

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of November 6, 2015**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Tom Golich  
Phil Pryde  
Deborah DeBow  
Jan Fuchs  
Diane Coombs  
Don Wendt  
Jeff Barnouw  
Leonard Haynes  
Margaret Schlesinger  
Carol Carr  
Mid Hoppenrath  
Terry Kopanski  
Bill Michalsky  
Pat Whitt  
Colleen Bradley  
Jacqueline Winterer  
Brant Bassett  
Cory Ha'o  
Terry Badger

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Chair  
Audubon Society  
California Native Plant Society  
Carmel Valley Planning Board  
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3  
Equestrian - Ramona Trails Association  
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley  
Julian Community Planning Group  
League of Women Voters  
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition  
San Dieguito Planning Group  
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee  
Sierra Club  
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group  
Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation  
Coastal Property Owner  
Central Property Owner  
Coastal Property Owner  
Central Property Owner

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Kevin McKernan  
Shawna Anderson  
Brenda Miller

San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA

**Roll Call and Introductions**

Chair Golich convened the meeting at 10:40 a.m. at the San Rafael Parish. Office Manager Brenda Miller took the roll call. A quorum was met with 18 in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes- September 11, 2015**

Jacqueline Winterer moved to approve the minutes of September 11, 2015 and Bill Michalsky seconded the motion. All in favor.

**Chair's Report**

Chair Golich reported that the River Fest was a nice event. News from the last JPA Board meeting was that the Board did approve a resolution of for Application of Grant Funds for the California River Parkways Grant Program and adopted Policy No. P15-01 San Dieguito River Valley\_Regional Open Space Park Joint Powers Authority Board and Staff Communications Related to Land Use Projects. The Board also reviewed the Interim Directive Regarding Interpretive Features and Programming.

**Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director McKernan reported on the following subjects:

a. Update on Boardwalk Removal

Executive Director McKernan reported that he and Shawna Anderson met with the 22nd DAA to talk about SOL project. The boardwalk will be removed in mid January and the River Park will be responsible for removal of the planks. The trail alignment should be done before the boardwalk is removed. It is anticipated that the project will take 2 weeks and there will be temporary closures. SDRP staff will remove planks and create a viewing platform at the end of boardwalk. Donor plaques will be removed and reinstalled on the boardwalk. Many plaques are in poor condition and this will be addressed. The expectation is that everything will go smoothly and it was a good meeting.

b. Review of Interpretive Feature and Programming Policy No. P15-02

Executive Director McKernan stated that at the last CAC meeting an interim directive re Interpretive Feature and Programming Policy was presented. Staff prepared the draft policy is in this agenda packet for CAC review. The draft policy will go to the JPA Board for review this month also.

Executive Director McKernan made the announcement that Anne Cooper, Sikes Adobe Museum Manager, has resigned and taken another position in Northern California. Anne will be missed. The operations will be taken over by existing River Park staff and the Sikes program will be reevaluated prior to hiring a replacement for Anne Cooper's position.

Public Comment

Cory Ha'o said he met with the Polo Club and also with the Surf Cup regarding their proposals of the Polo Field property. River Park staff has not received any written information regarding the proposals. Cory Ha'o also commented on the Milan property, which is in the San Dieguito River Park focused planning area. Mr. Ha'o said he met with the Milan Property owners and also with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy Acquisition Committee regarding the purchase of this property. Jan Fuchs commented that the PRC does not consider acquisition issues. Chair Golich stated that staff would check to see if this property is already on the JPA acquisition list and if not it could be added, also that JPA staff could contact the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy to discuss the property. Executive Director McKernan stated that the JPA will not take on more land to manage unless there is a funding source for future management expenses.

Pat Whitt commented that at the last Torrey Pines Planning Board meeting several members of the community were upset with the mosquito problem in the Penasquitos Lagoon. Trapping is being done to find out why there are so many mosquitoes in the area. One group of residents wants to do spraying for mosquitoes.

## DISCUSSION/ACTION

### 1. Committee Reports

#### a. Project Review Committee

Jan Fuchs reported that on October 19 the Project Review Committee met at the Polo Fields. The Polo Field has not improved the trail as they should have. The trail improvement is included in the new RFP for the new lease. Ms. Fuchs also mentioned that there is no designated parking and it could be asked for in the El Camino Road / Bridge project. The Milan project was discussed

#### b. Trails Committee

Carol Carr stated that the Trails Committee will meet next week and she will have a report at the next CAC meeting.

### 2. Recommendations to JPA on El Camino Bridge/Road Widening Project Recirculated Draft EIR

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the PRC visualized this alignment project at their last meeting. The original draft EIR came out in 2006. The JPA staff worked with City staff and provided input to the City at that time. Ms. Anderson reported that there were no surprises in the new EIR. The comments are due November 9, 2015. The JPA may submit a comment letter later than the deadline in order to have the JPA Board review and approve first. Ms. Anderson stated that the bridge will be engineered to add a cantilever at a later date.

Discussion: Phil Pryde stated that the habitat referred to in the EIR as a clapper rail is actually a species named the ridgway rail. Dr. Pryde stated that this is very important that the bird is in this area and that the species needs to be protected. Jan Fuchs stated that the roundabout option should be emphasized in the comment letter. Locations for four roundabouts have been identified. It was said that the benefits of roundabouts on traffic are to improve pedestrian safety, reduce car accidents, and reduce sound making it better for the habitat. Roundabouts were also discussed in reference to the climate action plan, traffic numbers and level of service. It was discussed whether community character and traffic are in the River Park focus. It was mentioned that if the CAC felt strong enough they could create their own comment letter and address to the JPA Boardmember in the jurisdiction of the project or members could send individual letters to the address on the EIR. There is no guarantee that the City would accept the JPA's tardy comment letter.

Deborah Debow made the motion to add stronger argument language regarding the roundabouts, making the connection to the JPA concept plan mission to have roadways not detract from the

park, and submitting the revised letter to the JPA for approval at the next JPA meeting. Jacqueline Winterer seconded the motion.

Ayes: 15  
Nays: 2  
Abstain: 1

3. Recommendation on Interpretive Feature and Programming Policy No. P15-02

Executive Director McKernan stated that this draft policy was updated since the last meeting and asked for the policy to be reviewed. There were no questions or comments.

4. Discussion of Process for Election of New Chair and Vice-Chair Positions for 2016

Chair Golich stated that CAC chair and vice-chair positions are termed out following six years of service. Chair Golich asked for a nominating committee of three people to bring a slate of officers to the next meeting. It was mentioned that the Chair has to leave their existing CAC position and it must be filled by another person. The Chair does not have to be a CAC member and has to be approved by the JPA as a new JPA board member. Vice-Chair can retain membership. The volunteers for the nominating committee are Jeff Barnouw, Cory Ha'o and Tom Golich.

INFORMATION

5. Park Project Status (oral)

a. Lagoon Ranger Station

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that construction plans are coming together and will submit the building permit application this month

b. Rancho Santa Fe Easement

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the trail easement property is owned by the Rancho Santa Fe Association. It is located at the end of the Santa Fe Valley Trail near Crosby Estates. It is an important piece of the link that will extend the Santa Fe Valley Trail through Fairbanks Ranch and Artesian Road area connecting to the Lusardi Canyon Open Space area. The legal description has been finished and the document is awaiting a signature.

c. Pamo Valley Trail

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the application for the permit has been resubmitted to the City of San Diego. The City is reviewing and we anticipate an update soon.

d. Update on Meeting with Gates Property Manager re RSF Connection

Environmental Planner Shawna Anderson reported that the Osuna Valley Feasibility study has been finished. Staff has been looking at several ideas to connect the trail through Rancho Santa Fe. There have been some discussions with the property manager of the Gates property. A formal written request was mailed recently requesting a trail easement on the edge of the property and sharing an existing utility easement. This would connect the trail to San Dieguito Road. The utility easement adjoins the Fairbanks Ranch property.

INFORMATION

6. Communications –

Debra DeBow asked what is being dug under the bridge on Pacific Coast Highway at dog beach. NCTD is preparing the bridge to be protected from high water in case of El Nino weather. Terry Badger asked if Del Mar has made a decision regarding horses on the beach.

Adjournment

Chair Golich adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

The next meeting will be December 4, 2015