

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of July 12, 2013**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tom Golich  
Phil Pryde  
Debra DeBow  
Linda Oster  
John Degenfelder  
Jeff Barnouw  
Jack Shelver  
Margaret Schlesinger  
John Kowalski  
Chris Livoni  
Ben Hillebrecht  
Carol Carr  
Alice Brown  
Mid Hoppenrath  
Rand Newman  
John Ingalls  
Bill Michalsky  
Pat Whitt  
Arthur Schmitz  
Jacqueline Winterer  
Cory Ha'o  
Terry Badger

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Chair  
Audubon Society  
California Native Plant Society  
Del Dios Town Council  
Equestrian - Ramona Trails Association  
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley  
Julian Community Planning Group  
League of Women Voters  
Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board  
Rancho Santa Fe Association  
San Diego City Agricultural Advisory Board  
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition  
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee  
San Dieguito Planning Group  
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy  
Santa Fe Irrigation District  
Sierra Club  
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group  
Eastern Property Owner  
Coastal Property Owner  
Coastal Property Owner  
Central Property Owner

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Dick Bobertz	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Susan Carter	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Shawna Anderson	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Jan Lines	San Dieguito River Park JPA
Freda Reid	Del Mar Resident

**Roll Call and Introductions**

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 10:40 a.m. at the San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, CA 92128.

Deputy Director Susan Carter took the roll call. A quorum was met. 21 in attendance

Approval of Minutes- February 1, 2013- A motion was made by Bill Michalski to approve the minutes and seconded by Arthur Schmitz. All in favor

Chair's Report- Chair Golich said that Rancho Guejito is acquiring 3 drones to watch over their property. Mr. Golich reported that the JPA approved the new budget at their May 2013 meeting with the increase of funding from the City of San Diego which reinstated their share of the assessment this year. This new funding will allow the River Park to hire a new ranger and allow for staff salary increases. It was noted at the JPA meeting that the City of Del Mar OTB revenue has declined due to less interest in race track betting. That plus other revenue declines limit the potential for additional staffing increases.

Executive Director's Report- Director Bobertz reiterated that the budget was approved and the River Park is back up and running. In the last few years we had to assign several rangers to the Coast so the funding from Southern California Edison would pay for their salary. With the renewal of the City of San Diego funding we will be able to add another ranger. The JPA Board formed a Bee committee to negotiate with the beekeeping academy that wanted to have classes at Sikes Adobe Farmstead but were unable to come to an agreement, both on funding (how much per person would be paid to the JPA) and because the academy insisted that any potential legal action be addressed in Texas. Staff is looking into having an alternate bee organization have classes at Sikes.

Public Comment- Linda Oster of the Del Dios Town Council said that on the trails in Del Dios they have a problem with rude mountain bikers. She reported on a situation where a woman was hit by a mountain bike. She said that the community felt that we need to have more signs on the trails addressing courteous behavior and right of way for users.

#### DISCUSSION / ACTION

1. Election of Vice- Chair- Chair Golich took nominations for the election of a new Vice Chair for the CAC. Phil Pryde and Jacqueline Winterer were nominated. Debra DeBow spoke about the reasons why Jacqueline Winterer would be a good candidate for the Vice-Chair position. Arthur Schmidt said that Phil Pryde would be a good candidate due to his previous chair experience and background at San Diego State. A secret ballot was held. Susan Carter tabulated the results and reported that Jacqueline Winterer had received the majority of the votes.
2. Committee Reports
  - a. Project Review Committee Shawna Anderson said that the next meeting will be on July 15<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 at the Fairbanks Ranch Association office.. She said we have been reviewing many projects on the east side of the I-5 and she discussed the two proposed projects below:
    - i. Information Report on St Garabed Church and Via de la Valle Widening – In 2011 the PRC started reviewing this church proposal and the PRC made site visits which generated a number of comments. There are many

issues with this proposed church and the CEQA documentation has not been issued for review. She explained that the JPA is asking for an EIR since there is a wildlife corridor in the area and the architecture is not in keeping with the area. The PRC expects to bring this issue back to the CAC in the near future.

The Via De La Valle widening: Ms. Anderson said that this project was first brought to the CAC and JPA in 2005. At the time the proposed width of the expansion was a concern for several reasons and was part of the comments that staff and a committee assigned to the issue by then Councilmember Scott Peters. The plans were reconsidered and a smaller footprint for the widening has been proposed. The MND for the widening has been released.

- b. Trails Committee- Carol Carr said that the Trails Committee was going to have a site visit to Lake Sutherland to scout out a trail route in the area but the City of San Diego denied access due to the turkey hunting season. The Trails Committee is now researching where hunting is allowed. Ms. Carr said that this is 10 miles of very difficult area to plan a trail route.

The Conservancy is working on a map and website that will include all the 45 miles of Coast to Crest trail. The purpose is to have a single source to check the trails which has prompted a number of discussions on renaming the staging areas along the Coast to Crest Trail system. The Mile Markers will be included in the trail system maps and website.

3. Carmel Valley Planning Area Boundary Expansion- Deputy Director Carter said the situation is that our coastal area east of I- 5 is not officially covered by a planning board. There are many issues that need to be addressed in this area and the Carmel Valley Planning Board would be the best organization to cover this area. This item was previously discussed by Carmel Valley Planning Board but no action was taken. Debra DeBow made a motion that the JPA send a letter to the Carmel Valley Planning Board asking them to expand their area to cover the area east of the I-5 that is not covered by an official City planning group. Bill Michalesky seconded. Vote Yes 18 No 2
4. Trail Cantilever along El Camino Real Bridge- Shawna Anderson said that the City of San Diego is replacing the El Camino Real Bridge and we propose that a cantilever for pedestrians, bicyclists and horses be attached to the bridge allowing our trail to continue through this area. We are working on the W-19 area of the Lagoon in cooperation with SANDAG, and they will be building a trail coming from the Dust Devil Nature Trail going toward the Coast to Crest Trail which is on the north side of the El Camino Real Bridge. She explained that the new El Camino Real Bridge is federally funded, and the

grant source has determined that the funding will not pay for the cantilever because it wasn't on the existing bridge that is being replaced. Therefore additional grant funding must be identified to build the cantilever, as well as to design it and to include it in the CEQA evaluation.

A motion was made by Jack Shelver to have the JPA write a letter to the City of San Diego to add our cantilever to the new project and seek grant funding for it. Jeff Barnouw seconded. Vote 19-0.

#### INFORMATION

5. SCE Wetland Restoration Project status since San Onofre Decommission Decision- Director Bobertz said that now that the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station is being closed and the units decommissioned, the question had been raised as how that would affect SCE's involvement at the lagoon. JPA Attorney Brechtel wrote a memo which was attached to the agenda, that explained that SCE is committed for funding the project for at least the next 29 years due to the terms of their Coastal Development Permit.
6. Water level in Lake Hodges- Shawna Anderson said that the City of San Diego Water Department owns Lake Hodges and the California Water Authority has agreements with them and oversees the water regulations. She had learned that there are agreements that don't allow the water level to be increased until the San Vicente Dam project is completed. We have requested further information on the agreements as there is some confusion about the issue.
7. New Member Orientation- Deputy Director Carter said that there will be new member orientation if anyone is interested to please let her know.
8. Park Project Status- Deputy Director Carter said that there are bids coming in from electrical contractors and permits are needed to complete the project but we are in hopes that power for lights and gates will be restored in the near future.

The permit for Phase Two of the open air classroom is being processed at the City of San Diego. She explained that the JPA has funding from the County for the construction of the project, but the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy has committed to pay for the design of the amphitheater. Voice of San Diego has a contest where you can vote on the amphitheater, and if it is selected, it would receive some funding through their contest. She reported that the Santa Ysabel Backcountry Visitor Center has folded. SOHO will be using the space where the BVC was, so lectures will not be happening there anymore. We may use the back yard of the site for events.

9. Communications-

The next CAC meeting will be on Sept 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Adjournment

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 12:20

DRAFT