

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER VALLEY REGIONAL OPEN SPACE PARK  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
Minutes of October 19, 2012**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Olga Diaz - Chair  
Jim Cunningham-Vice Chair  
Don Mosier  
Pam Slater-Price  
Tom Golich  
Becky Bartling

**REPRESENTING**

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

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Wayne Brechtel  
Dick Bobertz  
Susan Carter  
Shawna Anderson  
Jan Lines  
Jacqueline Winterer  
Jeff Barnouw  
Bill Michalski  
John Degenfelder

JPA Counsel  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
Friends of the SDRV  
Friends of the SDRV, Protect SDRV Coalition  
Sierra Club  
Ramona Trails Association

**Introduction and Announcements**

Chair Diaz convened the meeting at 9:38 a.m. in the County Administration Building, 1600 Pacific Highway, Room 358, San Diego, CA 92101

The River Park staff and Board members introduced themselves.

Chair Diaz asked the CAC members in attendance to introduce themselves. Jacqueline Winterer, Jeff Barnouw, Bill Michalski John Degenfelder stood and introduced themselves.

Chair Diaz stated that there is a new item that she would like to add to the agenda as number 4a . regarding the City of San Diego's Park Land Dedication Policy.

Counsel Brechtel explained that the JPA Board has to take an action to add this item to the agenda because this item came to the attention of the River Park after the agenda was posted. This is an item about the City of San Diego dedicating open space prompted by a bill sponsored by Senator Kehoe, and for unknown reasons some of the parcels in the San Dieguito River Park FPA that were originally on the list had been removed from the list. The JPA Board needs to take action before their next Board meeting to comment as the City of San Diego will be taking action on this bill before December 31, 2012. Motion to add this item: Pam Slater-Price, 2<sup>nd</sup> Don Mosier, all approved.

**Approval of Minutes of August 17, 2012-**

Boardmember Mosier made a motion to approve the minutes of August 17, 2012, Boardmember Golich seconded the motion.

**Executive Director's Report-** Director Bobertz said that the election is drawing near and he has taken steps to request a meeting with both Mayoral candidates. He said there was a letter in front of each Board member to Mr. DeMaio showing all the cuts that the River Park has made to lower costs which is a prerequisite of Mr. DeMaio in order to reinstate funding to the River Park.

**Public Comment- None**

**CONSENT**

1. Application for Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant  
**Recommendation: Adopt Resolution applying for Land and Water Conservations Grant funds for a public restroom in the coastal area near the Lagoon Trail and Open Air Classroom project.**

Boardmember Cunningham wanted to discuss this item and requested information as to where the additional funding would come from to pay for the other half of this project. Deputy Director Carter said that our plan will be bundled with the 2 other grants that we are trying to acquire for the Open Air Classroom and the Ranger facility. If this does not work then we will work with the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy or Coastal Conservancy for the additional funding. She confirmed that no operating funds would be used as a match. Boardmember Cunningham made a motion to approve the grant application and Boardmember Slater Price seconded. All in favor.

2. I-5 North Coast Corridor Widening Draft Supplemental EIR/S  
**Recommendation: Send letter affirming JPA staff's comments on the I-5 North Coastal Corridor Supplemental Draft EIR/EIS.**

Boardmember Slater-Price made a motion to approve the staff recommendation. Boardmember Mosier seconded. All in favor.

**ACTION**

3. Wetland Committee Report and Recommendations  
**Recommendation: Approve the Wetland Advisory Committee's (a) recommendation to name the W-4 and W16 restored wetlands as a memorial to Peter Douglas, and to (b) authorize staff to submit comments to the CCC on the 22<sup>nd</sup> District Agricultural Association's Cease & Desist Order submittals on the JPA's behalf.**

- a. Deputy Director Carter said that on page 22 of the agenda it references the proposal from former Executive Director Diane Coombs that we should memorialize Peter Douglas for all his efforts to get the wetland project approved. Since her proposal, the CAC had considered the item and appointed a committee which had evaluated several different locations. The Trails Committee had reviewed the locations and favored the newly restored lagoon at W4 and W16.

Ms. Carter showed a graphic that depicted where W4 and W16 are located. Ms. Carter said that there would be a interpretive panel explaining the legacy of Mr. Douglas.

Boardmember Slater- Price made a motion to name the wetland area with the full name of Peter Douglas. Boardmember Mosier seconded. The motion was amended by Boardmember Golich to be the Peter Douglas Wetland and the maker of the motion agreed. All in favor.

- b. Director Bobertz said that the new delineation of the wetland area on the East Overflow Lot and Golf Driving Range by Coastal Commission standards indicates that the wetlands are much more extensive than indicated in the Master Plan EIR. The 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District has submitted applications for a number of different projects and some of them overlap those areas. The Wetland Committee is asking the JPA Board to ask staff to look into that issue more carefully and send a response letter from the Wetland Committee to the California Coastal Commission.

Speaker Jacqueline Winterer said that the reports issued by the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District were in 9 booklets instead of having the information on the website. Ms. Winterer stated that they could be purchased at the fairgrounds for \$100.00 which is an obstacle to the public to get information needed to comment on the issues. Another issue of concern in the submittal is that it ignores the wetland delineation project and the State Lands Commission determination that part of the golf driving range is submerged state lands not to be touched. Ms. Winterer said she felt that the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District is a rogue organization because it defies all public agencies that have jurisdiction over them and unless these organizations (including the JPA) expresses forcefully our objections to the loss of wetlands they will be lost forever. Ms. Winterer asked that the JPA Board please support the wetland committee's recommendation.

Speaker Bill Michalsky said that he supports everything that Jacqueline Winterer said about the wetland delineation and other activities on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District property. He went to the Coastal Commission meeting last week and spoke about the event that is going on at this time called Valatar. The Cease and Desist order called for notification of these events and he felt that this has not been done especially to allow this 45,000 ft. red tent on the property for the current event. Mr. Michalski said that they are concerned about parking for these events also.

Boardmember Slater-Price said that there has been a County Board letter issued to the County Counsel proposing a position that the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag District and the County of San Diego would jointly run the fairgrounds. Adam Day and Governor Brown have asked that the local jurisdictions work together. There have been cases of filling the wetlands and events that are not allowed. These are concerns that need to be dealt with.

Boardmember Mosier made a motion to send a letter approved by the JPA Wetland Committee to comment on the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ag. District Cease and Desist order. Boardmember Slater –Price seconded. All in favor

4. Public Hearing on Proposed Bandy Canyon Ranch Land Acquisition  
**Recommendation: Give final approval to the Parcel B Bandy Canyon Ranch Acquisition.**

Deputy Director Carter referred the Board to page 28 of the agenda stating that the JPA Board addressed this issue at the previous meeting with a conditional resolution to purchase this property. Counsel Brechtel has been working on a purchase agreement to secure the property while we find funding for the parcel. A legal notice was placed in the Daily Transcript announcing the JPA's intention to purchase the property. We have opened escrow but have received concerns from the Fish and Wildlife agency that there are some eagle nests near this parcel on the cliffs at Santa Maria Creek and we may disturb this site by putting a trail in. Our view point is that if this property is not secured by us a proposed development of homes will be slated and this will be much more intrusive to the eagles.

Boardmember Golich said that he is very happy that this property is being acquired because it is a great addition to the River Park and thus made a motion to approve Parcel B Bandy Canyon Ranch Acquisition. Boardmember Slater-Price seconded the motion. All in favor

Urgency Item 4a City of San Diego Park Land Dedication Ordinance: Shawna Anderson reported that this item came up suddenly and speaks to the great effort of the City of San Diego to take land that is already owned by the City and designated as open space and dedicate it for preservation. This effort began with the San Diego Canyon Lands which is a local non-profit association with legislation sponsored by Senator Kehoe in 2006 to allow the City of San Diego to forgo some expensive processing and surveying and transfer 6600 acres to dedicated open space. The difference in designated open space and dedicated is the fact that designated open space can be changed with a majority vote of the council to change it to any other use. Dedicated Open Space can only be changed by the vote of the public. Besides the 6600 acres were many other areas of parks and open space that need to be on this list for dedication which amounted to a total of 10,000 acres. These additional acres were in part at the lagoon and essential to our FPA to be dedicated but were recently removed by the City of San Diego Real Estate Assets Department but it is not clear why this was done. The City Land Use and Housing Committee met on Tuesday to consider the whole package and recommended to keep these parcels in the dedicated category by Councilmember Sherri Lightner until a better reason can be explained why they were removed. This motion by Ms. Lightner was passed and the City of San Diego Council has to make a decision by December 31<sup>st</sup> 2012. Staff is asking the JPA Board today to make a motion to support Board member Lightner's action and approve sending a letter to the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation or City Council to keep the River Park FPA parcels on the dedicated list, unless a convincing explanation otherwise is provided.

Boardmember Slater-Price commended Boardmember Lighner for her efforts and made a motion to approve sending a letter to keep all of the 10K acres on the list until a better explanation is given for removal. Boardmember Mosier seconded. All in favor.

## INFORMATION

### 5. Status Reports (Oral)

- a. River Park Projects- Director Bobertz said that the Board is aware that we have 3 major sections of the Coast to Crest Trail: coast, middle and the eastern section and have been trying to find ways to connect these sections together. Recently we have had a few lucky breaks with the section between the coast and middle trail system with an alignment that will link these sections. Deputy Director Carter showed a PowerPoint presentation on the link between the Santa Fe Trail and the County's Lusardi Creek preserve at San Dieguito Road. We have been working with the County of San Diego to connect to their preserve

and cooperating with the owner of the Craig Ranch property to make a connection from Polo Fields to San Dieguito Road.

Shawna Anderson said that the eucalyptus removal in Del Dios has started up again and Lynne Baker, Director of the Conservancy, said that on January 17<sup>th</sup> they are planting 1000 new native trees in the channel and would be happy for any volunteers to help.

Director Bobertz reported that vandals sprayed a 10 X 10 area of graffiti on the Dave Kreitzer/Lake Hodges bridge surface and the portapotty nearby. We are working to find a way to clean this area without any pollutants entering the water below.

Chair Diaz suggested that we submit a report to Graffiti Tracker software which will often match up certain styles of graffiti to one person or group.

6. Coordination Reports (oral)

- a. San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy- Lynne Baker said that the Conservancy is involved in restoration projects happening at the lagoon and San Pasqual Valley. The Conservancy will be at the General Store in Santa Ysabel this weekend for a soft opening. The Birdwing permitting is coming along nicely at the lagoon.
- b. Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley- None
- c. Volcan Mountain Preserve Foundation-None
- d. San Dieguito Lagoon Committee- Bill Michalski said that on the western area between the railroad tracks and Camino Del Mar at the lagoon there is a quest to find who has jurisdiction in this small area and how to protect it. There is a sandbar there and it attracts people with dogs who disturb the birds in the area. They are trying to come up with a solution to keep balance in this area.

7. Jurisdictional Status Reports- Becky Bartling reported that the expansion of Horsepark has been a cooperative experience with the River Park staff and the District will be contributing about \$100K to complete this turf ring relocation project, which enables the trail to connect through the site.

Boardmember Slater-Price asked if Ms. Bartling could have a set of the District's submittal to the Coastal Commission put in the Del Mar Library for public review. Ms. Bartling said that she would make sure that this was done.

Boardmember Cunningham said that the hike on the Old Coach Trail for the grand opening was so great that he is interested in more hikes starting on Volcan Mountain and making his way down the FPA. Mr. Cunningham said that it has been an honor to have worked with Boardmember Slater-Price over these years and thanked her for all her good work.

Chair Diaz said Escondido has approved a new bike master plan for the city. For the Escondido Creek project we are discussing adding security cameras on the trail since it is so difficult for law enforcement to access the trails. Mr. Diaz suggested that a webcam be installed at the bridge site to monitor the area in light of the recent graffiti problem. It was suggested that this item come back as an agenda item to discuss the cost of the units and ongoing monitoring.

8. Communications

a. Letter from San Diego City Attorney re Rancho Del Mar, October 3, 2012

Director Bobertz stated that this letter from the City of Attorney was in response to our letter of concern for the project on Via de La Valle not being in compliance with Prop A. Their response was that this is a City Council matter.

Speaker Jeff Barnouw, co-chair of the Coalition to Protect the San Dieguito River Valley, said that last Wednesday they met with Diane Coombs and the San Diegans for Managed Growth along with members of the League of Women Voters to try to find a way to take this issue to the City Council. Mr. Barnouw said he, Cory Ha'o and Jake Powell have made comments to the Rules Committee and Land Use and Housing Committee. There will be a press conference this Monday at 12:30 asking the City of San Diego to respect Prop A and then onto the City Council meeting with other interested groups including, Protect the San Dieguito River Valley, San Diegans for Managed Growth, Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley, League of Women Voters and Sierra Club. He said we are asking a representative from the JPA to also attend the press conference to make a statement. Board member Mosier agreed to attend.

b. Invitational flyer announcing Tribute to Supervisor Slater-Price after the December 14<sup>th</sup> JPA Board Meeting. Director Bobertz invited all the Board members to attend the party after the JPA meeting on December 14<sup>th</sup> to celebrate all the good work done by Ms. Slater Price over these 20 years.

9. 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. 22<sup>nd</sup> District Agricultural Association. It was noted that the Board met in closed session and no reportable action was taken.

Chair Diaz adjourned the meeting at 11:50

These minutes approved by Board Action

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Date

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Executive Director

