SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of June 1, 2018

MEMBERS PRESENT
Jeff Barnouw       REPRESENTING
Phil Pryde          CAC, Chair
Jan Fuchs           Audubon Society
Diane Coombs       Citizens Coordinate for Century 3
Linda Oster        Del Dios Town Council
Maggie Brown       Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Jim Lyon           Friends of Sikes Adobe
Herb Dackermann    Julian Community Planning Group
Liz Gabrych        League of Women Voters
Dorothy McLin      Lomas Serenas Property Owners
Ed Spaeth          Ramona Trails Association
Ben Stone          San Diego Mountain Bike Association
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
Carol Carr         Walkabout International
Jacqueline Winterer Coastal Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT
Kevin McKernan     San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson    San Dieguito River Park JPA
Brenda Miller      San Dieguito River Park JPA
John Barone        City of San Diego Public Utility Department

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 18 in attendance.

Approval of Minutes- April 6, 2018

Jacqueline Winterer moved to approve the minutes of April 6, 2018 and Ed Spaeth seconded the motion. All in favor

Chair’s Report
Chair Barnouw reported that two $1000.00 scholarships were awarded to Grace Wesson and Keana Oldham at the May 18, 2018 JPA meeting.

Executive Director’s Report
Executive Director McKernan reported that the proposed FY 18-19 budget was approved.

Public Comment

Phil Pryde mentioned that a 750-acre parcel of land in Santa Ysabel was purchased by the County of San Diego and wondered what the plan was for the property. Mid Hoppenrath said the County Planning Commission approved two housing plans adding 1,000 homes in the Elfin Forest area; Valiano and Harmony Grove Village South. The plans will be in bundled projects that will be heard by the Board of Supervisors in July. The issues of evacuation plans and fire danger were discussed. Diane Coombs is continuing to gather signatures through June 16 for the Save our San Diego Countryside initiative.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Scoping Questions/Concerns for Proposed Orosco Ridge Mountain Bike Trail

Principal Planner Shawna Anderson explained this agenda item. After the April CAC meeting the Forest Service sent a request for comment notice for the proposed Orosco Ridge Mountain Bike Trail. JPA staff took the item to the JPA Board of Director’s May meeting. Attached are all of the documents that went to the Board, including the JPA comment letter dated May 22, 2018. The letter states the issues that must be answered and shows support of the project. The Trails and Project Review Committees are both aware of the project. Chair Barnouw suggested that the minutes of all sub-committees be included in the CAC agendas to keep all members informed. The CAC members discussed several points including: having the JPA questions answered by the Forest Service up front, the plan being inadequate, not defined, the steep nature of trails and possible need for emergency services, concern over the Cat EX component and no public interaction unless an environmental assessment is needed. Ben Stone with SDMBA stated that 600 comments were received, 560 were through an online portal in support of the project. Mr. Stone has committed to work with JPA and City of San Diego Public Utility staff to work through the issues expressed. Shawna Anderson stated that JPA staff will continue to work with the Forest Service and the SDMBA. The JPA Board member’s preference of sending a letter was discussed, also that the speakers in support of the project agreed with the questions and concerns expressed by JPA staff. The address to submit comments to is on the letter included in the agenda on page 22.

INFORMATION

2. Committee Reports

   a. Project Review Committee – Jan Fuchs reported that the PRC looks at land use projects within the focused planning area and the impacts on the Park. The JPA letter dated May 22, 2018 to the Forest Service covered all of the issues that the PRC would like to see addressed. The PRC would like the CAC to make a motion endorsing the JPA comment letter to the Forest Service of May 22 with stipulations that the questions must be answered. There was discussion
regarding the following issues; short comment period to the Forest Service for this project, the Categorical Exclusion under NEPA, the proposal is for 20 miles of trail not 80 miles, the multi-use component, the biggest growing high school sport, the request that the Forest Service become more involved in providing requested information, the major parking issue, wildlife, habitat, cultural resources, emergency services, environmental education component, and recreation opportunities.

Jan Fuch made the motion and Ed Spaeth seconded the motion: the CAC endorses the JPA letter sent to the Forest Service May 22, 2018 with the stipulation that the issues expressed in the letter must be addressed before the project can be fully supported by the JPA.

Vote: 14 Yes, 2 Oppose, 1 Abstain

b. Trails Committee – Carol Carr – no additional report.

c. Interpretation Committee - Liz Gabrych reported that two scholarship awards in the amount $1000 each were awarded to Keana Oldham and Graces Wasson from Canyon Crest Academy. The next Interpretation Committee meeting will be held at the lagoon. The committee is working with the 22nd DAA to install interpretive panels at lagoon.

3. Park Project Status (oral)

a. Pamo Valley Trail
Principal Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the rangers have been doing a lot of work at the north end of the trail, near the Upper Santa Ysabel trail. Some work still needs to be done from the staging area to the first crossing. There has been a lot of environmental monitoring being done making the project slow and costly.

b. Founders Tribute
Principal Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the artist came last week to install the monument foundation. The art will be installed in June. A small unveiling will be planned after the installation. The video is being finalized, and it should be received next week. A video screening will be planned. One more Founders Tribute meeting is planned.

c. Ranger Station
Principal Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the request for bids was posted today with a four week period to receive the bids. The project is divided into two parts; asking contactors to bid on the entire project or on phase one. The deadline is June 29, 2018. JPA staff is waiting to hear if a grant from the State of California is awarded to determine how much money the JPA has for the project. The link to the bid will be on the website. The JPA is a tax-deductible government agency.
4. Communications
A question was brought up about the Interstate 5 freeway expansion, a bike trail between Del Mar Heights and Via de la Valle disappeared and is not on the plans now. This project has been pushed to the last part of the plan.

Adjournment
Chair Barnouw adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Jacqueline Winterer made the motion to adjourn and Carol Carr seconded the motion.