

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of September 6, 2013**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Tom Golich
Jim Kuhlken
Phil Pryde
Anne Harvey
Linda Oster
John Degenfelder
Jeff Barnouw
Jack Shelver
Margaret Schlesinger
Ben Hillebrecht
Carol Carr
Mid Hoppenrath
Rand Newman
John Ingalls
Bill Michalsky
Pat Whitt
Colleen Bradley
Arthur Schmitz
Jacqueline Winterer

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
San Diego City Agricultural Advisory Board
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
San Dieguito Planning Group
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Santa Fe Irrigation District
Sierra Club
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation
Eastern Property Owner
Coastal 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
Jan McMillan	Del Mar Resident

INTRODUCTION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 10:35 a.m. at the San Rafael Catholic Church, 17252 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo, CA

Roll Call and Introductions-

Deputy Director Susan Carter took the roll call. A quorum was met. 17 in attendance

Director Bobertz introduced Dustin Fuller and Melissa Factor from 22nd District Agricultural Association.

Approval of Minutes- July 12, 2013- Jacqueline Winterer made a motion to approve the minutes and Carol Carr seconded. All in favor.

Chair's Report- Chair Golich said that the JPA Board on July 19th were informed that the bids for connecting the Lake Hodges /David Kreitzer Bridge to SDGE for electrical power were higher than the funding available, consequently a contract was not awarded. He said that staff had reported they would investigate other options. The negotiations with the Beekeeper Academy that wanted to have hives and classes on beekeeping at Sikes Adobe were not successful but we are still looking for other groups that might want to have hives on the property. Mr. Golich reported that the JPA Board approved support of the Carmel Valley Planning Group expanding their area to include the lagoon area east of I-5, including City-owned properties upstream from the lagoon. The Open Air Classroom grading has been done for the first phase. . Trish Boaz , Director of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, talked about all the activities the Conservancy is doing. Chair Golich spoke about the Grand Ave Bridge and new signs that will be installed. It was noted that SDG&E is considering piping in Natural Gas to San Onofre to replace the nuclear power that was just shut down.

Executive Director's Report- Director Bobertz was pleased to announce that we have received our first check from the City of San Diego for their member assessment after a three year hiatus.

Public Comment- None

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Committee Reports

- a. Project Review Committee- Shawna Anderson said that the PRC met in August and is reviewing some ongoing projects including the Via de la Valle roadway widening. She noted that staff wrote a comment letter on the Mitigated Negative Declaration with input from the PRC. The Rancho del Mar 224 elderly care facility has been resubmitted to the City of San Diego for a permit. This project has been proposed on Prop A land and has caused concern by residents and the general public who do not want this project approved. Another project being reviewed is the St.Garabed Church on El Camino Real which has not released its CEQA documents. Ms. Anderson introduced two new PRC members as Jeff Barnouw and Debra Baker, General Manager, of the Fairbanks Ranch Assoc. Next PRC meeting will be on September 16th at 1:30 p.m.
- b. Trails Committee- Carol Carr said that Linda Oster from the Del Dios Town Council complained at the last meeting about rude mountain bikers on the Lake Hodges Trail. Ms. Carr asked the trails committee for suggestions on how to correct this problem and we hope that our Mountain Bike Patrol will be able to cover this section of trail and watch for anyone who is not showing courtesy on the trail. Ms. Carr reported that there are 12 new mountain bike patrollers. In August there were 121 mountain bike patrols and 67 hiker patrols. The River Park's Resources and Trails Manager, Jason Lopez, will be adding some signage

and will be trimming some trees so that the trail will have a clear view for all to use. Ms. Carr said that the new trail webpage maps are almost complete. They will cover the entire trail system and will be shared by the Conservancy and River Park. It was announced that the rangers are having a kayak trip on October 5 for volunteers at Lake Hodges from 9a.m. to noon. We will have 12 kayaks to share for the day. It was announced that volunteers are needed for "I Love A Clean San Diego" trail clean up event at the lagoon on Saturday, September 21st and the Sikes Adobe's "Down Home on the Farm" celebration October 27th. Please contact Ranger Leana Bulay at leana@sdrp.org.

2. Del Mar Fairgrounds Coastal Development Permit Applications- Shawna Anderson said that this is a project that the PRC has looked at which stems from the Cease and Desist order that the Coastal Commission imposed on the 22nd District Agricultural Assoc. Ms. Anderson explained with a PowerPoint presentation how the Ag District had for many years violated the Coastal Act restrictions and the Cease and Desist order is mitigation for those past violations. A map of the overflow parking areas was shown and it was discussed that some of the areas were once wetlands that were filled in years ago and used as parking for the events at the fairgrounds. The River Park JPA has commented on these areas and wants the wetland area of the East Overflow Lot preserved. Dustin Fuller made corrections on some points in the presentation. There was general discussion and comments from the CAC.

INFORMATION

3. Updates
 - a. Double-Tracking and Seasonal Rail Platform Project- Shawna Anderson said that she and Susan Carter have been working with the SANDAG Technical Working Group to address concerns and make suggestions on the planned project. SANDAG has come up with three alternative alignments while staying in the right of way of the current tracks which includes doubletracking (and replacing) the bridge and adding the seasonal rail platform. Ms. Anderson said that the PRC has been on site visits in the area and has been working on getting our trail through the west area which we call the "Reach the Beach" segment of trail from Jimmy Durante Blvd to the ocean.
4. Park Project Status-
 - a. Lagoon Open Air Classroom- Deputy Director Carter said that the first phase has been done and second phase will be ready to start soon since bird nesting season is almost over. We hope to get our permit signed off next week with the City of San Diego and we will have to meet with our Board and award a contract for the next phase of construction.

- b. Lighting on David Kreitzer Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge-
Deputy Director Carter said that the lighting bids were so high that the Board has directed staff to look into installing solar panels again. Ms. Carter said that we have had solar panels installed twice and the panels were stolen both times but we are now looking into some solutions to keep the solar panels safe from theft.
- c. Sikes Adobe Creamery- Deputy Director Carter said that the Board of Supervisors granted us \$25K for the Sikes creamery reconstruction and the Friends of Sikes Adobe is adding \$10K toward the project. We met with a contractor who will be overseeing the project along with a bricklaying instructor who will bring his class to install the adobe bricks. We have had an offer from a roofing contractor who has agreed to install the shingles.
- d. Pamo Valley Trail- Shawna Anderson said that staff will be meeting with City Staff and the Conservancy at the site about the alignment. We will be updating trail details and submitting a new application for a permit. The field visit to the site is on Sept 19th at 11:00 a.m.
- a. Communications- John Degenfelder. asked about the connection between the Ramona Grasslands and the Coast to Crest Trail. Deputy Director Carter said that we are trying to acquire the Bandy Canyon Ranch property, which would be needed for the trail connection he was inquiring about, but she noted that that the trail there is not allowed by the Resource Agencies because of concerns about impacts to nearby Golden Eagle nests

Rand Newman of the Conservancy said that October 13th will be River Fest at the Rancho Valencia and Chris Khoury will be awarded a lifetime appreciation award.

- b. Attachments-
 - a. JPA staff comment letter on Via de la Valle Road Widening MND
- Adjournment

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 12:10. Next meeting November 1st.