SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of March 16, 2007

MEMBERS PRESENT
Dianne Jacob - Chair
Dave Roberts –Vice Chair
Jerry Finnell
Dick Daniels
Betty Rexford
Scott Peters
Pam Slater-Price
Phil Pryde
Becky Bartling

REPRESENTING
County of San Diego
City of Solana Beach
City of Del Mar
City of Escondido
City of Poway
City of San Diego
County of San Diego
Citizens Advisory Committee
22nd District Agricultural Association

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT
Wayne Brechtel
Dick Bobertz
Shawna Anderson
Jan Lines
Jacqueline Winterer
Freda Reid
John Degenfelder
JPA Counsel
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
Ramona Trails Association

Introduction and Announcements
Chair Jacob convened the meeting at 9:40 a.m. in the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101

Chair Jacob welcomed back Jerry Finnell from his leave of absence. Ms. Jacob introduced Dick Daniels from the City of Escondido and Becky Bartling from the 22nd Ag District.

Boardmember Pyrde introduced members of the CAC in attendance Freda Reid, Jacqueline Winterer and John Degenfelder.

Approval of Minutes
Boardmember Rexford made a motion to approve the minutes of January 19, 2007, Boardmember Pryde seconded the motion. All approved.

Executive Director’s Report
Executive Director Bobertz reported that Deputy Director Carter is at the SANDAG Transportation Committee meeting this morning about the funding for the Lake Hodges bridge that the Committee is voting on today.
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Mr. Bobertz said that with the encouragement of Boardmember Scott Peters, Pardee Construction made a $100K contribution for a study of the under crossing at El Camino Real which is a crucial wildlife and potential trail corridor.

Another item of great interest to the River Park is the potential purchase of the Sikes Adobe Farmstead and the surrounding parcel. This may be made possible by a financial commitment by The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy. JPA staff will obtain an updated appraisal and negotiate with the City of San Diego which owns the site.

Public Comment: None

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Receive and Distribute Audit Report for Year Ending June 30, 2006
2. Resolution Applying for Community Enhancement Program Grant Funds

Recommendation: Adopt the attached draft resolution approving the filing of an application County of San Diego Community Enhancement Program funding for the County’s 2007-08 Fiscal Year.

Boardmember Pryde made a motion to approve the staff recommendations and Boardmember Rexford seconded. All in favor.

ACTION AGENDA

3. Election of New Board Chair and Vice-Chair

Boardmember Pryde said that at the last JPA meeting Chair Gallo made an announcement that he would not be able to fulfill his term as JPA Chair. JPA policy states that the Vice-Chair would be moved up to chair. The Nominating Committee recommendation is that the Boardmember from Solana Beach, Dave Roberts, would step into the Vice-Chair position.

Boardmember Rexford made a motion to approve the nominations and Boardmember Finnell seconded. All in favor.

4. Resolution Thanking Board Member Ed Gallo for His Service- Director Bobertz said that Chair Gallo left the JPA Board to take another position on the North County Transit District, and therefore is at the SANDAG Transportation Committee which meets the same day as the JPA. Mr. Bobertz read a resolution thanking Boardmember Gallo for his service on the JPA Board.

Boardmember Pryde made a motion to approve the resolution thanking Mr. Gallo and Boardmember Finnell seconded. All in favor.

5. Rancho Guejito

Recommendation: Discuss, but continue action until a representative of the property owner is available to attend.
Director Bobertz said that this item was brought to us by the Conservancy which adopted a resolution to add Rancho Guejito to the San Dieguito River Park FPA. At the last Citizens Advisory Committee meeting, the owner’s representative for Rancho Guejito, Mr. Henry Rupp, stated that the owners were not interested in selling to the River Park or any other entity that wants to preserve the parcel in open space. The CAC members voted to recommend to the JPA Board to add Rancho Guejito to the FPA which would allow us to comment on any development proposed by the proponents. Mr. Rupp said he would not be able to attend today’s JPA meeting because he would be out of town. Mr. Bobertz stated that we did receive a letter from Mr. Rupp stating the owner is not interested in being part of our FPA and urged the JPA Board to vote against adding the Rancho Guejito to the River Park FPA.

Counsel Brechtel said that JPA policy dictates that any Boardmember who is in the jurisdiction of a property that will be discussed at another official meeting is to abstain from discussing or voting on the project. Since Boardmember Jacob and Slater-Price are Supervisors over the unincorporated area of Rancho Guejito they may not discuss or vote on this project.

Boardmember Peters moved a continuance for a month to allow the proponent to be asked to attend the JPA meeting. Boardmember Rexford seconded.

Vote 6 Yes 0 No 2 abstentions

6. Rancho Santa Fe Polo Club

Recommendation: Authorize the Chair to send a letter to the Rancho Santa Fe Polo Club inviting them to meet with the JPA Board to discuss objectives of both organizations and to explore ways to work together.

Executive Director Bobertz said that he has met with Mr. Collins of the Polo Club on several occasions to convey the objectives of the River Park and to attempt to work with the Polo Club on the proposed trail alignment. The Polo Club is in the process of a Site Development Permit for violations on the lease pertaining to illegal grading that was done on the property. Mr. Bobertz said that he would like to have a meeting with the Polo Club and members of the JPA Board to discuss the concerns of the River Park.

Boardmember Roberts made a motion to send an invitation to the Polo Club to attend a meeting of the JPA’s Land Use Committee and Boardmember Finnell seconded. All in favor, 1 abstained

7. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Lease

Recommendation: Authorize the Executive Director to enter into a lease with the City of San Diego for the Lake Hodges Bicycle Pedestrian Bridge.

Executive Director Bobertz said that we have to acquire a lease from the City of San Diego for Phase 2 of the bridge construction. The Real Estate Assets Department has pledged to expedite the lease to the City Council. If this lease is not approved by June 2007 we are again in jeopardy of forfeiting some of our grant funds so it is essential to have the lease approved in a timely manner. Mr. Bobertz said that there have been some changes to the lease which have to do with the River Park cleaning the bridge on a regular basis, portable toilet installation and the administrative fee as discussed on previous occasions. The lease states that the bridge will be closed from 9 p.m. to 6 a.m. each day.
A new issue that the City has raised is if the JPA ceases to exist who would pay for the bridge maintenance. Mr. Bobertz said that the San Diego Endowment would pay back about 5% of the endowment interest a year to each contributing city at the same ratio that each agency contributed. He recommends that the City’s portion be described in the lease to assure the City of the availability of funds to maintain the bridge, should the JPA cease to exist.

Counsel Brechtel clarified that the language of the endowment agreement itself would need to be amended to make clear that the JPA’s intention as Mr. Bobertz described was carried out.

Boardmember Slater-Price made a motion to authorize Executive Director Bobertz to enter into a lease with the City of San Diego on the bridge with the lease revisions as described, and pursue an amendment of the endowment agreement as necessary. Boardmember Finnell seconded. All in favor

**INFORMATION**

8. Status Reports (oral)

   a. **Via de la Valle/El Camino Real Road Task Force**- Shawna Anderson said that the task force submitted a draft report to Councilmember Scott Peters office recommending a reduced footprint for the alignment of the project. The report has been submitted and hopefully our comments will be addressed in a new EIR.

   b. **Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead**- Director Bobertz said that staff is working on plans to purchase the parcel from the City of San Diego.

   c. **Del Dios Gorge Trail**- Shawna Anderson said that the project started construction and we have a contractor working on the bridge portion and our rangers are working on the segment from the Santa Fe Valley trail to the bridge. Ms. Anderson said that working with the County of San Diego on this project has been wonderful and everything is going along great.

   d. **Wetland Restoration Project/Coastal Trail**- Shawna Anderson said that it is coming along fine and Edison and Marathon are holding meetings which she has been attending. The Coastal Trail Boardwalk will be completed by the Del Mar Rotary and should be completed in April 2007.

9. **Jurisdictional Status Reports**- Boardmember Rexford said that a developer in Poway was going to build a shopping center and was approached by community members about a donation towards a park and the developer donated $150,000 toward a park in Poway. Ms. Rexford stated that it is important to work with the developers to enhance the community.

Boardmember Pryde stated that the newspaper today said that the City of San Diego is putting some of their property for sale.

10. Communications-
John Degenfelder said that notices have been given about the Overland Mail Route from 1857 and there will be some events in the future for riding and hiking.

Freda Reid announced that Lagoon Day will be held on April 18th and would like to encourage everyone to attend.

Chair Jacob adjourned the meeting at 10:10 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

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Date                        Executive Director