

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Minutes of January 10, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Jeff Barnouw  
Phil Pryde  
Jan Fuchs  
Linda Ostser  
Maggie Brown  
Herb Dackerman  
Judy LaVine  
Liz Gabrych  
Dorothy McLin  
Don Wendt  
Rikki Schroeder  
Jeremy Blakespear  
Carol Kerridge  
Peter Shapiro  
Bill Michalsky  
Carol Carr  
Jacqueline Winterer

**REPRESENTING**

CAC, Chair  
Audubon Society  
Carmel Valley Planning Board  
Del Dios Town Council  
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley  
Julian Community Planning Group  
Lake Hodges Native Plant Club  
League of Women Voters  
Lomas Serenas Property Owners  
Ramona Trails  
San Diego County Farm Bureau  
San Diego Mountain Bike Association  
Del Mar Lagoon Committee  
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy  
Sierra Club  
Walkabout International  
Coastal Property Owner

**VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT**

Kevin McKernan  
Brenda Miller  
Shawna Anderson  
John Degenfelder

San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
San Dieguito River Park JPA  
Ramona Trails

**Roll Call and Introductions**

Chair Barnouw convened the meeting at 10:34 at the San Rafael Parish, 17252 Bernardo Center Drive, Rancho Bernardo.

Individual introductions were made and a quorum was met with 16 members in attendance.

**Approval of Minutes- November 1, 2019**

Maggie Brown moved to approve the minutes of November 1, 2019 and Bill Michalsky seconded the motion with 16 members in favor.

**Chair's Report** – No report.

**Executive Director's Report** – Executive Director McKernan reported that the Ranger Station is coming along great and that move in is anticipated for February. An open house event is being planned for April. Director McKernan reported on some trail issues; due to storms during the Thanksgiving holiday the Horsepark Trail Bridge suffered damage. The issue has been fixed temporarily and staff is working with the 22<sup>nd</sup> Agricultural District for more permanent repairs.

He continued to report that the bridge is safe to walk on. There was another issue of a sinkhole in the middle of the trail, 50 feet from the river. Director McKernan gave kudos to the dust devils and rangers for moving rock and gravel into the hole, and creating a french drain style repair.

**Public Comment** – Jan Fuchs asked if anything has happened with the discussions regarding the Surf Cup trail issue. Maggie Brown read a recap of the October and December JPA meeting actions. Ms. Brown handed out copies of her report and reported that the JPA Board formed a subcommittee to look into the issue of the trail construction delays. She also encouraged CAC members to visit the Coalition to Preserve Polo Fields Neighborhood website. Jeremy Blakespear asked Maggie what the end goal is. Maggie stated that regarding the Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley lawsuit against Surf Cup and City their position is that an EIR should have been required for the new Surf Cup lease. She also shared information regarding the grant deed on the property. Director McKernan provided an update that the JPA subcommittee will meet next week and that it is not a public meeting. Phil Pryde shared that he will offer an intermediate birding course beginning February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Don Wendt said the Santa Ysabel Nature Center is open and was dedicated on January 14<sup>th</sup>. Bill Michalsky said that the Surf Cup issues will be heard and discussed at the Carmel Valley Planning Board meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Carmel Valley Library.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION**

### **1. Committee Reports**

- a. **Project Review Committee** – Jan Fuchs reported that the next PRC meeting will be Tuesday, Jan 21<sup>st</sup> at 1:00p.m. The agenda will include the SANDAG double track project in Del Mar. Principal Planner Shawna Anderson said that she was inviting SANDAG to present the five rail alignment alternatives at an upcoming CAC meeting. The City of Del Mar is looking at the five alternatives and narrowing it down to two recommended for further study. Ms. Anderson will attend the Del Mar Lagoon Committee meeting January 15<sup>th</sup> to learn more about the City of Del Mar's process to evaluate the five alternatives and selecting two. Ms. Anderson will invite SANDAG to the February CAC meeting. Jan Fuchs said that another topic on the agenda is the Marisol project on the bluffs in Del Mar. Ms. Fuchs continued that the DEIR was released for public review during the holidays and that the CAC will not be able to discuss in depth as comments are due February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Anderson will present her DEIR comments to the JPA board at their January 17<sup>th</sup> meeting and the draft comments will be included in the JPA board meeting agenda posted to the JPA website today.
  
- b. **Trails Committee** – Carol Carr reported that in the last few meetings the committee has been discussing trail safety and etiquette. One goal of the committee is to improve safety on the narrow sections of trail beginning with Raptor Ridge.

The committee has invited Ranger David Hekel to attend the next meeting on February 11<sup>th</sup>. Ranger Bryan Ward posted a link to the Share and Be Aware video on the SDRP.org website. It is located on the General Park Rules page on the Trails menu. Jeremy Blakespear said burden of safety falls heavily on the mountain bikers and that all trail users should be educated. The use of ear buds, necessity of water, signs, condition of trail and other safety issues were discussed.

- c. **Interpretation Committee-** Liz Gabrych reported that there was no meeting in December. She reported that at the November meeting the committee discussed the Pamo Valley interpretive panels. They also reviewed a new app to document the condition of signs along the trails. Ms. Gabrych stated that Sikes Adobe is celebrating their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2020. Leana Bulay has a goal of funding construction of a barn at Sikes that will be used for meeting space. The Sikes caretaker, David Marriott also the founder of the Monarch Program passed away in November. Director McKernan promoted the Sikes Valentine Teas to be held at Sikes February 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 2. **Election of Officers, Chair & Vice-Chair**

Chair Barnouw opened nominations for the Chair and Vice-Chair positions. Jan Fuchs made the motion to nominate Jeff Barnouw for Chair and Jacqueline Winterer for Vice-Chair. Phil Pryde seconded the motion.

All in favor.

## 3. **Discuss San Dieguito River Park Lagoon Ranger Station Conference Room Reservation Policy**

Director McKernan discussed that reservations will be taken for using the conference room at the new Ranger Station and provided a draft reservation policy. The Ranger Station proposed hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. A public restroom will be open during working hours. There was a discussion of capacity (15-20 people), chairs, tables, television, white board, small kitchenette, and restroom. A generous donation was received for furniture. Director McKernan thanked all who had made donations including; The Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley, Jeff Barnouw, Carol Carr, and Tom Carr. The San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy has pledged to donate the solar panels and car charger.

**INFORMATION**

4. **Park Project Status (oral)**

b. **Osuna Segment of the Coast to Crest**

Principal Planner Shawna Anderson said that the grant application notifications by the Natural Resources Agency are not expected until early to mid-March.

5. **Communications** – Jeremy Blakespear said that registrations are open for the Archipelago Ride which will go through sections of the River Park in the Del Dios area. The race will be held April 4<sup>th</sup> 7AM – 3PM. The San Diego Mountain Biking Association is hosting the annual 42-mile event and anticipating 300 participants. Director McKernan added that the race has been authorized through the River Park's event policy. He also announced that Ranger Dave is having a mountain bike patrol training this Sunday at the main River Park office 9:00 A.M. Jacqueline Winterer reported news from the coordination meeting that the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy /or the County of San Diego may plan to purchase 160 acres in the Del Dios area.

Bill Michalsky made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Maggie Brown seconded the motion.

Chair Barnouw adjourned the meeting at 11:29 AM.