

## **Minutes of the Meeting of the November 15, 2018 Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force**

### TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, November 15, 2018, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

### ATTENDANCE

#### Members Present

Councilmember Stephen Houlahan, City of Santee  
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee  
Councilmember Kristine Alessio, City of La Mesa  
Councilmember Barbara Bry, San Diego City Council

#### Members Absent

Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego  
Councilmember Scott Sherman, City of San Diego  
Supervisor Kristin Gaspar, County of San Diego

#### City of San Diego Staff

Jeanette Deangelis, Deputy Director, Open Space Division  
Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division  
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park  
Steve Hadley, City Council Representative, Council District 1  
Myra Herrmann, Planning Department

#### Guests

Kevin Loomis, San Diego Mountain Biking Association  
Meg Diss, County of San Diego  
Jennifer Morrissey, MTRP Foundation  
Craig Balben, SDCWA  
Wade Griffiths, SDCWA  
Octavio Casavantes, SDCWA  
Colin Kemper, SDCWA  
Rich Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Lisa Maier, County of San Diego

### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Barbara Bry at 10:01 A.M.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (HOULAHAN/ALESSIO) to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

### REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – None

MTRP CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT/MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – Dorothy Leonard

- The MTRP CAC has approved additional bench locations within the park at some of the major trail intersections
- The MTRP Foundation's annual newsletter has been published. Copies are available. The Foundation's education program is up and running for the new school year as is the overnight camping program. 260 campers have participated in the program so far. The Foundation is going to be offering two photography classes to the public and a professor from SDSU will be at the visitor center in December to give a lecture on Native American pottery and baskets.
- The birds of Mission Trails exhibit has been fully funded, however it is on hold until the visitor center roof leak gets repaired. The interpretive panel and associated bat box exhibit for the terrace is moving forward. A redo of the geology exhibit is also in the works.

STAFF REPORTS

Water Department's Lake Murray Report – Ryan Robertson for Gayle Havens, San Diego Water Department

- Lake Murray is overfilled right now due to the algae type of bloom which causes an odor at the tap. There have been some complaints. They are working on blending the water etc. to resolve the problem. The 4<sup>th</sup> of July fireworks will be back next year due to the great event we had this year. The concession stand will be open Wednesday to Sunday for rentals until next summer when it goes back to 7 days a week. Staff and the CDF have been clearing blind corners for public safety. Diversion ditches have been on our work list to prepare for the rainy season. The lake road and parking lots have been restriped. SDCWA is planning some shutdowns this month. The new gate closing time is 6:30 PM as of November 4<sup>th</sup>. Fishing is OK for this time of year.

City of Santee Community Services Department – Bill Maertz

- The last segment of the river park trail extending from Mast Park into Santee is in progress.

MTRP Senior Ranger Report – Ryan Robertson

- The City's education program is in full swing. It takes up a lot of staff time during the school year. We have been receiving lots of inquiries about overgrown brush and the potential fire hazard where there is open space next to private residences. We have been assisting as necessary and offering education about the City brush management program and SDFD standards.

Open Space Division Staff Report – None

COMMUNICATIONS – None

ACTION ITEMS

101. MTRP CAC Appointments/Reappointments, January 2018 to January 2020 – *Councilmember Bry*

- Reappointment of Marilyn Reed to represent Navajo Community Planners
- Reappointment of Richard Gadler to represent City of El Cajon

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Leonard/Houlahan) to approve the reappointments as listed. Motion carried unanimously

102. MTRP CAC Appointments/Reappointments January 2019 to January 2021 – *Councilmember Bry*

- Reappointment of Nancy Acevedo as a Member-at-large
- Appointment of Dr. David Lipson to represent San Diego State University
- Appointment of Michele Greenburg-McClung as alternate City of La Mesa representative
- Reappointment of Roger Utt to represent the County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Committee

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Leonard/Alessio) to approve the appointments/reappointments as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

103. Task Force meeting dates for 2019 – *Councilmember Bry*

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Houlahan/Alessio) to approve the Task Force meeting dates as presented. Motion carried unanimously

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure Chlorine Project – *Craig Balben, Public Affairs Representative, San Diego County Water Authority*

- This is essentially a water quality improvement project. SDCWA owns a large infrastructure in the park and has noticed a reduction in water quality. The solution is to inject chlorine into the supply. To do this, storage bays and containers will need to be added to the existing facility. SDCWA is in the process of redesigning the storage area and are moving forward with the idea.

302. Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II – *Colin Kemper, San Diego County Water Authority*

- SDCWA has 2 major aqueducts in the park and 5 pipelines. These lines must be constantly monitored and adjusted in order to maintain flow balance. FRS II would be a 5 million gallon underground tank with North and South tunnel connections. The tank would act like a shock absorber for the system. The structure would be below grade with 3-5 feet of soil on top so that vegetation could grow on it. The structure would also allow for the use of emergency vehicles on top. The end of Clairemont Mesa Blvd. is the ideal staging location for the project but it is not clear if the bridge will sustain the weight of large vehicles crossing it. It is estimated that the project will take 18 months to complete with an anticipated start date of early 2020. Extensive trail closures would be needed and the Calle De Vida park entrance would be the detour route during closures. An EIR was completed for this project in 2006, but an addendum to the original EIR is in the works now. After construction, SDCWA would conduct site restoration.

303. MTRP Master Plan Update and Natural Resource Management Plan- *Myra Herrmann, Senior Environmental Planner, Planning Department.*

- The MTRP Master Plan is still a top priority for the City. The department had to go back and have additional meetings with the stakeholders. As a result, some of the trails had to be realigned but the changes were not significant enough to have to re-circulate the entire document. It is anticipated that the EIR will be finalized by the end of December 2018. The document should go through the hearing process from January through March of 2019. After that, the document will go to Council Committee, the full City Council, and then the County Board of Supervisors. As a part of the response to comments process, two edits were made. One was to allow access to the park to the Kumeyaay for cultural ceremonies etc. The other is policy specific to coordinating future broader cultural surveys.
- Public Comment: Kevin Loomis SDMBA, We have a priority that needs to be established. The Weston development will be complete by this summer. Their trail development ends at the boundary with City Property to the North. A small private property will need to be utilized or purchased to get people onto the Stowe Trail. The issue is that it is going to take longer than expected to get the needed parcel to connect Weston to Stowe.

304. Mission Trails Field Station project update – *Senior Park Ranger Ryan Robertson*

- The building foundations have been poured and the first row or two of concrete block has been set. The contractor is working toward pouring the concrete slabs for the interior floors. Estimated project completion date is summer 2019.

305. MTRP Solar project at Kumeyaay Lake Campground – *Senior Park Ranger Ryan Robertson*

- The contractor is working with SDG&E on installing a new pedestal and panel. An equipment upgrade is needed in order to get the system up and running.

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:04 AM

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 17, 2019, 10:00 AM