

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of April 20, 2007**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dianne Jacob, -Chair
Dave Roberts -Vice- Chair
Dick Daniels
Crystal Crawford
Betty Rexford
Scott Peters
Pam Slater-Price
Phil Pryde
Becky Bartling

REPRESENTING

County of San Diego
City of Solana Beach
City of Escondido
City of Del Mar
City of Poway
City of San Diego
County of San Diego
Citizens Advisory Committee
22nd Ag. District

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Brechtel	JPA Counsel
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
Jacqueline Winterer	Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
Freda Reid	Lagoon Committee
Craig Adams	Director, SDRVC
Tom Golich	President, SDRVC
Rick Halsey	Board, SDRVC
Sam Abed	City of Escondido

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Jacob convened the meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the County Administration Center, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 358, San Diego, CA 92101. Chair Jacob introduced Sam Abed, the alternate Boardmember from Escondido.

Boardmember Pryde introduced the CAC members in attendance, Jacqueline Winterer, Freda Reid and Craig Adams.

Approval of Minutes of March 16, 2007

Boardmember Rexford made a motion to approve the minutes of March 16, 2007 , and Boardmember Daniels seconded the motion. All in favor.

Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Bobertz brought a PowerPoint presentation to show the three largest projects that the River Park is doing at this time. Mr. Bobertz showed the recently completed boardwalk portion of the

coastal trail that begins at Jimmy Durante Blvd. Marathon Construction put in the base of the boardwalk as part of their contract and the Del Mar Rotary installed the boardwalk surface planks. He spoke about Pat Dougherty who has a construction company (Steigerwald-Dougherty) and spearheaded the project and kept the contractors and helpers working all day to complete the entire boardwalk. This area will be restored with native plants and interpretive signage.

The next project that Mr. Bobertz showed is the Lake Hodges Bridge Phase One - south abutment, which was constructed with four underground large concrete piers (8 foot diameter, 85 feet long) that will secure the bridge in place.

The third project is the Del Dios Gorge Trail that will consist of a trail section that connects with the existing Santa Fe Valley Trail (that runs adjacent to The Crosby Estate). The trail includes a 180 foot long pre-fab steel bridge that will cross the river. This trail section will add about 2 more miles to the Coast to Crest Trail. Our rangers are constructing the trail from the Santa Fe Valley Trail to the bridge .

There were some pictures of the new reproduction wallpaper recently installed at the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmhouse that was donated by The Colonial Dames of America. We have invited the Colonial Dames to an appreciation Tea at the Sikes Adobe on May 8th. Next to the Sikes Adobe our rangers planted a Native Plant Garden which is in full bloom at this time.

Boardmember Pryde said that the Union Tribune had an article on historic sites to see in San Diego and he wrote to the editor to ask them to include the Sikes Adobe to the list.

Public Comment

Craig Adams announced that the El Camino Widening Project that was a concern to the San Dieguito River Park was reviewed by a Task Force initiated by Boardmember Peters. He said the Task Force generated a report with recommendations that the Task Force felt would allow for better flow of traffic and less impacts to the area.

ACTION AGENDA

1. Work Program for FY 07/08-

Director Bobertz reviewed proposed changes to the Work Program. He said that new items (in bold) could be absorbed by existing staff, except for the item to create a land management database which would require hiring bookkeeper services. The database would enable us to account for endowments on Bernardo Mountain and the Caltrans endowment for a parcel on Bernardo Mountain, as well as future endowments.

Boardmember Slater Price made a motion to approve the work program and Boardmember Rexford seconded. All in favor

2. Report and recommendation from the budget Committee for FY 07/08 Budget-

Recommendation: The Budget/Administrative Committee of the Board recommends that the JPA Board approve the attached Draft Budget and Salary/Staffing Schedule for FY2007/08, as modified orally at today's meeting.

Director Bobertz said that the Budget Committee recommended that the Endowment Fund be gradually phased back in, going to \$75,000 this year (from \$50,000 last year) with a plan to restore to full level of \$100,000 in FY 08/09. Some suggestions were made about making better investments on our endowment by looking into higher return investments. Staff was directed to invite our endowment fund managers to make a presentation to the Board at a future meeting.

Boardmember Roberts made a motion to approve the budget and salary/staffing schedule as shown in the staff report with the increase from \$50,000 to \$75,000 for the endowment and Boardmember Peters seconded. All in favor

3. Lake Hodges Bicycle/Pedestrian Bridge Lease Issue- Executive Director asked to table this issue due the fact that the situation has been settled with the help of the City of San Diego Water Department Director.

Boardmember Daniels made a motion to table the issue indefinitely. Boardmember Slater-Price seconded. All in favor.

4. Rancho Guejito-

Recommendation: Direct staff to take actions necessary to include the view shed of Guejito Creek in the San Dieguito River Park Focused Planning Area.

Shawna Anderson said that in the 1970's Rancho Guejito was offered to the State of California for purchase but they declined, then it was sold to the Rodney Company who now has proposed to develop it. She said that the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy had approved a resolution recommending that the Board add this property to the FPA due to the property's cultural and biological significance and that the property is now being considered for development. At the CAC meeting a representative from the Rancho Guejito owners expressed that the owners were not interested in being included in the FPA and were not willing to sell the property for open space preservation.

Counsel Brechtel said that at the last Board meeting he suggested that the representatives from the County of San Diego not discuss or vote on this project due to the fact that it is in the County of San Diego jurisdiction. Mr. Brechtel said that he wanted to clarify that the representatives may discuss the item and stay in the room for the discussion, but not vote on the proposal at the JPA meeting.

Boardmember Pryde said the CAC voted on the FPA issue and it was a close vote with the final tally in favor of adding the view shed of Guejito Creek to the FPA... The reason for the close vote was the desire on the part of a number of CAC members to give the property owner more time to consider what it means to be in the FPA and to attend another CAC meeting.

Boardmember Slater-Price reiterated that the eminent domain issues are fully addressed in the JPA's Private Property Rights Protection Policy and that we only purchase from willing sellers. Boardmember Daniels asked about the objections of the property owners to becoming part of our FPA and felt that he could not support adding the property over the owners' objections. Boardmember Slater Price said that sometimes people that may not want to be in the River Park FPA in the beginning later change their minds and are appreciative of being added to our FPA.

Speaker Tom Golich, President of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, said that Conservancy is reconfirming their recommendation to include the view shed of Guejito Creek the FPA.

Speaker Rick Halsey read from the article that he wrote for the Conservancy newsletter about the importance of saving this pristine parcel and hopes that the JPA will support adding the property to the FPA.

Craig Adams gave a PowerPoint presentation about the reasons for keeping this parcel in open space. He said that adding the parcel to the FPA will allow us to comment on the future plans for the property and influence any development plans. He showed a map of the view shed of the Rancho Guejito Creek. The view shed map was prepared by the landscape architecture firm of KTU+A, that had done the view shed analysis for the rest of the San Dieguito River Park FPA in the 90's.

Speaker, Geoffrey Smith, Exec. Director Escondido Creek Conservancy said that the Conservancy has been around since 1991 with a similar mission to preserve the watershed of the Escondido Creek. He supported Rancho Guejito being added to the FPA .

Jacqueline Winterer said that she voted against adding the Rancho to the FPA due to the fact that the proponents needed to have more time to review our Concept Plan. She also said she had concerns that the JPA did not have the resources to manage the property.

Boardmember Peters said that it would be premature to be concerned about property management because if the property were added to the FPA that did not mean that the JPA would be acquiring it. He said he felt that the property should be added to the FPA so that we can have official status to comment on the future proposals on the property and be involved in the development plans. Mr. Peters noted that the representatives of the property were invited to the meeting and declined. He moved staff recommendation to add the view shed of the Guejito Creek to the FPA

Boardmember Daniels said he could not support the motion because of the property owners' objections.

Chair Jacob said that we do not want a hostile relationship with the owner, but she noted that the property owner had had two opportunities to attend the Board meeting and had not. She asked that the minutes reflect that the Board had given the property owner these opportunities.

Vice-Chair Roberts seconded the motion, but suggested an amendment that the River Park staff should send a letter to the property owners with an explanation of the benefits of being in the FPA. The maker of the motion, Boardmember Peters, accepted the amendment.

Vote 5 Yes 1 opposed 2 abstained

INFORMATION

- a. SDRP projects were discussed earlier in the meeting during the PowerPoint presentation.
- b. Via de la Valle/El Camino Real Road Task Force- Craig Adams gave an update on the report earlier in the meeting.
- c. Rancho Santa Fe Polo Club- A letter inviting Polo Club representatives to meet had no response as of the meeting time.

6. Jurisdictional Status Reports- Boardmember Rexford stated that Bill Simmons of the Conservancy Boardmember and Dick Bobertz came to the City of Poway Council Meeting and made a presentation on watershed issues.

Boardmember Crawford stated that Mr. Simmons and Mark Whitehead also made a presentation to the Del Mar City Council. Ms. Crawford also said that the City of Del Mar had their Lagoon Day earlier this week and their program had included speakers on water issues.

Boardmember Roberts said that the City of Solana Beach is working on their EIR for the train station project and there are concerns about moving the sand from the train station to the beach. Mr. Roberts also said that they have a situation with a chapel that needs to be moved from a parcel that was purchased for development. He hopes that some organization would move it to another site and keep this charming building intact.

Boardmember Slater-Price congratulated Jacqueline Winterer for the success of the Wetland Restoration tours that she has been giving at the restoration area.

Deputy Director Carter announced that the River Park will be having its annual Volunteer Appreciation event on Saturday May 12th out at Dudley's Bakery picnic area in Santa Ysabel. There will be a catered lunch. All Boardmembers are invited to attend.

7. Communications

Chair Jacob adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director