt that the plan provides the loops that were important to mountain bikers.

After these meetings we would then inform the CAC of the revisions and utilize the revised MPU to continue with the environmental document process.

We plan on setting up the meetings with the sub-committee and SDMBA in the later part of March or beginning of April.

304. Kumeyaay Lake Campground update – Plans to expand number of nights open to the public for overnight camping and status of second camp host and new Center Director. – *Steve Haupt, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept.*

To expand the current Center Director to full-time didn't make the FY2017 budget cut. The position is half-time with full benefits. To expand the number nights, a full time Center Director would be needed. We normally have two camp hosts. We were informed we couldn't fill the second camp host position because our agreement wasn't sufficient. It's currently being held up in upper management and labor relations.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

The next CAC meeting will be May 3, 2016 at 6:30 PM.