

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of January 9, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tom Golich  
Jackie Higgins  
Phil Pryde  
Jan Fuchs  
Linda Oster  
Don Wendt  
Jeff Barnouw  
Leonard Haynes  
Margaret Schlesinger  
Dorothy McLin  
Larry Roberts  
Carol Carr  
Alice Brown  
Dave Kreitzer  
Bill Michalsky  
Pat Whitt  
Arthur Schmitz  
Brant Bassett  
Terry Badger

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Chair  
American Society of Landscape Architects  
Audubon Society  
Carmel Valley Planning Board  
Del Dios Town Council  
Equestrian - Ramona Trails Association  
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley  
Julian Community Planning Group  
League of Women Voters  
Lomas Serenas Property Owners  
Rancho Santa Fe Association  
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition  
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee  
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy  
Sierra Club  
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group  
Eastern Property Owner  
Central Property Owner  
Central Property Owner

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Mark Ochenduszko	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Brenda Miller	San Dieguito River Park JPA

**Roll Call and Introductions**

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 10:30 a.m. at the San Rafael Parish, 17352 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo .

Brenda Miller took the roll call. A quorum was met with 17 in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes of November 7, 2014**

Phil Pryde made the motion to approve the minutes of November 7, 2014 and Bill Michalsky seconded. All in favor.

**Chair's Report**

Chair Golich welcomed the members by wishing them a Happy New Year and noted that many of the CAC members attended the November 21, 2014 JPA meeting as it was the farewell meeting for outgoing Executive Director Bobertz and Deputy Director Carter. Chair Golich reported that the JPA Board approved the engineering services for the Osuna Valley Bridge Feasibility Study which will be funded by the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy discussed the Double Track and Seasonal Platform Project and reported that he is heading the nominating committee for the officers and ad hoc committees of the 2015 JPA Board. The nominations are Don Mosier for Chair, Dianne Jacob for Vice-Chair and the nominating committee will recommend that the ad hoc committees stay the same.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Interim Director Ochendusko introduced himself and thanked the members for their commitment to the River Park. He stated that he looked forward to working with the members over the next few months and expected to be with the River Park until May or June. Interim Director Ochendusko reported that during this transitional period a new director will be hired, the staffing requirement of the organization will be determined and the relationship between the member agencies will be worked out so we can continue as a JPA. Interim Director Ochendusko stated that he was brought on board because he has relationships with the member agencies and experience with JPAs. Interim Director Ochendusko reported that the 50 year JEPA agreement will be on the agenda for the upcoming JPA meeting, Friday, January 16. The agreement will have a provision that it will be reviewed by the member agencies every 5 years and Interim Director Ochendusko explained some of the issues that the member agencies have discussed. The next steps are for the JPA are to put together a trails management plan, create bylaws to implement the agreement, and create budgets to show where resources are being spent, agency by agency. Interim Director Ochendusko stated that another items on agenda is the discussion of the JPA meeting time and day, which may cause the CAC meeting day and time to change. He reported that the temporary Ranger Station is open and operating that the Lagoon and that the Rangers did great job with the trails during the recent rains. The River Park has received Neighborhood Reinvestment Grants of \$46,025 from Supervisor Roberts for Sikes Adobe projects and \$25,000 from Supervisor Jacob for the Santa Ysabel Farmhouse project. In the last month the Rangers, volunteer groups and dust devils have planted 3600 native plants. Sikes Adobe is having Valentine's Teas on February 7, 14 and 21 at 1:00 and 3:00.

### **Public Comment**

Phil Pryde reported that Audubon Society had a successful Christmas bird count. The total number of species was higher than in past. Don Wendt reported that Ramona Trails and other groups will have a cleanup at Santa Maria creek this coming Saturday.

### **DISCUSSION/ACTION**

#### **1. Committee Reports (oral)**

##### **a. Project Review Committee**

Jan Fuchs reported that the next meeting is scheduled for January 26. Several members attended the November JPA Board meeting and commented on the St. John Garabed church issue.

##### **b. Trails Committee**

Carol Carr said there was no report.

2. Discussion and Input Regarding JPA Position of South Overflow Lot Boardwalk -  
Shawna Anderson said that the CAC looked at this issue in June of 2014 and unanimously voted to keep the Boardwalk where it is. The JPA has submitted a request to amend the lagoon boardwalk permit to take out a prior condition that the boardwalk is for interim use. This boardwalk permit issue will be on the March 2015 Coastal Commission agenda. The Coastal Commission staff report recommends removing the Boardwalk when the South Overflow Lot is restored by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District. The JPA Board was asked if they would consider truncating the boardwalk and voted no, they wanted to keep the boardwalk as is. This item will be on the JPA Board agenda again, asking if they would consider an alternate position based upon the recommendation of the Coastal Commission staff to remove the boardwalk. The reason the Coastal Commission wants the boardwalk removed is to be able to restore one and one-half additional acres to wetland. A secondary position idea would be to truncate the boardwalk to remove a portion of the boardwalk however keeping the boardwalk on both ends. The current Coastal Commission staff report does not mention what party would be responsible for the cost to remove the boardwalk. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District has written that they protest having to pay for the removal of the boardwalk.

Members discussed the issue that \$55,000.00 was raised and many man hours were invested by community members to install the boardwalk. Comments were made that the Coastal Commission should pay to have the boardwalk removed, that the boardwalk should be left in place until the Coast to Crest Trail is finished on the north side of the South Overflow Lot and a question was posed as to what is more beneficial to the River Park, the boardwalk or more wetlands? A suggestion was made to ask the Coastal Commission representatives to visit the boardwalk.

Jan Fuchs made a motion to reaffirm the CAC position of June 2014 to keep the boardwalk in place. Art Schmitz seconded the motion. All in favor with 17 yes votes - none opposed.

#### INFORMATION

3. Park Project Status (oral)

a. Ranger Station

Shawna Anderson reported that the JPA staff is in the process of getting a permit from the Coastal Commission and this may be on the March Coastal Commission agenda.

b. Pamo Valley Trail

Shawna Anderson reported that staff is in the process of getting a permit from City of San Diego. The main issues with this permit are the cultural resources and that mitigation or re-routing the trail is being discussed. Ms. Anderson said she will bring a map of a re-route to the next meeting.

The trail goes from the end of the Lower Santa Ysabel truck trail paralleling the road to the north staging area where the Upper Santa Ysabel truck trail is. It links the two truck trails. This section is about 3 miles and the whole trail is 12 miles.

c. Osuna Valley Bridge

Shawna Anderson said that a kick off meeting was held in December. The field work will begin soon.

d. Other

Shawna Anderson reported on the Double Track project. JPA staff is working with City of Del Mar staff to complete a transportation grant application to SANDAG for funding of permits and to build the reach the beach trail. SANDAG has encouraged applying for this grant.

Communications:

Chair Golich reported that our sister lagoon, the San Elijo Lagoon will have a public announcement Tuesday January 13 at 10:00 a.m .to announce the new name of the gateway property. Almost 3.7 million dollars has been raised for the facility and the person who has bought the naming rights wants this to made public at this time. If you plan to attend, please park across the street. Chair Golich asked for volunteers that would be willing to attend and speak at the Coastal Committee meeting in San Diego the second week in March. The day and location are unknown. Several people volunteered. Trish Boaz reported that the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy will be holding an Exec Trek Thursday, January 22 at 8:30 am. The hike will be at the Highland Valley Trail staging area off of Highland Valley Road. A no host lunch will be held after the hike at a local winery. Please check the website for more information. Terry Badger reported that annual hawk watches at the Ramona Grasslands will be held the first Saturdays of January and February. Don Wendt reported that Ramona Trails will be part of a private benefit to support a Poway burn victim, February 7 at the north end of the Pamo Valley road area. The event will be a hike and ride benefit.

Adjournment

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 11:55 AM