

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of October 7, 2005**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Margaret Schlesinger  
Gary Ruyle  
Betty Dehoney  
Dick Barber  
Don Miller  
Jan Fuchs  
Marvin Gerst  
Laurilyn Berson  
John Degenfelder  
Martha Mc Carter  
Ann Gardner  
Jack Shelver  
Margaret Schlesinger  
Terry Badger  
Joe Howland  
Liz Avalon  
Ben Hillebrecht  
Carol Carr  
Matt Witman  
Bob McClure  
Joe Bruder-Schwab  
Bill Sherrard  
Tom Cook  
Devore Smith  
Darrell Beck  
Arthur Schmitz  
Jacqueline Winterer

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Vice-Chair  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
Association of Environmental Professionals  
Audubon Society  
California Native Plant Society  
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  
Julian Community Planning Group  
League of Women Voters  
Lomas Serenas Homeowner Association  
Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board  
Rancho Santa Fe Association  
San Diego City Agricultural Advisory Board  
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition  
San Diego County Farm Bureau  
San Diego Wild Animal Park  
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee  
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy  
San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association  
Sierra Club  
Eastern Property Owner  
Eastern Property Owner  
Coastal Property Owner

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Susan Carter	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jan Lines	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Freda Reid	San Dieguito Lagoon Committee, Alt.
Deborah Devoe	Interested citizen

**ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTION**

Vice-Chair Schlesinger convened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. at the Hope Methodist Church Covenant Hall , 16550 Bernardo Heights Parkway, Rancho Bernardo. She announced that Chair Pryde was out of town and she would chair the meeting.

Deputy Director Susan Carter took the roll call. A quorum was met.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES July 8<sup>th</sup> 2005-** Jacqueline Winterer made a motion to approve the minutes and Carol Carr seconded. All in favor

**CHAIR'S REPORT-**Vice Chair Schlesinger said that Chair Pryde had emailed some members of the CAC that the Banner Grade windmill project was withdrawn.

She reported that Chair Pryde had appointed a nominating committee for the Chair and Vice Chair of the CAC consisting of Margaret Schlesinger , Carol Carr and Terry Badger. She said that she would not continue in the position of vice-chair.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT-** Deputy Director Carter thanked Terry Badger for making arrangements for the CAC to meet at this location. Ms. Carter said that a member had contacted her that he had not been able to get the agenda downloaded from the internet and she wanted to know if anyone else was having similar problems. No one was.

Ms. Carter noted that the JPA Board meeting in September adopted some resolutions for grants for the Lake Sutherland East property, and for implementation of the Wetland Treatment Ponds at the lagoon. Another resolution approved was the lease with option to purchase for Sikes Adobe.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Arthur Schmitz said that someone had asked him if it was legal for the CAC to meet in a church, due to the separation of Church and State. He said that we are an advisory group to a government agency and thought we should get advice from our attorney. Deputy Director Carter said she would check with the JPA's attorney on the matter.

Terry Badger said that the meeting place was on church property but not in the sanctuary. Many groups meet in these meeting rooms without having a problem.

Darrell Beck said that the Kiwanis Club put on a function at one of the trail staging areas and did not obtain permission from the river park. He said that their group was approached by a ranger and informed that they should obtain permission for group events. Darrell asked how he might find out the correct way to have an event in the future. Deputy Director Carter asked him to call the office and talk to our office manager Jan, and she will put him in touch with the appropriate person.

Marvin Gerst announced that he was at a meeting of the San Dieguito Planning Board and they talked about the County of San Diego's plans to widen the roads in Rancho Santa Fe and other areas. Representatives from the County were there to present their ideas for future road widening. The purpose of the new plan is to make the traffic flow more freely.

Marvin Gerst made the suggestion that we revisit the meeting place of the CAC and return to Solana Beach for the people who have to drive over to Rancho Bernardo. He requested to have it on the agenda for review at the next CAC meeting. Vice Chair Schlesinger reminded Marvin that this meeting place has been

discussed many times and she hopes that it will stay in Rancho Bernardo. There was general consensus that people were not interested in changing the meeting location again, with several pointing out that Rancho Bernardo is a central location that accommodates people coming from further to the east.

### **DISCUSSION/ ACTION**

1. Project review Committee Report

a. Proposed Changes to Project Review Policy-

***Recommendation: Discuss and make recommendation to the JPA Board***

Ms. Fuchs discussed the proposed changes outlined in the staff report.

Jacqueline Winterer made a motion to make recommendations to the JPA on the changes. Anne Gardner seconded the motion. All in favor. Ms. Fuchs said that the next PRC meeting will be on October 17<sup>th</sup> at the Fairbanks Ranch Association office.

2. Trails Committee Report Carol Carr said that Trails Committee has been working on a strategic plan for the gaps in the trail system. The Trails Committee feels that when they have the trail opportunities and constraints on paper they will have a better idea as to where to place their priorities. She said that there will be a celebration event for the Trans-County Trail from 11:00 to Noon on Thursday November 3<sup>rd</sup> at Torrey Pines State Park.

3. San Dieguito Watershed Management Plan Presentation- Deputy Director Carter introduced Cathy Cibit and Jeff Pasek of the San Diego City Water Department. They gave a PowerPoint presentation on the watershed workshops that they have been having on the water facilities and resources in the Focused Planning area. After the presentation, questions were asked and answered on the presentation. Cathy urged everyone to fill out and submit a questionnaire regarding their priorities for watershed protection.

4. Fairbanks Ranch Country Club-Proposed Purchase of Property-

***Recommendation: discuss and make recommendation to the JPA Board.***

Principal Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson said that the JPA Board had not accepted the CAC's previous recommendation to send a letter to the San Diego City Council urging them not to sell the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club property. Instead, the JPA board said that the JPA's objectives for the use of the property, and how it achieves the goals and objectives of the River Park's Concept plan was more of a concern than who owns the property. The Board directed staff to prepare a list of objectives. Staff has developed the list and provided them in today's agenda packet for review and discussion.

Jacqueline Winterer stated that the lease should be renegotiated, and that the property should not be sold. There are restrictions on the property already in the lease that should be renegotiated due to the fact that the lessee had not fulfilled their obligation to the trail system. Ms. Winterer also said that

we need to reaffirm that the 294 acres north of the river are left undisturbed for flood control purposes. She said we need to see an exact map of the acquisition proposal.

There was general discussion whether the CAC would want to work on a list of objectives for a potential future sale, or simply oppose the sale.

Marvin Gerst made a motion to respectfully request that the JPA support continued public ownership of the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club, and request the City to enforce current terms of the lease and conditions of approval of the original project. He said that it should be emphasized that eventually the property would be publicly accessible and could become a municipal golf course at the end of the lease, because at the end of the lease period the property reverts back to public ownership. He noted that it is inadvisable to sell an asset for short-term gain. Jacqueline Winterer seconded.

Vote 21 Yes 0 No 4 Abstain

5. Consider Agricultural Lease Renewal on Boudreau Property-

***Recommendation: Consider one-year agricultural lease renewal on the Boudreau property to Leslie Farms.***

Deputy Director Carter said that when the JPA purchased the Boudreau property the tomato field lease was already in place. The plan is to convert this property to wetlands in the future but at this point we are not ready to do that part of the wetland project so it is beneficial to our budget to continue the lease on the tomato fields to supplement our income.

Marvin Gerst said that he is opposed to the continued lease due to the fact that the debris left at the site is an eyesore and he is concerned about hazardous chemicals on the property. Jacqueline Winterer said she was concerned about the gases that are used as a pesticide. Matt Witman said that the plastic that is laid down over the crops is done to hold in the gases and reduce the impact.

The question was asked whether this one year lease renewal would be repeated for long in the future. Shawna Anderson responded that it would probably come back for one additional year renewal before the plans are completed for the wetland restoration on the project site.

Matt Witman made a motion to renew the lease next year. Ben Hillebrecht seconded.

Vote 17 Yes 4 No 2Abstained

### INFORMATION

6. Progress Reports on Ongoing Projects (Oral Reports)

- a. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge- Deputy Director Carter said that the City Council approved the Site Development Permit and denied the appeal of the San Pasqual Planning Group. However, the Council conditioned the project on being closed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. The City of San Diego municipal code would have to be changed in order for the Water Department to allow the bridge to be open 24 hours. Ms. Carter said that although we have the site development permit we have determined that the funds we have are insufficient to build it. We are looking for additional funds.

- b. Wetland Restoration Project /Coastal Trail- Deputy Director Carter said that the Coastal Commission meeting will be on Oct 12th at the Marriott Hotel in San Diego and they will be considering the Coastal Development permit for the Wetland Restoration Project. One issue they are considering is the equestrian use and how far on the trail the horses can go. Coastal Commission staff is conditioning the project on equestrian use stopping at the freeway (just south of Albertsons, not all the way down to the undercrossing). The wetland treatment ponds are another issue for the Coastal Commission and they are asking for mitigation for the treatment ponds which could cost the River Park considerable funds not already allocated for the project.

Vice Chair Schlesinger adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

DRAFT