

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of April 1, 2005**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Pryde
Tanjia Thrun
Gary Ruyle
Betty Dehoney
Dick Barber
Jan and Dave Shaffer
Anne Harvey
Marvin Gerst
Laurilyn Berson
John Degenfelder
Dave Abrams
Ann Gardner
Margaret Schlesinger
Terry Badger
Ben Hillebrecht
Carol Carr
Matt Witman
Nola Michel
Bob McClure
Freda Reid
Chris Khoury
John Ingalls
Devore Smith
Darrell Beck
Arthur Schmitz
Jacqueline Winterer

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
ADA Advisor
American Society of Landscape Architects
Association of Environmental Professionals
Audubon Society
Back Country Horsemen
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Council of Homeowners Association
Del Dios Town Council
Equestrian - Ramona Trails Association
Fairbanks Ranch Association
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
League of Women Voters
Lomas Serenas Homeowner Association
San Diego City Agricultural Advisory Board
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
San Diego County Farm Bureau
San Diego County Trails Council
San Diego Wild Animal Park
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Santa Fe Irrigation District
Sierra Club
Eastern Property Owner
Eastern Property Owner
Coastal Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Dick Bobertz	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Susan Carter	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jan Lines	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Chloe Schmitz	Ramona Resident
Lisa Bartlett	Rancho Santa Fe Resident
Kathy Keehan	San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Pryde convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. at the Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, CA.

Deputy Director Susan Carter took the roll call. A quorum was met. 22 present at roll call and 3 arrived after roll call.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 2/4/05- Anne Gardner requested that the word " vast " on page 2, last paragraph under Project Review Committee Report be removed. Ms. Gardner also requested that the following words be added: "Mr. Benton confirmed that the building height has been reduced" under 1a of the Project Review Report.

Terry Badger made a motion to approve the minutes with correction and Carol Carr seconded.

21 Yes 0 NO 1 abstained.

CHAIR'S REPORT- Chair Pryde said that a newspaper article on the back table talks about all the progress that has been made in property acquisition in the Park. Mr. Pryde said that the publication that The Trust for Public Land distributes nationally highlighted some of the River Park's projects. Chair Pryde reported on a wonderful event that was hosted by the Lagoon Committee unveiling signs on the Grand Ave Bridge. Chair Pryde said that at the last JPA meeting a decision on the Lake Hodges Bridge project was delayed due to the absence of comments from the RB Planning group. Chair Pryde said that we have accepted property from the mitigation on the Helix project in Del Dios. Mr. Pryde said that we recently acquired the Reutter property and there is a house on the property that staff suggested we rent to a River Park ranger, which will strengthen the River Park's presence in the eastern area of the park. Along with the rent there will be maintenance and patrol duties.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT- Director Bobertz said that our Volunteer Coordinator recruited 70 new Trail Patrol volunteers this month and there has been training going on over several weekends. These patrols will help the River Park oversee the miles of trail that are maintained by the rangers.

PUBLIC COMMENT- None

DISCUSSION / ACTION AGENDA

1. Trails Committee Report

- a. **Rick Thompson, City of San Diego Trails Coordinator- presentation on City trail programs and priorities.-** Mr. Thompson said that the City of San Diego had not had a trails coordinator before he took the position. The many trails in the area were not accurately inventoried and his job will be to incorporate the many trails in the City into one Master Plan which he hopes to submit by December 2005. Mr. Thompson said that he will be incorporating all the trails, SDG&E easements, roads and all non motorized areas which is a monumental job as some of the trails are part of housing developments. He spoke of the TransCounty Trail and then some property access issues with all the new development and how the trails system will be viewed overall. Mr. Thompson said that signage might be a way to work out how to use trails on areas that are not proper trails but hikers use on a regular basis. He felt that the maintenance of all the trails would be done by the current rangers and the volunteers that are assigned to those areas.

- b. Bernardo Mountain Field Trip- Carol Carr said that a group of 10 people walked up Bernardo Mountain and discussed the issues that will be of concern to the new trail system for the mountain. She said that the staging area will be up for discussion as there is no good area for parking.
- c. Discussion with Cleveland National Forest- Shawna Anderson said that Chris Nyce, Ranger at the Cleveland National Forest, met with her about the plan for Orosco Ridge and the target shooting site. Ms. Anderson said that the River Park has plans for future trails in the area, and we are investigating having a Memorandum of Understanding with the Forest Service regarding trail planning and maintenance in the Cleveland National Forest. Ms. Anderson said that we have a follow up meeting next week to see the site as it was not possible to see the ridge on the first trip. Ranger Nyce said that they have no intention of stopping the target shooting in the area until there is a replacement site for the target practice.

2. Lake Hodges Issues

- a. County Water Authority project-how it will affect the Coast to Crest Trail- Shawna Anderson said that during construction of the County Water Authority project, a 4 acre staging area will be used while the construction is going on. There will be large pipes that will tunnel under Del Dios Hwy to connect Lake Hodges and the Olivenhain reservoir. Ms. Anderson said that the Coast to Crest Trail goes through both of the areas under construction and the Water Authority has plans to reroute the trail during the construction. It is possible that they may have to close the trail on occasion, or for certain periods of time, but they have said they will minimize closure to the extent feasible.
- b. Status of Windsurfing activity- Shawna Anderson said that the Windsurfing area has been leased out to the Water Authority so that they can construct their project which should be completed in 2008. Chris Khoury said that this windsurfing area is the best in Southern California. Mr. Khoury said that the San Diego Windsurfing Association is working with the Water Authority to keep the windsurfing open through the summer. Mr. Khoury made a motion that the CAC recommend the JPA makes every effort possible, working with the County Water Authority and the City of San Diego, to maintain recreational use at Lake Hodges during the pipeline construction project. This includes keeping the Lake Hodges North Trail open to the dam, and maintaining access for windsurfing. John Degenfelder seconded.

Vote 19 Yes 5 No

- c. Discuss letter from Del Dios Town Council re concerns about the SDRP Concept Plan in Lake Hodges. Director Bobertz said that the Del Dios Town Council has concerns about the suggestion to have the Lake open year round for recreational use. Mr. Bobertz said that he plans to meet with the Town Council to make sure that any misunderstanding about the Concept Plan could be addressed. Mr. Bobertz said that he would like to know if it is the intent of the town council for the JPA to change the Concept Plan.

Laurilyn Berson said that the concerns are in the boating that is open for 7 days a week and the general disturbance to the owners plus the parking on the streets.

3. **Draft Work Program for Fiscal Year 2005/06** Director Bobertz said that 3 things were added this year to the work program due to the fact that we have had 3 years with no increase in our operational budget. The first addition is number 2.2 Coordinate with the County and City staff to identify a trail alignment in Artesian Road/San Dieguito Road area as west extension of Crosby Estate Trail, second is 2.7: Repair trail damage due to floods, three: 6.1 Develop biological baseline information for new acquisitions. Deputy Director Carter said the Nature Conservancy has entered into contracts with the US Geological Service for USGS to do baseline biological studies in the County-owned Santa Ysabel Ranch, which is adjacent to our recent property acquisitions. Ms. Carter said that we have asked them to expand the studies and they seem to be interested.

John Degenfelder made a motion to recommend approval of the Work Program to the JPA Board. Chris Khoury seconded.

Vote 24 Yes 0 NO

INFORMATION

4. Progress Reports on Ongoing Projects (Oral Reports)

- a. **Wetland Restoration Project /Coastal Trail** – Director Bobertz said that we have received a Site Development Permit from the City of San Diego and it did not have to go through the planning commission. Coastal Commission will be the last to issue a permit, probably at their July meeting.
- b. **Del Dios Gorge Trail-** Deputy Director Carter said that we are working with our engineers on alternatives for the best alignment that will have the least environmental impacts, specifically to find the best location for the bridge that will cross the creek from the north side to access the trail on the south side.
- c. **Property Acquisition-** Director Bobertz said that the Union Tribune article has summed up the land acquisitions the River Park has acquired over the last few years. Mr. Bobertz said that we have to apply for more grants for funding from Prop 50. The next acquisition is the East Sutherland parcel, which the Conservancy is fundraising to acquire. Chris Khoury said that they are trying to arrange some tours for potential donors to see the property.

5. Communications-None

Communications Regarding Activities Proposed in the River Valley

Chair Pryde adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m.