

**Minutes of the Meeting of the January 21, 2021
Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, January 21, 2021, via zoom.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Colin Parent, City of La Mesa
Councilmember Raul Campillo, City of San Diego
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee
Councilmember Joe LaCava, City of San Diego
Supervisor Joel Anderson, County of San Diego

Members Absent

Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, County of San Diego

City of San Diego Staff

Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Paul Kilburg, Deputy Director (OCA), Open Space Division
Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Jennifer Canales, Center Director, Mission Trails Regional Park
Laura Ball, Open Space Division Project Officer II
Vicram Vettiyil, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Michael Simonsen, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Justine Murray, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Richard Flahive, Office of Councilmember LaCava

County of San Diego Staff

Jason Hemmens, Director, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department
Michael Kulis, Office of Supervisor Anderson
Matt Sanford, Region Manager, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department

Guests

Rachel Kulis, SDCWA
Aaron Trimm, SDCWA
Cynthia Wootton
Jennifer Morrissey

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard at 10:00 A.M.

Action Items

101. Selection and Appointment of MTRP Task Force Chairperson

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LACAVA/ANDERSON) to appoint Councilmember Campillo to be MTRP Task Force Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

102. Selection and Appointment of MTRP Task Force Vice-Chairperson

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (CAMPILLO/ANDERSON) to appoint Councilmember Parent to be MTRP Task Force Vice-Chairperson. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LEONARD/ANDERSON) to approve the minutes of the January 16, 2020, meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- Councilmember Campillo

- Councilmember thanked all for being a part of the task force and is looking forward to working with everyone. Stated he is dedicated to protecting and enhancing the park for visitors from San Diego and across the world, and that he is honored to be selected to chair the Task Force.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE / MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – Dorothy Leonard

MTRP CAC Report

- The CAC met in January and reviewed the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement. The CAC did suggest some amendments to the agreement that have been incorporated into the document that will be presented today. The CAC looks forward to that document moving forward and getting final approval.

MTRP Foundation Report

- The Foundation and it's staff have been working remotely since the Visitor Center closed in March. Unfortunately, it was necessary to lay off six of the nine part time staff who assisted with the education program. The three remaining staff are the Executive Director, the Office Administrator, and the Events and Communications coordinator. Due to the Visitor Center closure, the gift shop has also been closed. Due to the Pandemic and the closure of the Visitor Center, the Foundation has seen a significant loss of income from Visitor Center rentals and gift shop closure. There is also this year no ability to apply for or get City TOT funds. The Foundation is grateful that individual contributions have been up, but it does not make up for the lost income.
- Virtual programming began in late Spring of 2020, and a new Geology of Mission Trails video has been completed that can be viewed on YouTube. It currently has over 8,000 views. A virtual lecture series was introduced in the Fall and will continue through the Spring. The Foundation is continuing to do what it can to connect with the public virtually.

STAFF REPORTS

Water Department's Lake Murray Report – None

City of Santee Community Services Department – None

MTRP Senior Ranger Report-Ryan Robertson

- A short power point presentation was shown to provide a brief overview of MTRP

Open Space Division Staff Report- Steve Haupt

- I just want to welcome all the new members of the Task Force. The majority of my reporting will come later in the meeting.

COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable)

- Cynthia Wootton expressed concern for some of the declining Oak trees in the park. She asked if there is anything that can be done to reverse the decline. She also wanted to inquire about how to join the MTRP CAC.
- Ryan Robertson provided information about what efforts have been made to determine why some of the Oaks in the park are in decline.
- Dorothy Leonard provided a brief description of the makeup of the CAC and encouraged Ms. Wootton to read the operating rules for the CAC to give her an idea of what she could do or what other group she could join to assist in her endeavor to join the CAC.

ACTION ITEMS

103. Recommendation 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*

- A brief overview of the history of the JEPA was provided. The document being presented today is the result of two years of collaboration between the City and the County that would replace the three existing documents and cover the various aspects of operations and maintenance for Mission Trails Regional Park. The document also provides a definition and responsibility for both the Task Force and the CAC. This is the first time we have been able to comprehensively address the membership of the Task Force and the CAC in one location.
- We ask the Task Force today to consider whether to approve this draft document and then as such advance it to the Committee on the Environment under the City of San Diego City Council. Then forward to the City Council, and then on the County side to bring it forward to the Board of Supervisors.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LACAVA/LEONARD) to approve the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement as written. The motion passed unanimously with ANDERSON abstaining.

104. Appointment/reappointment of MTRP CAC members for terms ending January 2022 – *Councilmember Campillo*

- Approve appointment of Demetrios Sparacino representing the City of El Cajon
- Approve appointment of Marilyn Reed representing Navajo Community Planners
- Approve reappointment of Dorothy Leonard as member at large
- Approve reappointment of David Boyer representing MCAS Miramar
- Approve reappointment of Lane MacKenzie representing MTRP Foundation
- Approve reappointment of Kin Searcy representing Scrips Ranch Civic Association
- Approve reappointment of Noli Zosa representing City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Board and Marcella Bothwell as alternate

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LEONARD/LACAVA) to approve the appointments and reappointments as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

105. Appointment of MTRP CAC chair and vice chair for terms ending January 2022 – *Councilmember Campillo*

- Dorothy Leonard – Chair
- Dick Murphy – Vice Chair

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LACAVA/PARENT) to approve the appointments as listed. The motion passed unanimously.

106. Reappointment of MTRP CAC members for terms ending January 2023 – *Councilmember Campillo*

- Approve reappointment of Nancy Acevedo as member at large
- Approve appointment of Kevin Loomis representing MTRP User Group and Ryan Hartigan as User Group Alternate.
- Approve reappointment of Mickey Zeichick representing San Carlos Area Council and Glen Farber as San Carlos Area Council alternate

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LEONARD/PARENT) to approve the appointments as listed. The motion passed unanimously

107. MTRP Task Force 2021 meeting Schedule – *Councilmember Campillo*

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (PARENT/LEONARD) to approve the meeting schedule as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego County Water Authority Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure II – *Rachel Kulis NV5*

- Aaron Trimm, Senior Engineer and construction manager for County Water Authority and Rachel Kulis provided a power point presentation to the group. The presentation included information about the progress of the project, the reasons the project is needed, and the expected completion date of the project.

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

- The build up of silt behind the dam is an ongoing issue. The area was dredged in 2006 and again in 2016. In 2016, 900 cubic yards of silt was removed at a cost of about \$450,000.00. The current estimate to perform another dredging is between 5 and 6 hundred thousand dollars. Due to budget issues as a result of the pandemic, the dredging project has been put on hold.

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

- Report received from Mark Keller, Engineering and Capital Projects, City of San Diego. Project is in design consultation procurement process currently awaiting a design proposal from KTU&A landscape architects. That proposal is expected any day now. Then the design phase and environmental documents are expected to take one and a half years. Then six months for bid and award. And then one year for construction. Completion is expected to be two and a half or three years from now.

304. Stowe Trail status report – *Laura Ball, Open Space Division, Project Officer II*

- This will be approximately 4,000 feet of trail that will connect existing trails in the Weston Development to the existing trail on MCAS Miramar property. The trail through Miramar then connects to San Diego County’s Goodan Ranch preserve and then into the West Sycamore sub area of MTRP. The current trail alignment will avoid various property issues and was submitted to the City’s Development Services Department in December. Once we receive comments back, we can then begin working on all environmental documents and permits that may be needed.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:19 AM

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, March 18, 2021, 10:00 AM