SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of March 4, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jeff Barnouw               CAC, Chair
Phil Pryde                Audubon Society
Deborah DeBow             California Native Plant Society
Jan Fuchs                 Carmel Valley Planning Board
Diane Coombs              Citizens Coordinate for Century 3
Linda Oster               Del Dios Town Council
Liz Gabrych               League of Women Voters
Karen Black               Lomas Serenas Property Owners
Carol Carr                San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
Alice Brown               San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Dave Kreitzer             San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Jessica Parks             Santa Fe Irrigation District
Bill Michalsky            Sierra Club
Brant Bassett             Central Property Owner
Cory Ha’o                 Coastal Property Owner
Terry Badger              Central 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
Robert Haskell            Surf Cup Sports

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Barnouw convened the meeting at 10:40 a.m. at the St. Rafael Parish.
Office Manager Brenda Miller took the roll call. A quorum was met with 15 in attendance.

Roll Call and Introductions – Two new representatives were in attendance; Liz Gabrych for the League of Women Voters and Jessica Parks for the Santa Fe Irrigation District.

Approval of Minutes- January 8, 2016

Bill Michalsky made the motion to approve the minutes of January 8, 2016. Dave Kreitzer seconded the motion. All in favor.

Executive Director’s Report

Executive Director McKernan reported on the San Dieguito River Park JPA Bylaws draft and the San Dieguito River Park Trails Management Plan and Standards draft. Executive Director McKernan stated that an agreement has been reached regarding the billing from the City of San Diego.
Public Comment – None

INFORMATION

1. Committee Reports
   a. Project Review Committee

   Jan Fuchs reported that the Polo Fields was a topic of the Project Review Committee meeting. A question was brought up regarding the Surf Cup proposed lease with the City of San Diego, in reference to the definition of the term, “number of days” versus “number of events”. Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the PRC had a discussion and the lease states that the City of San Diego will comply with CEQA. The City of San Diego Development Services will take the Surf Cup lease proposal to the Smart Growth Committee for action and then the lease will go to the City Council for action. Cory Ha’o reported that on December 13, 2011 the JPA sent a letter to the City of San Diego staff about a number of concerns regarding this property, including: CEQA, trail development and the impact on the river. The suggestion was made that the PRC review the letter written in 2011, update if necessary, and possibly recommend that the JPA Board send a new letter. The next PRC meeting is March 21 and the Surf Cup is invited to the meeting. The suggestion was made to include this item on future agendas and provide the history with documentation.

   b. Trails Committee

   Carol Carr reported that the Trails Committee has been updating a document showing the gaps of the Coast to Crest Trail. The document has been on paper in the past. The document is the map that Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson presented at the CAC meeting June 2015, showing the 71 miles of trail with 21 miles of gaps. The Trails Committee will be viewing the document Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 12:30 PM at the River Park Office. After review, this revision of the document will be available on the SDRP website.

   Terry Badger made a comment thanking the rangers for doing a great job re-signing the trails at Bernardo Bay, including the signs with directions back to the parking lot. Many thanks from all of the trail users.

2. Park Project Status (oral)

   a. Coastal Ranger Station

   Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that building permits have been submitted to the City of San Diego. All of the other necessary permits have been secured. The next step is to go out to bid, for cost estimates, and to secure the financing of a low interest loan. The S.C.E. revenue of $480,000 will be the loan repayment source. If possible, the construction may begin before September 2016.
b. Pamo Valley Trail

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that staff is continuing the permit process and has been consulting with cultural resource experts. Staff is ready to release a mitigated negative declaration, a CEQA environmental analysis, to cover this aspect. The alignment has not changed. The trail segment is on the City of San Diego Water land and any support of the community for a trail in this area would be helpful during the public comment process.

c. Polo Fields Trail

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that she and Executive Director McKernan met with Rob Haskell and Mike Connerley from Surf Cup Soccer last week and the draft lease addresses the trail issue, to build and maintain the 1.3 mi. trail and pay for habitat restoration along the river bank. JPA staff is preparing a proposal of the cost and scope of work for this project, to JPA standards. The proposal will not include the cost of the parking lot, proposed parking for horse trailers or the cost of planned bird blinds. Rob Haskell stated that Surf Cup is aware of the importance of the trail to the surrounding community.

d. Coast to Crest Trail Through Fairbanks Ranch and Rancho Santa Fe

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson showed a map and explained the plan for the Polo Fields trail segment from El Camino Real to the Morgan Run golf course. Ms. Anderson showed the trail moving east and the location where the bridge will be installed to cross the river. The trail will then continue east to San Dieguito Road and is planned to be on the shoulder of the road, improving an existing dirt path, continuing to an existing Black Mountain Open Space Park staging area. The next section will be to extend the trail to the Santa Fe Valley Trail. Ms. Anderson shared the location of all of the easements that are in this area.

e. Horse Park Trail

Executive Director McKernan reported that a section of the Horse Park Trail blew out during the storm in January. The California Coastal Commission states that the river bank may not be enforced and the 22nd District Agricultural Association will not allow the trail to be re-routed through the Horse Park.

f. County of San Diego NRP/CE Grant Applications

i. SDRP Infrastructure Grant

Executive Director McKernan reported that the water storage tank at the San Dieguito River Park headquarters needs to be replaced and the well is less reliable and needs work. The Sikes Adobe roof leaks and the adobe walls wick ground water. The grant is for the water storage tank, well work, Sikes roof repair and installation of French drains to drain water away from the Sikes farmhouse.

ii. Founders Tribute Grant

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the Founders Tribute Committee has met and is planning the best way to honor and create a tribute to the Founders of the San Dieguito River Park. The
founders were instrumental in the idea of preserving the San Dieguito Lagoon and River Valley. The tribute will be a video and low profile tribute to inspire others, showing them that one person can make a difference.

iii. Sikes Adobe Event Series Grant

Executive Director McKernan reported that a Community Enhancement Grant has been submitted to the County of San Diego for a Sikes Adobe Event Series. The purpose of the grant is to help Sikes visibility and functionality for Sikes Adobe to raise its own funds. Some ideas of ways to use the grant funding are to provide historic walks, have classes for the public, develop operations and create a specific marketing plan for the future promotion of the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead.

3. Communications - None

Work has stated on the River Path Del Mar with the ribbon cutting planned for May 21.

Adjournment

Chair Barnouw adjourned the meeting at 11:46 a.m.