

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of May 3, 2019**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Barnouw
Joe Esposito
Phil Pryde
Jan Fuchs
Diane Coombs
Linda Oster
Candy Bowman
Jim Lyon
Herb Dackermann
Liz Gabrych
Jeremy Blakespear
Ben Stone
Ellen Breen / Carol Kerridge
Peter Shapiro
Bill Michalsky
Pat Whitt
Colleen Bradley
Carol Carr
Jacqueline Winterer
Cory Ha'o
Terry Badger

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
American Society of Landscape Architects
Audubon Society
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3
Del Dios Town Council
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Friends of Sikes Adobe
Julian Community Planning Group
League of Women Voters
San Diego Bicycle Coalition
San Diego Mountain Bike Association
Del Mar Lagoon Committee
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Sierra Club
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Volcan Mountain Preserve
Walkabout International
Coastal Property Owner
Coastal Property Owner
Central Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Kevin McKernan
Shawna Anderson
Judy Levine

San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
Lake Hodges Native Plant Club

Roll Call and Introductions

Chair Barnouw convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. at the San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo.

Individual introductions were made, and a quorum was met with 20 in attendance.

Approval of Minutes- February 1, 2019

Jacqueline Winterer moved to approve the minutes of February 1, 2019 and Bill Michalsky seconded the motion. All in favor except 3 abstentions (Bradley, Shapiro, Witt)

Chair's Report

Chair Barnouw reported that he was amazed at the progress that has been made on the Ranger Station. Chair Barnouw proposed that the Interpretation Committee choose a name for the trail in the area of the W-19 restoration and proposed discussion after the Interpretation Committee report. The Interpretation Committee generated a list of names and came up with three final names. Carol Carr said it would be good to name it from a practical standpoint to identify the location being referred to.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director McKernan showed pictures of the Ranger Station construction progress. An unexpected issue was that the contractor had to over excavate the site. The permitting with the City of San Diego is going well. One of the photos showed the view looking out toward the lagoon from the building. JPA staff has begun doing FEMA funded repairs throughout the park as a result of the storm damage in January 2017. A disaster was declared, JPA staff submitted claims and work has been ongoing for the last few months. Overall the trails are more sustainable in the areas where the work has been done. On the trails near Sikes the geogrid has been repaired. The JPA Board passed the proposed FY 19-20 budget. The full 5% increase was approved however there was not enough of an increase to add a full ranger position. Certain line items of the budget were increased for maintaining the Pamo Valley Trail expected to cost at least \$25,000 per year for toilets, trash, signs, gate repairs, dog waste bags, and ranger time.

Public Comment – Jan Fuchs asked if there were any measurers from the County or City about more dry vegetation this season because of all of the rain. Director McKernan stated that the JPA does clear what is required and that there is a lot more to clear this year. Chair Barnouw said Del Mar is doing undergrounding of utilities to prevent fires. Ben Stone noted that since the last meeting, reports were made of two trail sabotage incidents; stringing old barbed wire across a trail with camouflage and another one with less camouflage. Chair Barnouw reported that after the February rains there was a cave-in, collapse at Crest Canyon. The hole is 35' in diameter and 20' deep and it is located on City of San Diego property. Cory Ha'o speaking as a local, asked if anyone else is frustrated with the slow speed that the Coast to Crest trail is being completed near the polo fields. Surf Cup Sports is doing major construction on irrigation with huge earth movers and 18 wheelers to move the dirt. He is surprised that they can do that work and we cannot do anything with our trail because of the birding season. The PRC is doing a field trip next month to see the Olivenhain water project. Director McKernan introduced Judy LaVine from Lake Hodges Native Plant Club and said the club is interested in joining the CAC. Ms. LaVine said that Lake Hodges Native Plant Club was established 30 years ago and that they maintain a five-acre native garden at Safari Park. The website is: <http://www.lhnpc.org>. Deb Debow representing the California Native Plant Society has moved out of the area and a new representative has not been identified. The CAC appreciates Lake Hodges Native Plant Club's interest in becoming a CAC member.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. **Committee Reports**

a. **Project Review Committee** –Shawna Anderson reported that a site visit has been set up with the Olivenhain Municipal Water District. The water district is doing a one-year study on the feasibility and impact on a test well drawing water out, desalinating and distributing to their users. The site visit is May 20th 1:00 p.m. at the east end of the Polo Fields.

b. **Trails Committee** – Carol Carr reported that at the new Pamo Valley Trail which opened in January, the gate battery was stolen the day before ribbon cutting. A new battery has been installed and the gate works properly now. Pamo Valley Trail is located at the north side of Ramona and connects the County Upper and Lower Santa Ysabel Truck Trail segments to create a distance of 12 miles.

c. **Interpretation Committee** – Liz Gabrych reported that the 30th Anniversary plans for June 9th are a race, auction, and volunteer appreciation party. Ms. Gabrych complimented the JPA staff on the weekly blog posts. The scholarship application deadline was extended to May 1. The naming of the W-19 wetlands is still up in the air. Jacqueline Winterer suggested naming it after Portola. The name suggestions were divided into three groups; person, natural feature, and vision/big picture. Ms. Gabrych read all of the names for each category. Chair Barnouw stated he was looking for a motion to not name the wetlands. After the restoration project it will just be part of the Lagoon Restoration. W-19 is already a Caltrans, SanDAG, SCE project name on record. There will be a trail from Dust Devil Nature trail to El Camino Real. Jan Fuchs stated that this is a special 400 acres and that the JPA had to fight for this and the Interstate 5 undercrossing. This is important because it is the connection to Gonzalez Canyon. Bill Michalsky said we could wait until after finished. Candy suggested El Camino Wetlands. Chair Barnouw said the CAC could continue and decide next meeting. Director McKernan said one of the JPA boardmembers Dwight Worden, suggested that we change the name. Director McKernan said we appreciate the time everyone has spent researching this.

INFORMATION

2. **Park Project Status (oral)**

Brenda Miller spoke on the 30th Anniversary event being planned and invited all to attend.

3. **Communications** - Diane Coombs reported on the event at Dog Beach with High Tech High Students. She also mentioned that the CAC should look into the resort being planned for the bluff in Del Mar. It was stated that the PRC has looked at it and the resort is resubmitting their plan revision to the City of Del Mar. Chair Barnouw said the CAC must wait and see what is being proposed to be able to look at it. Peter Shapiro announced the River Valley Fest will be October 13th at L'Auberge Del Mar. Colleen Bradley reported on the Volcan Mountain nature education series at Volcan Mountain Nature Center located at the end of Farmer Road with an open house May 18th 10-4 featuring Family Discover Day and ending the day with a hike. Diane Coombs stated that Dianne Jacob has been the longest member of the JPA board with her term up in 2020, Diane Coombs suggested that the JPA ask the County to name an equestrian center in Lakeside the Dianne Jacob Center. Diane Coombs suggested we put this on the next CAC agenda as an action item. Ben Stone reported that the San Diego Mountain Bike Association event at Rancho Guejito had a good turnout.

Adjournment

Jacqueline Winterer made the motion to adjourn and Ben Stone seconded the motion.

Chair Barnouw adjourned the meeting at 11:40 a.m.