AGENDA
SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

10:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.
Friday, September 11, 2015

Location: San Rafael Parish.
Pastoral Center, Rooms D & E
(The Pastoral Center building is located on the south side of the parking lot)
17252 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo
(north of Rancho Bernardo Drive)

In order to conduct the meetings effectively, the Chair has asked the Citizens Advisory Committee appointees to please sit at the front of the room. Alternates (who are not sitting in for the regular appointee) and others present are invited to sit in the rows behind the committee. Discussion during the meeting will be conducted by the appointees. Alternates and others are welcome to address the committee during the public comment period or if recognized by the Chair during the meeting. Speaker slips are available. It is important that CAC members comply with the Chair’s Meeting Procedures and maintain decorum and politeness at all times. A quorum is a simple majority of current members. **The Chair cannot start the meeting until a quorum is present. PLEASE ARRIVE BY 10:25 A.M.** The CAC may take action on any item listed on the Consent or Discussion/Action agenda, but only when a quorum is present. If a quorum is temporarily lost during the meeting, no further discussion will take place until the quorum is regained. If the quorum is not regained, the meeting will be adjourned. **Please advise the Chair at the beginning of the meeting if you must leave before 12:15 p.m.**

NOTICE: Agenda packets are distributed by e-mail only. If you do not have an e-mail address, please contact the office at 858-674-2270 to make alternative arrangements.

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Roll Call and Introductions
Chair

Late arrivals should speak to staff to make sure their attendance is noted.

Approval of June 5, 2015 Minutes
Chair

Chair’s Report
Chair

Executive Director’s Report
Staff

a. Review and Comment on P15-01 to be Adopted at 9/18 JPA Meeting
b. Review and Comment on Interim Interpretive Feature and Programming Directive

Public Comment

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Committee Reports
   a. Project Review Committee
   b. Trails Committee

INFORMATION

2. Report on Osuna Valley Bridge Feasibility Study

3. Park Project Status (oral)
   a. Lagoon Ranger Station
   b. Pamo Valley Trail

4. Communications An opportunity for any CAC member or the public to bring to the CAC’s attention a project or activity not reviewed by the Project Review Committee in their reports

Adjournment

If you have any questions, please call Kevin McKernan at (858) 674-2270.
SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of June 5, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Golich                  CAC, Chair
Phil Pryde                  Audubon Society
Deborah DeBow               California Native Plant Society
Linda Oster                 Del Dios Town Council
Jeff Barnouw                Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Leonard Haynes              Julian Community Planning Group
Margaret Schlesinger        League of Women Voters
Dorothy McLin               Lomas Serenas Property Owners
Robin Kaufman               Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board
Larry Roberts               Rancho Santa Fe Association
Carol Carr                  San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
Alice Brown                 San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Mid Hoppenrath              San Dieguito Planning Group
Dave Kreitzer               San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Bill Michalsky              Sierra Club
Pat Whitt                   Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Colleen Bradley             Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation
Arthur Schmitz              Eastern Property Owner
Brant Bassett               Central Property Owner
Cory Ha’o                   Coastal Property Owner
Terry Badger                Central Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Mark Ochenduszko            San Dieguito River Park JPA
Kevin McKernan              San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson              San Dieguito River Park JPA
Brenda Miller               San Dieguito River Park JPA
Dave Grosch                 Poway City Council JPA Board Member

Roll Call and Introductions

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 10:32 a.m. at the San Rafael Parish, 17352 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo.

Office Manager Brenda Miller took the roll call. A quorum was met with 18 members in attendance.
Approval of Minutes: March 6, 2015

Carol Carr made the motion to approve the minutes of March 6, 2015 and Phil Pryde seconded the motion. Robin Kaufman and Coleen Bradley abstained. All others in favor.

Chair’s Report

Chair Golich introduced the new Executive Director, Kevin McKernan. Kevin has six years experience as an executive officer in two state conservancies and is currently the Executive Director of the San Diego River Conservancy. Kevin will begin as Executive Director of the San Dieguito River Park JPA on June 29. Kevin graduated in 1996 from Humboldt State with a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resource Recreation Management. Chair Golich reported that at the May 15 JPA Board meeting the FY 13-14 audit was received, the Board approved grants to purchase two vans for the Watershed Explorer Program, discussed Lagoon Ranger Station plans, and in closed session agreed to extend an offer of employment to Kevin McKernan. Chair Golich thanked Mark Ochenduszko for his expertise in managing the River Park for the last several months.

Executive Director’s Report

Interim Executive Director Ochenduszko reported that the JPA Board approved the budget for the FY 15-16 year, approved the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement and have taken the agreement to their jurisdictions for approval. Interim Executive Director Ochenduszko stated that the 50 year Agreement has been approved by the Cities of Del Mar, Escondido, Poway and Solana Beach and noted that the City of San Diego is approving the agreement as an ordinance and that the JEPA will go into effect the end of July. The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy and the San Dieguito River Park are working with SDG&E to have SDG&E acquire environmental credits on land called Fenton North in San Pasqual Valley. Staff is working with the Rancho Santa Fe Homeowners Association to acquire an easement on Rancho Santa Fe HOA property. Interim Executive Director Ochenduszko expressed his appreciation to the CAC stating that he has enjoyed his work at the River Park.

Public Comment – No public comment.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Committee Reports

   a. Project Review Committee

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the next meeting will be held June 15 and there are no new projects being reviewed at this time.
b. Trails Committee

Carol Carr reported that June 6 is National Trails Day promoted by American Hiking Society.

2. Briefing on Watershed Explorers Program - Interpretive Ranger Leana Bulay showed a Power Point presentation of the Watershed Explorers Program. The program partners San Dieguito River Park with San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, Volcan Mountain Foundation, Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead, and San Diego Archeological Center to teach underserved children about the importance of the San Dieguito River Watershed. The partners are working together to acquire grants to purchase two 15 passenger vans to transport students for this program. Van drivers will need a special driver’s license. The vans will be available to partner organizations to use when not being used for the Watershed Explorers Program and the vans will be 4 wheel drive.

3. Announcement of New Executive Director – Interim Executive Director Ochenduszko introduced Kevin McKernan the new Executive Director. Executive Director McKernan stated he has experience in land acquisitions, trail planning, restoration projects and is excited to join the San Dieguito River Park JPA.

4. Update on Lagoon Boardwalk and South Overflow Lot Restoration – Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson provided an update on the Lagoon Boardwalk and the South Overflow Lot Restoration explaining the events that led to the compromise the JPA Board voted for at a special meeting April 8, 2015. Ms. Anderson showed diagrams of the existing boardwalk area and the Conceptual Phase 2 SOL restoration plan with modified boardwalk. She stated that the only JPA expense would be the cost to remove the boardwalk planks for reuse on the Del Mar River Path Expansion. The restoration will begin in the fall of 2015 and is expected to be completed by May or June of 2016. Ms. Anderson also explained the location of the Coast to Crest Trail in the restoration project area. There was member discussion regarding the elevation of the boardwalk and viewing platform, the use of the boardwalk planks, and the cost and timing of the project.

5. Report on Status of Coast to Crest Trail – Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson gave a Power Point Presentation on the status of the Coast to Crest Trail. Ms. Anderson explained that the San Dieguito River is 55 miles long however, the Coast to Crest Trail is 71 miles long. Ms. Anderson stated that 45 miles of the trail are complete, 5 miles are in the progress of being completed and there are 21 miles of gaps. Ms. Anderson explained the status of the entire trail from Del Mar to Volcan Mountain.

6. Update on San Dieguito River Park Coast Ranger Station – Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the approval of the Coast Ranger Station is on the California Coastal Commission hearing agenda for the June 10 meeting in Newport Beach. California Coastal
Commission staff has recommended approval and the item may be on the Consent Agenda. Ms. Anderson said she will attend the hearing and be prepared to speak if necessary. Ms. Anderson stated it has been difficult process to get the coastal development permit due to the location of the future interpretive center. Ms. Anderson showed a diagram of the planned Ranger Station. The Park Master Plan includes the Ranger Station (called the park maintenance facility) and an interpretive center. Ms. Anderson explained the deed restriction on the property with the exceptions of the Coast to Crest Trail, the restoration of the lagoon area, and the future interpretive center and park maintenance facility in the northwestern 6 acres of the property. An amendment to the deed restriction was received to build the Birdwing because the Birdwing is an outdoor facility. In 2012 an architect team designed an interpretive center located between the Birdwing and the Ranger Station however this location would require an additional deed restriction. The application for the Ranger Station permit started a dialog with the California Coastal Commission regarding the location of the future interpretive center. Architect plans have been drawn to show the future expansion of the Ranger Station to include the interpretive center. The JPA is not committed to the Ranger Station expansion plan to include the interpretive center and in the future may try to place the interpretive center in a different location. This plan will allow the JPA to get the permit for the Ranger Station at this time. Payment will be made with a construction loan secured through annual payments from Southern California Edison.

INFORMATION

7. Communications

Cory Ha’o stated that regarding the Reach the Beach topic, the horses on the beach subject is before the Del Mar City Council and has been deferred to the San Dieguito Lagoon Committee, regarding health and safety concerns. The Rancho Del Mar project, 20 acres next to Polo Field that is used for parking, is a concern because of the sensitive habitat issue in the area and the zoning of the property. A meeting is scheduled with the developer on June 15. The Polo Field lease is on the Carmel Valley Planning Board meeting regarding the intended use of the property. The concerns are traffic, parking and days of use.

Adjournment

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2015.
POLICY NO. P15-01

POLICY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

BOARD AND STAFF COMMUNICATIONS RELATED TO LAND USE PROJECTS

PURPOSE

On April 17th, 2015, the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority (JPA) Board of Directors (Board) adopted the AMENDED AND RESTATED JOINT EXERCISE OF POWERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO AND THE CITIES OF DEL MAR, ESCONDIDO, POWAY, SAN DIEGO AND SOLANA BEACH CREATING THE SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY (JEPA). It became in full effect once each member agency’s governing body approved and executed the JEPA. In the case of the City of San Diego, the final agency to execute the JEPA, City Ordinance O-2015-114 was adopted by the City Council on June 30th, 2015, which authorized the Mayor to execute the JEPA on behalf of the City. The Ordinance took effect 30 days after City Council adoption, on or about July 30th, 2015.

Section 11(b) of the JEPA states, “The Board shall review and revisit the Board Policy No. P90-1 adopted on May 18, 1990 and Communication Policy No. P14-01, adopted June 20, 2014 within 60 days of the Effective Date of this Agreement.” This policy is intended to comply with this provision in the JEPA.

This Policy combines and supersedes existing Board Policies: P90-1 PROJECT REVIEW AND COMMENT (as revised through 2005); P96-2 ABSTENTION ON LAND USE PROJECTS; and P-14-01 COMMUNICATION. Each of these policies address separate but related procedures for JPA Board, staff and Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC). This Policy incorporates the restated language in the aforementioned policies as well as amended language where necessary as directed by the 2015 JEPA or Board direction. Combining the aforementioned policies into one policy will give the Board, staff and CAC comprehensive guidance on how each body communicates internally and clarify how the Board will officially convey agency comments related to land use projects that affect the purposes of San Dieguito River Park.

The specific purpose section of the following restated and amended policies has not been restated here, but rather can be found in their original form.

POLICY – ABSTENTION ON LAND USE PROJECTS (originally adopted 1/19/96 as P96-2)

It is the Policy of the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority JPA that Board members look first to the adopted policies of his or her own member agency for direction regarding participation in the JPA’s review and comment on privately initiated land use development projects over which the member agency has land use decision making authority.

In the absence of adopted member agency policy, it is the policy of the San Dieguito River Valley Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority JPA that Board members representing
the JPA member agency which has final land use authority should abstain from voting on privately initiated land use development projects when they come before the JPA Board for review and comment to the land use agency. This policy would not require Board members to leave the room or refrain from discussion. This policy would not affect Board members’ participation in park planning or voting on public agency development or planning proposals or JPA initiated plans and projects.

All comment letters approved by the Board will clearly reflect the Board members present and absent at the meeting including the votes by each Board member and abstentions.

POLICY – PROJECT REVIEW AND COMMENT (originally adopted 5/18/90 as amended)

It is the policy of the JPA that the focus of the JPA and CAC efforts should be limited to implementing the goals and objectives of the Park. The JPA and the CAC will review and comment, when appropriate, on only those projects which are within the focused planning area, contiguous or immediately adjacent to the focused planning area and/or have a direct impact on the Park. Comments will be confined to the relationship of the project to the Park and any impact it may have on park plans, goals and objectives.

Members of the JPA and the CAC may comment on projects outside of the park which do not directly impact the park as individuals only or as representatives of other organizations. In no case are they to represent themselves as speaking for the JPA or the CAC.

When a project has no significant impact on the park, and no comments by the JPA are deemed to be necessary, it may be handled administratively or at the committee level and not taken to the JPA Board. A project need not be referred to the Board where staff or the Executive Director or the JPA PRC committee determines the project does not impact the focused planning area, or when staff or the JPA PRC committee determines the project clearly falls within policies the Board has previously adopted or policy statements the Board has previously issued, the Executive Director has the discretion to authorize comments that refer to such policies or previously authorized Board comments. Any member of the CAC or JPA who believes that the project needs further review may appeal to the JPA PRC which will determine if further review is merited.

This policy is not intended to restrict JPA staff interaction with potential project proponents that seek early input from JPA staff on the potential effects that their project may have on the Park. Planning department staff from the agencies who have final land use decision making authority, regularly seek input from JPA staff and often direct project proponents to consult with JPA staff early in their project planning to discuss potential conflicts and design modifications related to existing Park plans and policies. These early consultation communications do not represent the JPA, JPA Board nor the member agencies in an official capacity. This level of communication may be in verbal, written or electronic form and will clearly state that any official comments by the JPA may be forthcoming pursuant to formal Board action. Such communications will also follow the protocol outlined in the Communication Policy below.
COMMUNICATION POLICY (originally adopted June 20, 2014)

It is the policy of the San Dieguito River Park Joint Powers Authority (JPA) that all communications commenting on private or public projects that are sent out by staff but have not been approved by the JPA Board will be sent on letterhead that does not include Board member names in the masthead and will clearly state that they are staff level comments and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the JPA Board until authorized by Board vote. Communications commenting on private or public projects that are approved by the JPA Board will be sent on letterhead that includes Board member names in the masthead, and the communication will list specifically how each Board member voted—including members present/absent, or voted no, or and abstained. The Board’s vote results and information will be included in the communication if approved. The Board may direct staff to include approved Board minutes for the meeting in which the vote was taken.
To: JPA staff
From: Kevin McKernan
Re: Interim Interpretive Feature and Programming Directive

September 3, 2015

I have found that our education, outreach, interpretation and other related programming has evolved over several years, has experienced great success and receives a wide array of support from the community. However, it has come to my attention that we lack an established policy guiding how we develop and/or accept proposals for new interpretive features and programming for the River Park.

Therefore, I am directing staff to develop a policy that will guide current and future interpretive features and programming in the River Park as well as follow the these interim directives while the policy is being developed:

SDRP Developed Interpretive Features and Programming

- Maintain existing inventory of features and identify actions for upkeep, replacement and removal as necessary.
- Continue development of interpretive features and programming as required by outside funding sources such as grant and donations

Citizen and Volunteer Proposed Features and Programming

- Proposed programs must fulfill a need or meet an educational goal and be in line with the River Park mission to be considered.
- Advise any citizen or volunteer proposed projects that a written proposal should be submitted to staff for review and consideration
- Staff shall consult with the Executive Director initially to discuss the implications of outside proposals. Staff should be prepared to present estimated budget and staff capacity to accept outside proposals
- If the Executive Director authorizes the staff to pursue outside proposals, staff will work with the citizen/volunteer to define a workplan that will be agreed to by both parties
- Research sources must to be cited
- When developing new educational programs the information needs to be peer reviewed
- If the information is debatable and/or sensitive, a professional outside source should be used
- Any program referring to Native American history needs to be approved by the appropriate tribe.
- Once a proposal is developed to the satisfaction of the lead staff person, the item will be put on the agenda for the appropriate subcommittee(s) of the Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)
- If recommended for further consideration by the subcommittee, it will be put before the CAC to consider a recommendation.
- If the CAC recommends the proposal for further consideration by the JPA, the Executive Director will make a determination as to whether the project warrants JPA Board approval or to move forward with administrative approval.
- In no instance is a citizen or volunteer initiated effort to use the JPA's name on any materials or in programming without the written approval of the Executive Director.

A draft policy should be developed for the Executive Director's review within 60 days of this memo.
TO:              CAC

FROM:           Shawna Anderson, Principal Planner

SUBJECT:        Osuna Valley Trail Bridge Feasibility Study Results

The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy funded a feasibility study for a trail crossing needed for the east end of the future Polo Fields segment of the Coast to Crest Trail. The Polo Field trail segment is designed to terminate at the east end of the Polo Fields on the north side of the river. In order for the Coast to Crest Trail to continue east it must cross the San Dieguito River before heading into Fairbanks Ranch (see Attachment 1). The JPA selected a consultant team led by Kleinfelder to prepare the Osuna Valley Trail Bridge study. The study evaluated alternative bridge crossing locations and bridge types and recommended a preferred bridge crossing based on engineering, hydrological, and environmental factors.

The Osuna Valley Bridge Feasibility Study will be used by the JPA to understand the potential impacts, and feasible crossing alignments/options and costs. The study can also be helpful for securing future grant funding. More detailed engineering and environmental work will be required to design and implement a bridge crossing in this area.

JPA staff will present the details of the study at the CAC meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Shawna Anderson
Principal Planner

Attachments:
   1. Osuna Bridge study area