

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
Minutes of August 17, 2012**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Olga Diaz - Chair
Jim Cunningham-Vice Chair
Don Mosier
Lesa Heebner
Pam Slater-Price
Tom Golich

REPRESENTING

City of Escondido
City of Poway
City of Del Mar
City of Solana Beach
County of San Diego
Citizens Advisory Committee

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Wayne Brechtel
Dick Bobertz
Susan Carter
Shawna Anderson
Jan Lines
Leana Bulay
Phil Pryde
Jacqueline Winterer
Rand Newman
Jeff Barnouw
Cory Ha'o
Tim Jachlewski

JPA Counsel
San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Diego Audubon
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Protect San Dieguito River Valley Coalition
Protect San Dieguito River Valley Coalition
In-Site Design

Introduction and Announcements

Chair Diaz convened the meeting at 9:31 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 302/303, San Diego, CA 92101

Approval of Minutes of April 20, 2012

Boardmember Lesa Heebner made a motion to approve the minutes of April 20th, Boardmember Jim Cunningham seconded the motion. All in favor.

Boardmember Golich introduced the CAC members in attendance as, Jacqueline Winterer, Phil Pryde, Rand Newman, Jeff Barnouw and Cory Ha'o

Executive Director's Report- Director Bobertz introduced Tim Jachlewski, President of In-Site Landscape Architecture, Inc, who prepared a pro bono Comprehensive Site Master Plan for the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead, and volunteered to help write a grant to the American Society of Landscape Architects for \$5000 that would be used to begin implementing the Site Master Plan to enable the Sikes Adobe to become more financially sustainable. He explained how the new multipurpose barn and gardens would produce income for the site. A PowerPoint presentation showed the master plan with new proposed trees and other site improvements for the area.

Boardmember Slater-Price said that this would be an excellent use of \$5000 from ASLA.

Director Bobertz reported that we have received 2 grants from the County at Supervisor Slater-Price's recommendation through the Neighborhood Reinvestment Program and Community Enhancement Program for a smart phone app for \$12,000 and \$112,600 to partially fund the Open Air Classroom shade structure at the lagoon.

There will be a Summer Stroll event at the lagoon tomorrow in conjunction with the Conservancy and REI to showcase our coastal trail app which includes our bilingual audio and brochures, interpretive walk booklet and QR scan codes and mile markers. This event will be from 4 p.m. to 7p.m. at the San Andres section of the trail. Mr. Bobertz encouraged everyone to attend.

Jacqueline Winterer said that she has a concern with the name of the Sikes Adobe Historic Farmstead Park because she said the name is too long. She feels that we only have one park and hopes that we will consider just using the Sikes Adobe Farmstead in the future.

Public Comment-None

CONSENT

1. FY 2012/13 Budget Amendment

Recommendation: Adopt the attached amendment to the FY12/13 Operating Budget.

Boardmember Golic made a motion to approve staff recommendation to amend the budget to appropriate the new grant funds awarded by the County and Boardmember Mosier seconded. All in favor

ACTION

2. Rancho Del Mar Decision

Recommendation: Send a response letter to the City Attorney's office asking that they re-evaluate the Rancho Del Mar Prop A issue in light of concerns and information provided by the JPA, Protect San Dieguito River Valley Coalition, and others.

Shawna Anderson said that staff has brought this information to the Board on several occasions and at our JPA meeting in April you directed staff to send a letter to the City Land Use and Housing Committee requesting them to hold a workshop to address Prop A concerns regarding the Rancho Del Mar project and other Proposition A lands. Our staff and several other concerned organizations met with Councilwoman Lightner's staff to talk about the concerns of this project and discussed the response memo from the City Attorney. It was the consensus of all parties that the memo did not address the fundamental issues about the conflict with Prop A and left many unanswered questions. There is a new City Attorney memo coming out today but she said that the interested parties felt that it is appropriate that we send a comment letter to the first memo. Ms. Anderson asked the board to approve the draft letter attached in the agenda to be sent to the City Attorney.

Boardmember Cunningham suggested that since a new memo will be coming out today, we might want to wait to see what they say.

Boardmember Slater-Price moved that because we have so few meetings we need to send the letter asking the City Attorney to reevaluate the Rancho Del Mar property issue in light of the information

provided by the JPA and others. Then when another memo is received staff should respond with another letter using their own judgment based on the position that the JPA Board has previously established. Boardmember Mosier seconded. All in favor

Cory Ha'o thanked everyone for their efforts opposing this project.

3. Proposed Bandy Canyon Ranch Land Acquisition

Recommendation: Adopt the attached resolution authorizing the Executive Director and Counsel to prepare and execute a conditional purchase agreement for the Bandy Canyon Ranch Parcel B, and commence escrow, and request the California Department of Fish and Game to allocate funding for the purchase.

Director Bobertz said that we have an opportunity to purchase some land in the San Pasqual Valley. Deputy Director Carter said that property is something that the JPA has been interested in for some time and we tried in the past to purchase it but the owner was not interested in selling at that time. This property consists of two parcels, A and B. Parcel B is the one that we are interested in acquiring which has an approved final map for the development of 9 units. This property is next to the Ramona Grasslands and will provide a wildlife corridor link to the San Pasqual Valley, as well as a potential trail connection, partially using the Old Survey Road 97 alignment. Parcel A is an environmental sub division and can only be sold for mitigation credits and is therefore already preserved. Parcel B is 61 acres and the selling price is \$2.2 million. We have contacted the Wildlife Conservation Board and California Dept. of Fish and Game, which still have funds from Prop 40, 50 and 84 to consider purchasing the parcel. Counsel Brechtel suggested that we amend the resolution to delete the 45 day approval stipulation because we may need more time to complete this transaction.

Boardmember Slater -Price made a motion to approve the staff recommendation with Counsel Brechtel's amendment and Boardmember Mosier seconded All in favor.

INFORMATION

4. Trailside Open Air Classroom (:The Birdwing")

Recommendation: This is an information item, no action is required.

Deputy Director Carter reported that in 2009 the JPA Board approved the Lagoon Center Design which included the Nature Center, Ranger maintenance building and the amphitheater. Since we were not able to procure funding for the nature center, we are now focusing on the other sections of the design that might be affordable and have independent utility -the Trailside Open Air Classroom (Amphitheater) and the Ranger Maintenance Building. Ms. Carter said that our agreement with Edison stipulates that they are required to provide office space for our rangers and are doing so at offices near the wetlands. We suggested that Edison use the rent money they spend now on funds that will allow us to build a permanent structure on the site and pay a monthly mortgage in place of rent that they now pay. These discussions are ongoing. Along with the maintenance building, we are going to need a permanent public restroom and we hope to apply for a grant for this structure

and will be coming to the October JPA meeting with an action to approve applying for the grant. The grant stipulates that we need to be the property owner so we have requested to Edison that they transfer the property to us even though they are still finishing up the restoration project and this will make it easier for the JPA to apply for future grants. Ms. Carter gave a powerpoint presentation to show designs and simulations of the Trailside Open Air Classroom that will soon become a reality due to the generous funding from Supervisor Slater-Price for construction of the facility and the funding that the Conservancy has raised for design. The powerpoint presentation showed how the stage would be situated and how the partial shade structure would keep the sun from beating down on participants.

Ms. Carter stated that we had a very good meeting with the City of San Diego Development Services Department which felt that they could amend the existing construction permit to add this without requiring a new permit. Shawna Anderson is focused on preparing a Coastal Development Permit application for the Coastal Commission.

Deputy Director Carter said that we hope to start this construction as soon as possible after receiving the Coastal Development Permit, but are concerned about getting the grading and excavation done before the bird nesting season in March.

Phil Pryde said that although this a great design he felt that the direction of the amphitheater would cause the participants to look into the sun. The partial shade structure might not screen out all the sun for those looking in that direction.

Boardmember Mosier asked about power to the structure and suggested that we use solar to generate light and power at the site.

Boardmember Slater-Price was concerned about the amplification from presentations on the neighbors and birds in the area.

Shawna Anderson answered the questions with the fact that we have a EIR CEQA mitigation restriction on lighting because we are so close to the wetlands. We are proposing low solar powered light on the stairs for safety purposes only. The noise issue is addressed by not using amplification.

Boardmember Cunningham thanked Supervisor Slater-Price for all her efforts and funds for this project and many others in the park.

Boardmember Slater-Price said that this was good use for the funding.

5. Report on Regional Water Quality Control Board Stormwater Requirement issues.
Recommendation: Receive information

Director Bobertz said that this is a controversial issue and as the member agencies are co-permittees most of the Board is aware of the new proposed draft Storm water Permit. We have had speakers from the BIA that suggest that we would be able to do more to improve water quality by devoting the dollars that are proposed for on-site retention and monitoring to be used to expand existing wetlands to clean storm water runoff. Mr. Bobertz said that there was a presentation to the CAC from the BIA with the Regional Water Quality Control Board representative in attendance and the

County of San Diego to respond to the recommendations. The BIA determined that they were not ready to propose an alternative plan for review by the CAC and recommendation to the JPA. Mr. Bobertz said that this item will be addressed later in the fall when the revised draft Storm water permit is issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

6. Sikes Adobe Landscape Plan Presentation
Recommendation: This is an information item, no action is required.

7. Status Reports(oral)

- a. River Park Projects

- i. Coast Trail”App” Demo Presentation-

Leana Bulay, Interpretive Ranger discussed a grant that was received from Sempra Energy and REI for the Coastal Trail app for this innovative project. Ms. Bulay gave a PowerPoint presentation and explained how the app works showing maps with English and bilingual audio for self guided tours. There is a QR code posted on the fence at various locations for you to access the information from your phones on the trail system. This is a cutting edge system that takes the River Park into the future and will allow users to gain knowledge of the areas and eventually eliminate the need for paper maps and brochures.

Boardmember Slater-Price said that there are QR codes on the 4S Ranch trails for fitness purposes. They have suggestions on how do exercise on the trail.

Boardmember Heebner asked about the coverage for the entire trail system and made a suggestion that we partner with the Around Me apps to get the word out about the River Park.

Other- Ms. Carter said that we had a visiting delegation of Chinese scientists organized by the Regional Water Quality Control Board who wanted to see the wetland restoration and treatment ponds at the lagoon. We passed out maps of the lagoon area and we covered the mitigation and they were very interested in the success of our project.

Ms. Carter said that we applied to SANDAG through the City of Del Mar, and she mentioned that we really appreciate their participation. Our grant application is for the section of the Reach the Beach project that is outside of the railroad right-of-way, since we are counting on CALTRANS to pay for the portion of the trail that is in the right of way (which includes the tunnel and section of trail that goes along the rail road embankment).

Deputy Director Carter showed the postcards made for us by a wedding planner for the Sikes Adobe Farmstead to promote weddings.

Ms. Carter said that installation of the entry monuments at the lagoon and at the Via Rancho Parkway in Escondido area was delayed until August 27th.

8. Coordination Reports (oral)

- a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy- Rand Newman said that the Conservancy is hosting the 3rd annual River Valley Fest at Sikes Adobe on October 7th, 2012. He invited everyone to attend.

- b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley- none
- c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation-none
- d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee-none

- 9. Jurisdictional Status Reports- None
- 10. Communications
 - a. Letter from Supervisor Slater-Price to CCC re Wetland Delineation
- 11. CLOSED SESSION
 - a. Conference with legal counsel pursuant to Government Code Sec. 54956.9 (a) regarding pending litigation: City of Solana Beach et al.v. 22nd District Agricultural Association. The Board met in closed session as previously disclosed and no reportable action was taken.

Chair Diaz adjourned the meeting at 11:05

These minutes approved by Board Action

Date

Executive Director

DRAFT