

Minutes of the Meeting of the January 17, 2019 Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, January 17, 2019, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee
Councilmember Kristine Alessio, City of La Mesa
Councilmember Jennifer Campbell, San Diego City Council
Councilmember Scott Sherman, City of San Diego
Supervisor Kristin Gaspar, County of San Diego
Councilmember Stephen Houlahan, City of Santee

Members Absent

Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego

City of San Diego Staff

Jeannette DeAngelis, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Gayle Havens, Water Department
Betsy Miller, Planning Department

Guests

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

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LEONARD/ALESSIO) to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2018 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – *Councilmember Sherman*

- With the new year getting started, the park looks good. We have a tough budget year coming up. Let's work on keeping the park going with lots of good park activation

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

- The Visitor center roof has a substantial leak on the second floor. A meeting was held with staff from the City's facility division to discuss options going forward. A new copper roof would require generation of a CIP project, would take 3-4 years to complete, and would cost about \$400,000. The discussion included replacing the copper roof with architectural shingles instead. The project could then be done by City staff, be completed by this summer, and cost about \$100,000. Also discussed was looking at the feasibility of putting a metal roof over the new shingle roof at some point in the future.
- Due to the issues with the roof at the Visitor Center, a meeting was held with the roofing contractor for the new field station building. Some changes were made to that roof in an effort to avoid future issues since that roof is also a standing seam metal roof.
- The CAC approved the recommendation in the RPIF to allocate CIP money to replace the comfort station at Cowles Mtn.
- The Mission Trails Foundation recently held a strategic planning and partnering meeting with City staff and is in the process of updating the plan.

STAFF REPORTS

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

- Trout is not being fully stocked by Fish and Wildlife due to issues at their fisheries. The lake is full and there are lots of people visiting. There are currently two invasive in the lake. Zebra mussels are everywhere but the cost to remove them is prohibitive. The other is the African apple snail. They are hoping this species will cycle out and are in the process of trying to educate the public on ways to prevent their spread.

City of Santee Community Services Department – Councilmember Houlahan

- The City Manager and Mayor are currently out of town. Santee is moving forward with the Mast Park renovation so the park is currently closed. The 10 million dollar project includes the addition of a trail that will join Mast Park with Mission Trails along the San Diego River. It is anticipated that the project will take one year to complete. I will be representing the City of Santee on the San Diego River Park Conservancy.

MTRP Senior Ranger Report – Ryan Robertson

- Ranger Levi Dean has been promoted to the Senior Ranger position overseeing the open space canyons program. We are currently working on filling the vacancy here. Some staff has been moved around in anticipation of moving Ranger Julie Aeilts into the Education Coordinator position. She will be replacing Ranger Chris Axtmann. The park has very busy over the holidays. During this time the Cowles Comfort Station has been out of order for an extended period of time due to the sewer pump needing to be replaced.

Open Space Division Staff Report – Jeannette DeAngelis

- The County is currently reviewing a draft of the new Joint Powers Agreement. City and County staff will be meeting in February to discuss the document. The Tijuana River Valley and Cowles Mtn. JPA's will be discussed to determine who should maintain facilities on each of the properties.

COMMUNICATIONS – None

ACTION ITEMS

101. MTRP CAC Appointments/Reappointments, January 2019 to January 2021 – Councilmember Sherman

- Appointment of Michele Greenburg McClung as representative and Carol Lockwood as alternate for the City of La Mesa.

- Reappointment of Mickey Zeichick as representative and appointment of Glen Farber as alternate to represent San Carlos Area Council

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

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure Chlorine Project – *Craig Balben, Public Affairs Representative, San Diego County Water Authority*
- SDCWA is a water wholesaler that maintains 310 miles of water pipeline. Three pipelines run through Mission Trails. This is a water quality improvement project that will inject chlorine into the system at an existing facility in the park. One 500 gallon tank will be placed inside the facility. The only visual difference from the outside will be an external connection for trucks to fill the tank and a 6 foot by 6 foot square concrete pad. Truck deliveries will enter from the Calle De Vide entrance on an as needed basis and will occur for 6-8 months out of the year. The deliveries will be scheduled for non-peak times of day. If needed, smaller deliveries will be made by SDCWA staff. A water quality monitoring station will also be needed at another existing facility on the North end of the park. Fencing will be needed to secure the site and SDCWA will work with City staff to ensure it is done appropriately.
302. Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II – *Craig Balben, San Diego County Water Authority*
- Designs for the project are proceeding. Questions have been raised from the MTRP CAC about what will be visible above ground. A condition assessment of the bridge at the end of Clairemont Mesa Blvd. is ongoing to see if it will be a viable route for construction traffic. Once the project is started, it will take 18 months to complete.
303. MTRP Master Plan Update and Natural Resource Management Plan- *Betsy Miller, Senior Planner, City of San Diego Planning Department.*
- The Natural Resource Management Plan and Master Plan Update are complete. The Environmental Impact Report is being given a final once over with the consultant. The City is preparing for the routing of the document. It is estimated that it will be going to City Council in May or June for final approval.
 - Public Comment: Kevin Loomis SDMBA, We need help with an issue. The trail included in the Weston Development will link to the future Stowe trail but it is currently an island because the trail ends at City property. One privately held parcel is in the way of completing the trail and that land owner is currently unwilling to sell the property. An option is to use other land owned by the City but that parcel is mitigation land. The end result will be the same as before with people getting arrested. My proposal is to talk to everyone and get everyone on board to fix the problem now so that this Fall we can be ready to open the trail. I am working with the Marines to hold permit processing sessions on site at Weston.
304. Mission Trails Field Station project update – *Senior Park Ranger Ryan Robertson*
- Progress is good despite rain causing some delays. The concrete block is being set, the interior floors have been poured, and the contractor is getting ready to bore underground for the IT connections. The anticipated completion date is late Summer/early Fall.
305. MTRP Solar project at Kumeyaay Lake Campground – *Senior Park Ranger Ryan Robertson*
- The project is complete. We are now looking at the possibility of a minor redesign for the parking lot to accommodate parking under the solar canopy.

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:50 AM

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, March 21, 2019, 10:00 AM