

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 5, 2021**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 5, 2021 via zoom.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic Association
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council (alternate)
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group
Betty Ogilvie, Tierrasanta Community Council
Michele Greenberg-McClung, City of La Mesa
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners
David Boyer, USMC Miramar
Lane MacKenzie, MTRP Foundation
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council
David Lipson, San Diego State University
Mike Pent, Special Member
Kevin Loomis, MTRP user group (alternate)

Members absent/Excused

Gary Strawn, City of Santee
Marcella Bothwell, City of San Diego P&R Board (alternate)
Carol Lockwood, City of La Mesa (alternate)
Noli Zosa, City of San Diego P&R Board

City of San Diego

Andy Field, Department Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Paul Kilberg Interim Deputy Director, Open Space Division, Parks and Recreation Department
Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division, Parks and Recreation Department
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation Department
Jennifer Canales, Center Director I, Parks and Recreation Department
Lara Ball, Project Officer II, Open Space Division

GUESTS

Jason Hemmens, Director, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department
Aaron Trimm, San Diego County Water Authority
Rachel Kulis, San Diego County Water Authority
Matt Sanford, Region Manager, County of San Diego
Jennifer Morrissey, MTRP Foundation

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:35 PM by CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard.

MTRP CAC MEETING MINUTES- JANUARY 5, 2021**ROLL CALL****APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

MOTION: It was moved and seconded (Hutsel/Searcy) to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 7, 2020.

The motion passed (12-0-2) with Boyer and Ogilvie abstaining.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard

- In our last meeting we made some recommendations for the JEPA agreement, which is being presented today in the action items. The CAC recommendations were approved by the Task Force in their last meeting of January 2020.
- Half of the CAC members were to be approved for a new term in January of 2020, then the pandemic hit, and we had to shut down. So, at the Task Force meeting later this month we will have all terms for both 2020 through 2022 for approval and 2021 through 2023 for approval.
- Council Member Scott Sherman (Chair) has termed out of the Task Force. Jennifer Campbell (President) will also not be returning, leaving two new seats for City Council members on the Task Force.
- Diane Jacobs has termed out and Kristen Gasper did not get reelected. So, we will have two new members from County Board of supervisors.
- Christine Alessio from La Mesa City Council did not get reelected, so we have a new member from La Mesa City Council.
- Steve Houlahan from City of Santee gave up his Council seat to run for Mayor, did not get elected, so we have a new member from Santee City Council.
- I will be the only returning member of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force. The City will be scheduling some orientation meetings as we start the new year for the Task Force.

RANGERS REPORT – Ryan Robertson

- Not counting the brief time, the entire park was shut down, we have been busier than ever over the last year. Along with this increase in attendance comes an increase in litter, graffiti and overall vandalism. We are seeing a large percentage of the general public with little to no regard for the protection and preservation of the resource.
- All the facilities and the Campground remain closed to the public, with the exception of the restrooms, which are being cleaned and sanitized more frequently than under normal circumstances.
- There was, is, and will continue to be for the foreseeable future a restriction on the use of volunteers within the parks and Open Space.
- We are currently down two Rangers. Ranger Mel Naidas has retired, and that position has been eliminated. Ranger Rebecca Smart left the employment with the City to move to Arizona. We hope that we will be given authorization to fill that position soon.
- I am extremely proud of my staff for their hard work and dedication throughout this time.

WATER DEPARTMENT'S LAKE MURRAY REPORT- None

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FOUNDATION REPORT- *Lane Mackenzie*

- I would like to start with an introduction of Jennifer Morrissey our Executive Director with the Foundation, who wanted to sneak in and see what goes on at these meetings.
- Six of our nine staff were laid off, they were part time employees who assisted with field trips or in the Visitor Center gift shop. We have three staff remaining our executive director, office administrator and out part time events coordinator.
- Since the pandemic there has been a significant loss of income, we did not receive funding from grants that we normally would. Our staff continues to apply for grants, but it has been a very competitive process with so many nonprofit organizations struggling.
- Last spring, we debuted a new video about geology at Mission Trails which features Pat Abbott former SDSU geology professor and author of a book about the geology of Missions Trails.
- The Foundation is in the process of producing a virtual field trip that supports school's curriculum. One more day of filming is needed, and our hope is to finish this piece as soon as possible to get out for the teachers.
- To make up for the loss of income Jennifer Morrissey decided to get creative with the gift shop and take it online since it was sitting idle. We have joined the online world now and have over 375 orders in. The Christmas holiday has been keeping us busy and getting stock off the shelves.
- We launched a new online lecture series this fall and had a fantastic response to the three lectures with more than 400 registrations. We will continue this series in February and schedule lectures through spring.
- We have not received any COVID-19 Stimulus funds to date but are still looking.
- When it comes to donations, we are having an incredible response, people are recognizing Mission Trails, recognizing the resource. We have funds coming in that are a lot more than we expected and are over 149% from last year.
- With that said we are moving forward and getting as creative as we can.

COMMUNICATIONS- None

ACTION ITEMS

- 101.** Recommendation to the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force regarding the “Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement Between the County of San Diego and the City of San Diego for the Operation and Maintenance of Mission Trails Regional Park. – Andy Field, Director, City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department.

Prior to the action taken, Dorothy informed the meeting of a couple minor changes she had been working on with Dick Murphy and Mike Pent. The City and County are aware and in agreement with these changes. These minor edits would simplify the verbiage related to the composition of the Task Force and CAC.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Pent/Hutsel) to accept the proposed changes to the JEPA. The motion passed 12-0-2 with Betty Ogilvie and David Boyer abstaining.

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MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Murphy/Pent) to recommend to the Task Force approval of the JEPA with proposed amendments. The motion passed 13-0-1 with David Boyer abstaining.

102. MTRP CAC 2021 Meeting Schedule – Dorothy Leonard, MTRP CAC Chair

The meeting schedule is as follows March 2, May 4, July 6, September 7, and November 2, 2021

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Greenberg/Ogilvie) to approve the meeting dates as presented. The motion passed 13-0-1 with David Boyer abstaining.

WORKSHOP ITEMS- None

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II update – Contractor for SDCWA Rachel Kulis and Construction Manager Aaron Trimm

Project progress report, we are making some connections to the aqueduct pipelines during shutdowns as well as building a flow control facility that we will use to regulate the flows out of the tank structure. The contractor is working and maintaining the schedule. *Outreach progress report*, we are working hard to communicate with the community about closures, but there is an increase in park users. They have created a map of closures that Senior Ranger Robertson has printed out and made available at kiosks. They have also created an interactive map that can be accessed via the water authority website. Lots of very clear signs that show where the trail is closed but are dealing with a lot of vandalism as Ranger Robertson had previously mentioned. Other forms of outreach, they have installed flyer boxes on some of their signs, sending mailers to the Tierrasanta community, briefings to the Tierrasanta Community Council, social media posts, and conducting socially distanced trail outreach letting people know as they are approaching a closed trail to please observe the trail closure signs. There is about a 5% resistance from park users.

302. Old Mission Dam dredging project - *Steve Haupt*

The Dam will not be dredged this year because of our budget situation. It has been put on hold indefinitely until money can be identified. Which means we will need to start the permitting process again once the money has been identified. The project is estimated to cost between five and six hundred thousand dollars.

303. West Sycamore Staging Area CIP update – *Steve Haupt*

Project Manager for Engineering and Capital Projects- Mark Calleran reported that we are in the design consultant procurement process and are currently awaiting a design proposal from KTUA Landscape Architects which is expected to arrive in the middle of the month. The process typically takes six months. Then a year and a half for design and environmental documents followed by another six months for bid and award for the contractor to begin

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construction. The construction is anticipated to take a year. KTUA has been informed that they will need to present to the CAC as well.

304. Stowe Trail status report – Laura Ball

This trail is on the east end of East Elliott and will connect the community of Santee with the Historic Stowe trail which is on MCAS Miramar. It has been labeled a priority by the MTRP Master Plan Update implementation priorities adhoc subcommittee. We have completed an agreement with the Mission Trails Foundation for reimbursement to the City for review of the environmental and permitting for the project which will be done through the Development Services Department (DSD). The permit has been submitted and we are starting to get questions from reviewers from DSD. We expect the environmental process to take six plus months to work its way for approvals.

305. MTRP Antenna Fund balance – Steve Haupt, Open Space Division District Manager

At the end of period three which ended September 30th the Antenna Fund balance was \$985,726. the added revenue for that period was \$35,597 and an expenditure of \$14,738 which left the period three balance of \$1,006,585. \$827.876 is allocated to projects. The bulk of which is to the West Sycamore Staging Area project.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 PM

Next meeting, March 2, 2020, 6:30 PM