

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 6, 2016**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, September 6, 2016, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members Present**

David Boyer, USMC Miramar  
Frank Bathrick, City of Santee  
Richard Gadler, City of El Cajon  
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Barbara Perkins, Scripps Ranch Civic Association  
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners  
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large  
Paul Ganster, San Diego State University  
Roger Utt, County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Committee  
Kevin Loomis, SDMBA (alternate)  
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council (alternate)

**Members Absent/Excused**

Robert Chavez, City of San Diego Park & Recreation Board  
Mike Pent, Special Member  
Carol Lockwood, City of La Mesa, (alternate)  
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council  
Terry Cords, San Carlos Area Council (alternate)

**City of San Diego**

Steve Haupt, Park and Recreation Department  
Chris Zirkle, Park and Recreation Department  
Mika Shimada-Cicirelli, Park and Recreation Department

**Guests**

Jack Zarour, East Elliott property owner  
Kirk Riley, SDMBA  
Brennan Lindner, XTERRA Trail Run Mission Gorge

**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 (Ganster/Bathrick) to approve the minutes of the meeting of July 5, 2016. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard, Chair**

- The MTRP Task force met on July 21<sup>st</sup> and took the following actions:
  - Approved the CAC appointments of Mickey Zeichick representing San Carlos Area Council (SCAC) and Terry Cords SCAC alternate.
  - Approved recommendation for opportunity to obtain additional park land in exchange for permitting SDUSD to continue to use dedicated park land for a high school in Balboa Park

**OPEN SPACE DIVISION REPORT - Steve Haupt, District Manager, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept.**

- Thanked OCA Senior Rangers for filling in the vacant position. Sr. Park Ranger interviews have been offered, completed, and in are selection process.
- Thanked Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept. for attending his last CAC meeting before retiring from City of San Diego in September 2016.
- Chris Zirkle thanked everyone for the relationship developed with CAC members, MTRP Foundation, and San Diego Mountain Bike Association.

**RANGERS REPORT – OCA Senior Park Ranger Mika Shimada**

- In August, visitor center attendance reached almost 5,000. Volunteer trail guides provided nature walks to 208 adults and 95 children.
- Three Park Rangers, Gutknecht, Smart, and Shimada, have taken a rotation to fill the vacant MTRP Senior Park Ranger position.
- Ranger Gutknecht and Ranger Dean assisted Project Wildlife with releasing rehabilitated bobcat at Suycott Valley. YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/uvS7U36r2d4>
- Ranger Axtmann has made 45 school field trip reservations for the fall semester. The school fieldtrips are now in full swing. Ranger Axtmann is also working on a new visitor center exhibit with Ranger Gutknecht and MTRP volunteers.
- Ranger Axtmann and Ranger Gutknecht are mentoring a student from High Tech High, overseeing the student's science and engineering project. They displayed his award winning study at the visitor center for the month of August.
- During the Labor Day holiday weekend, approximately 35 out of 46 sites were booked at the campground. Due to the Red Flag Warning, rangers restricted building of campfires.

**WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT– No report****MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – presented by Betty Ogilvie**

- The Foundation sponsored four successful 6<sup>th</sup> grade overnight educational fieldtrip programs between May 20 and July 13 through the San Diego Unified School District.
- There were three successful Jackie Robinson YMCA family overnight fieldtrip programs in July and August.
- Thirty-one one day fieldtrips have been booked just in the last week for the 2016/2017 school year. All fieldtrips are funded through SDG&E Environmental Champions grants.
- In the past six weeks there have been three weddings and a 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration at the Visitor Center, all after-hour events. Two more are booked for the spring of 2017.

- The MTRP Foundation received another SDG&E Environmental Champions grant for \$25,000 for fieldtrips for this school year.

### COMMUNICATIONS (Non-agenda public comment)

- Speaker -Mr. Jack Zarour, land owner north of the SR 52, parcel 366-070-65-00  
Topic-Access non-designated trails north of SR-52  
Mr. Zarour relayed his concerns about people trespassing on his property and the damage that is being caused. Mr. Zarour read a letter written by his attorney to the City of San Diego expressing his concerns and suggested remedies.
- Speaker- Kirk Riley, representing San Diego Mountain Bike Association  
Topic- Trail Liaison for MTRP  
Kevin Loomis introduced new trail work liaison Kirk Riley replacing Kim Wiley. Kirk Riley will serve and help as a volunteer and share his trail work experience for the sustainable trail development for everyone to enjoy.
- Speaker- CAC member Paul Ganster, representing San Diego State University  
Topic- Mission Trails Regional Park Survey regarding MTRP Use  
As a follow-up to information presented at the July meeting, Paul Ganster asked those interested in reviewing the draft MTRP use survey to provide input, and if there is sufficient interest, he is willing to organize a face-to-face meeting to discuss further. Dorothy Leonard will forward the draft survey to CAC members and park staff for their suggestions.

### ACTION ITEMS

101. Xterra Mission Gorge Trail Run, February 5, 2017- *Brennan Lindner, Generic Event*  
**MOTION:** That the MTRP CAC support the staff recommendation to approve the 11th year Xterra event. Moved/seconded (Ganster /Bethrick). The motion carried unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

### INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority FRS (Flow Regulatory Structure) II and Lake Murray relining updates – *Craig Balben and Brent Fountain, representing San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA)* – Pulled from the agenda at the request of the SDCWA.
302. Campground Reservation System update –*Steve Haupt, City of San Diego Park and Recreation Dept.*
- KLC online reservation system is being reviewed and revised to improve process for camper registration. CAC members expressed concern that since the system is not user friendly that the City may be losing campers and related revenue. It was suggested by CAC members Acevedo and Murphy that the CAC include this as an action item at the November CAC meeting. Steve Haupt will invite the city's Active Net liaison to attend next CAC meeting.
303. Mission Trails Field Station project update  
– *Frank Bathrick, CAC project representative*

- The ad hoc construction subcommittee made a field trip to the Poway Municipal building on Monday, August 29, 2016 ( Attendees: CAC & Foundation Dorothy Leonard, CAC Frank Bathrick, City Mika Shimada-Cicirelli, Steve Haupt, Jorge Acevedo, Marlon Perez, Architect Jim Murry) to see an existing structure using the proposed concept for the sun shade material at the Field Station. After the observation and occupying the space, it was apparent that this concept was not ideal for the Field Station intended use of the patio space. It was suggested that the sunshade be constructed using the same standing seam roofing material as the rest of the Field Station roofing. We also discussed the possibility of including one or two bronze animal sculptures to be locate in the bio swell area at the entrance to the Field Station similar to the animal sculptures at the Visitor Center. Next meeting is scheduled for October 6, 2016, 9:30 a.m. at the Visitor Center.
  - *District Manager Steve Haupt reported for Jorge Acevedo, City of San Diego Public Works, Engineering and Capitol Projects Dept.*
  - The project management team and the design architect continue working on finalizing the construction documents as well as addressing plan check comments from Development Services Department in order to obtain the necessary construction permits. The construction permits shall be obtained tentatively by mid-October. Construction is scheduled to begin in August, 2017.
  - *Deputy Director Chris Zirkle reported for Jason Grani P.E., Sr. Engineer, Architectural Engineering & Parks, Public Works Dept.*
  - The East Fortuna Staging Area currently does not have infrastructure for phone and data service. In the original Site Development Plan, it was thought that we could pull this from an overhead power line that is located adjacent to the project site. They met with the City IT staff and AT&T on site and it is not feasible to get phone and data service from the previously proposed spot. The closest place for such items is located on Mast Blvd and West Hills Parkway. Permission is needed to trench in the street under the freeway (CALTRANS easement) from Caltrans. It is estimated that this coordination will take six months to complete and approve.
304. MTRP Master Plan Update and Natural Resource Management Plan presentation – *District Manager Steve Haupt reported for Jeff Harkness, City of San Diego Planning Dept. / Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*
- The consultant is now working on the third screen check of the supporting draft environmental document for the MTRP MPU and NRMP and is anticipated to be submitted to the City for review and comment later this month. The project is schedule for public review of the Programmatic EIR by the end of October.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Next meeting, November 1, 2016