

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of May 2, 2003**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Pryde
Dick Barber
Jan Shaffer
Don Miller
Anne Harvey, Alt.
Ken Smith
John Degenfelder
Dave Abrams
Anne Gardner
Margaret Schlesinger
Terry Badger
Larry Paris
Ben Hillebrecht
Kathy Keehan, Alt.
Nola Michel
Freda Reid
Martha McCarter
Tim Read, Alt.
Tom Cook
John Ingalls
Devore Smith
Byron Anderson, Alt.
Darrell Beck, Alt.
Arthur Schmitz
John Stewart

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
Palomar Audubon Society
Back Country Horsemen
California Native Plant Society
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Del Dios Town Council
Ramona Trails Association
Fairbanks Ranch Association
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
League of Women Voters
Lomas Serenas Homeowner Association
Rancho Santa Fe Association
San Diego City Agricultural Advisory Board
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
San Diego County Trails Council
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
San Dieguito Planning Group
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
San Pasqual Battlefield Volunteer Association
Santa Fe Irrigation District
Sierra Club
Surfrider Foundation
Eastern Property Owner
Eastern Property Owner
Del Dios 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
Chloe Schmitz	Ramona Resident
Jeff DeMeester	Ramona Resident

ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Pryde convened the meeting at 10:05 a.m. at the Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center, San Diego, CA 92128.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES 4/4/03

John Stewart made a motion to approve the minutes, all in favor.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Pryde reported that the Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley are hosting a forum on the Wetlands Restoration Project on May 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. at The Powerhouse in Del Mar. He also clarified that the times listed in the questionnaire that was included in today's agenda packet was assuming a Friday meeting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Bobertz reported that a meeting had been held regarding the City of Poway's proposed trail connection to the Coast to Crest Trail via Heritage Ranch Estates, and most of the major impediments had been removed. He said that River Park staff had walked the trail right-of-way located on the north side of the river next to Fairbanks Polo Club. He said that the conditions on the Fairbanks Ranch Country Club project required FRCC to maintain the streambed, and he said that he had noted that the streambed was filled with tamarisk. He also reported that the Regional Water Quality Control Board had asserted jurisdiction over the project. Director Bobertz reminded CAC members that they are invited to come to tomorrow's Volunteer Appreciation Event at the Wild Animal Park.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Stewart said that he had been working on the Del Dios watershed lots issue and would like to report on this matter to the CAC at the June meeting.

ACTION AGENDA

1. Report from Project Review Committee

Consideration of Open Space Zone Change.-Shawna Anderson reported that at the last CAC meeting, the CAC had voted to oppose general upzoning from the OS zone in the County, but had requested staff to further research open space zoning issues in the other cities. She referred to the attachment in the agenda packet that explained how open space zones are handled in the various jurisdictions. Margaret Schlesinger moved approval of the Project Review Committee's original proposal to not support requests for zone changes when the subject land is zoned for passive recreational or natural open space use. John Stewart seconded. Kathy Keehan said she was concerned that such a policy could reduce our flexibility. She suggested that our intent would be clearer if we added the phrase "to a more intensive use" to the wording of the proposed policy. Margaret accepted the amendment to the motion. Vote 17 in favor, 4 opposed, 1 abstained.

Dorn Project Time Extension. It was reported that this item had been continued by the City of Escondido.

Cell Tower Criteria There was general discussion about the purpose of the list. It was agreed that the list was actually a Wireless Facilities checklist, not Cell Tower criteria. Terry Badger moved approval of the list as a checklist for the Project Review Committee's use. Freda Reid seconded. 19 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained.

2. CAC Meeting Time Change

CAC members submitted their responses to the questionnaire. Susan Carter tabulated the results. She reported that the majority favored the 10 a.m. time, with the second favorite being our former meeting time of 1:30 p.m. Friday was distinctly favored as the meeting day. John Degenfelder suggested that perhaps the meetings could alternate between mornings and afternoons. The general consensus was to keep the meeting time at 10 a.m., as voted on at the April meeting. Margaret Schlesinger said that she was concerned that Jan Fuchs can never attend a 10 a.m. meeting, and she is critical because she is the chair of the Project Review Committee. She said that Jan would be able to come to an 11 a.m. meeting. Chair Pryde suggested that we put Project Review Committee items at the end of the agenda, and deal with them when Jan arrives.

3. Camp Hope

Chair Pryde said that this item was on the agenda at the request of Art Schmidt at last month's meeting. The proposed project, which would be a retreat for abused children and was championed by City Attorney Casey Gwinn, has received approval in concept from the City of San Diego Land Use & Housing Committee and a lease had been granted by the City Council to the group for planning purposes and for temporary uses. No plans are available yet for review. Jeff DeMeester, the concessionaire at Lake Sutherland spoke to the CAC. He showed maps that depicted where the facility was proposed to be located. He also said that temporary camping is being proposed for this summer. He explained that there are a number of problems associated with the proposed project. It is unclear to him whether the project is subject to other permitting requirements. Art Schmitz interjected that it's in the lease. Mr. DeMeester said that originally they had proposed a dry septic system, but that it had been rejected, so now they are proposing leach fields, but the health code requirement is that leach fields be 1,000 feet from a water source. Mr. DeMeester reported that his concession contract had been terminated effective May 31st, and he believed it was because of his objection to this project. Darrell Beck said that this is an example of why he had opposed the San Pasqual Academy. It sets a precedent. This project should have to get a Major Use Permit from the County. He said that the Ramona Planning Group had voted unanimously to oppose the project until they see plans, and that the project should go through the County planning process. Darrell Beck made a motion to oppose the temporary use and the concept of the project until we get a formal plan and the appropriate laws and regulations are complied with. Kathy Keehan suggested that it be worded that we would not support the project until we see the plans. Chair Pryde reminded the CAC that the CAC does not send letters itself, it makes recommendations to the JPA Board. He also said that staff had reminded him that it was customary for the applicant to be given an opportunity to present their side, and he said this was a good point, and suggested that this item should be continued until next month. Several speakers rejected this notion. Darrell said it was important to take action now to emphasize that

there should be no forward progress until plans can be reviewed. Shawna Anderson read the re-worded motion, "Recommend opposition to the project and the temporary uses until the plans and scoping letter are presented to the CAC". Vote 20 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained.

INFORMATION

4. Status Reports on Ongoing Projects (Oral Reports)

- a. Starwood Trail Construction/Maintenance- Director Bobertz reported that Starwood has offered \$30,000 for a trail maintenance endowment. He said he will be recommending to the JPA Board that they accept this as a resolution of the long-standing disagreement, so that Starwood will move forward with construction.
- b. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge- Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the US Fish & Wildlife Service has determined that a higher level of federal environmental review must be undertaken. She said that this may delay the project by a year.
- c. Coastal Wetland Restoration Project- Mr. Bobertz gave another reminder about the May 8 forum at The Powerhouse.
- d. Sikes Adobe Restoration- Deputy Director Carter reported that the County Television Network was filming the progress of the restoration project and would be showing it at the end of the restoration.
- e. Property Acquisition-Director Bobertz reported that The Trust for Public Land was assisting the River Park with the potential acquisition of some key properties in the east county area.

5. Communications Regarding Activities Proposed in the River Valley

John Degenfelder said that he had made a presentation to the County Parks Committee about Old Survey 97. He said this route came into the San Pasqual Valley just on the north side of Santa Maria Creek.

Chair Pryde said he had a couple of items in mind for future agendas. 1) a proposal by conservation groups regarding Pamo Valley, specifically to have it named for Emily Durbin, an activist who was critical to the preservation of the valley when it was being proposed as a reservoir site, but has since passed away. And 2) the Board of Supervisor's action about trails that become roads (RS2477).

John Steward reported that he had given a presentation about Lake Hodges to the San Pasqual Planning Group. He said its level is down over 25% from last year.

Freda Reid reported that the river mouth is closed again.

Chair Pryde adjourned the meeting at 12 noon.