

Minutes of the Meeting of the November 17, 2016 Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, November 17, 2016, at the Mission Trails Regional Park visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Scott Sherman, City of San Diego
Councilmember Kristine Alessio, City of La Mesa
Councilmember Ronn Hall, City of Santee
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee

Members Absent

Councilmember Lorie Zapf, City of San Diego
Supervisor Dianne Jacob, County of San Diego
Supervisor Dave Roberts, County of San Diego

City of San Diego Staff

Casey Smith, Deputy Director, Open Space Division
Steve Haupt, District Manager, Open Space Division
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Levi Dean, Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Liz Saidkhanian, Office of Councilmember Sherman
Adrian Sevilla, Office of Councilmember Zapf

City of Santee Staff

Bill Maertz, Director, Community Services Department
Marlene Best, City Manager

County of San Diego Staff

Adam Wilson
Courtney Casey

Guests

Richard Thesling, CAC Alternate Member, Tierrasanta Community Council
Jennifer Shultz, Tierrasanta Community Council
Kevin Loomis, San Diego Mountain Biking Association
Stephen Goldfamb

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Councilmember Scott Sherman at 10:05 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on July 21, 2016 were unanimously approved by consent.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Scott Sherman reported that he is busy with end of year business and working with new Councilmembers coming on board. The ongoing road work project along Mission Gorge is an effort to fix and replace a sewer main located 24 feet below the road surface. The construction is supposed to be completed by the end of November.

MTRP CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT – *Dorothy Leonard*

At the September and November meetings the CAC took the following actions:

- Supported staff recommendations for a February 5, 2017, Xterra Mission Gorge Trail Run, their 11th run in the park, and a Children for Children 5K run on April 8, 2017, their 3rd run.
- Recommend Task Force approval of item 102 on today's meeting agenda to name two unnamed trails in the West Fortuna area, and item 103, the FY2018 project funding priorities and future needs list.
- CAC members have expressed concern about the campground reservation system and how confusing and user unfriendly it is. Open Space Division staff is attempting to seek solutions to the problems and are keeping the CAC apprised of their efforts. CAC members are concerned that the campground is losing campers because of the problems with the web site reservation system which is part of the City contract with ActiveNet.

MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – *Dorothy Leonard*

- Education program is going well, with over 3000 students registered so far for this school year.
- Working with Rangers, is designing, and seeking funding for three replacement exhibits in the visitor center – habitats, birds, and the Mission Trails 3-D relief map.

STAFF REPORTS

- A. Water Department's Lake Murray Report – *No Report*
- B. City of Santee Community Services Department – *Bill Maertz*
- C. MTRP Senior Ranger Report – *Ryan Robertson*
 - Ryan introduced himself and provided a brief summary of his employment with the City of San Diego
- D. Open Space Division Staff Report – *Steve Haupt/Casey Smith*
 - Steve became nervous when both Andy Quinn and Chris Zirkle left. They left big shoes to fill. He is happy with the choices that were made to fill the vacancies.
 - Casey informed the Task Force that he started his career with the City as a Park Ranger at Mission Trails 15 years ago. He first promoted to the Senior Park Ranger position at Balboa Park. Casey later promoted to District Manager for the Open Space Maintenance Assessment Districts. He then returned to Balboa Park as the District Manager prior to being promoted to his current position as Open Space Deputy Director.

COMMUNICATIONS - None

ACTION ITEMS

101. MTRP CAC Appointment – *Chairman Sherman*

- User Group representative – Kevin Loomis

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Leonard/Hall) to approve the appointment of Kevin Loomis as the User Group Representative to the MTRP CAC. Motion carried unanimously.

102. Naming unnamed trails in the Fortuna area of the Park – *Ranger Levi Dean*

- What has been called E- Ticket” to be named Soycoot Valley North Alternate
- Per MTRP MPU, existing Soycoot Valley North trail will be closed. At that time, Soycoot Valley North Alternate will become Soycoot Valley North.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Leonard/Alessio) to approve the staff recommendations related to assigning names to unnamed trails in the Fortuna area of the Park. Motion carried unanimously.

103. MTRP FY2017/2018 Project Funding Priorities and Future Needs List – *Dorothy Leonard, CAC Chair*

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Leonard/Hall) to approve the MTRP FY2017/ 2018 Project Funding Priorities and Future needs List. Motion carried unanimously.

104. MTRP Task Force 2017 Meeting Schedule – *Scott Sherman, Chair*

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Alessio/Hall) to approve the MTRP Task Force 2017 Meeting Schedule. Motion carried unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Opening a portion of the Stowe Trail – *Colonel Woodworth, MCAS Miramar*

- Miramar is planning to open the four mile section of Stowe Trail that runs through Federal property to users via a permit system. Miramar staff has been coordinating with Kevin Loomis from the SDMBA on the permit system. Permits would valid for one year and would be required for everyone over the age of sixteen. Those sixteen and under would need to be accompanied by a permit holder. The permits will be free but Miramar will require a permit application, a signed hold harmless agreement, and a completed background check. The trail would be open to only non-motorized conveyances. MP’s will patrol the area and take any enforcement actions deemed necessary. The hope is that the system will be up and running by January 2017.

302. Mission Trails Field Station project update – *Steve Haupt for Jorge Acevedo, City of San Diego Public Works, Engineering and Capital Projects Dept.*

- The design consultant continues to develop design revisions to the canopy’s roof, exterior lighting, and the outdoor gathering area. Upon completion of these revisions, plans will be re-submitted tentatively by November 7, 2016 to development services department for building permitting. It is anticipated that the building permit will be obtained early spring 2017.

303. MTRP Master Plan Update and Natural Resource Management Plan presentation – *Steve Haupt for Jeff Harkness, City of San Diego Planning Dept. / Mark Carpenter, KTU+A*

- The Draft Environmental Impact Report has been completed and is anticipated to be out for public review the latter part of November. The County will be presenting the MPU and NRMP to the Board of Supervisors and has requested review of the EIR prior to distributing it for public review.
- Staff plans on beginning the process of presenting Community Plan Amendments to the various Community Planning Groups in Dec. and January, as well as presenting the MPU to the CAC and Task Force in January of next year. Close of public review of the EIR will be the latter part of January. It is anticipated that the Final Draft of the EIR will be ready to move forward for a recommendation of Community Plan Amendments by the Planning Commission in February. The MPU, NRMP, and

Community Plan Amendments would go to City Council for action in the April/May time frame, as well as to the Board of Supervisors for the MPU and NRMP action.

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM

NEXT MEETING

Thursday, January 19, 2017, 10:00 AM