

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of June 5, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tom Golich  
Phil Pryde  
Deborah DeBow  
Linda Oster  
Jeff Barnouw  
Leonard Haynes  
Margaret Schlesinger  
Dorothy McLin  
Robin Kaufman  
Larry Roberts  
Carol Carr  
Alice Brown  
Mid Hoppenrath  
Dave Kreitzer  
Bill Michalsky  
Pat Whitt  
Colleen Bradley  
Arthur Schmitz  
Brant Bassett  
Cory Ha'o  
Terry Badger

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Chair  
Audubon Society  
California Native Plant Society  
Del Dios Town Council  
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley  
Julian Community Planning Group  
League of Women Voters  
Lomas Serenas Property Owners  
Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board  
Rancho Santa Fe Association  
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition  
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee  
San Dieguito Planning Group  
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy  
Sierra Club  
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group  
Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation  
Eastern Property Owner  
Central Property Owner  
Coastal Property Owner  
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 Ochendusko for his expertise in managing the River Park for the last several months.

Executive Director's Report

Interim Executive Director Ochendusko 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 Ochendusko 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 Ochendusko 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.