

**SAN DIEGUITO RIVER PARK
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Minutes of August 4, 2023**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Chris Khoury
Rich Risner
Phil Pryde
Bob Byrnes
Candice Bowman
Judy Swink, Alternate
Linda Oster
Maggie Brown
Liz Gabrych
Dorothy McLin
Don Wendt
Jeremy Blakespear
Julie Klein
Udo Wahn
Sharon Fogg
Peter Shapiro
Pam Heatherington
Pat Whitt, Alternate
Eric Jones
Sue Carr, Alternate for Jan Fuchs
Bob Dudley
Bill Adelson
Neil Meyer

REPRESENTING

CAC, Chair
American Society of Landscape Architects
Audubon Society
California Native Plant Society – SD
Carmel Valley Planning Board
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3
Del Dios Town Council
Friends of the San Dieguito River Valley
League of Women Voters
Lomas Serenas Property Owners
Ramona Trails
San Diego Bicycle Coalition
San Diego Trails Alliance
San Dieguito Lagoon Committee
San Dieguito Planning Group
San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy
Sierra Club
Torrey Pines Community Planning Group
Volcan Mountain Foundation
Coastal Property Owner
San Pasqual Property Owner
Eastern Property Owner
Eastern Property Owner

VISITORS/STAFF PRESENT

Shawna Anderson
Dewanda Vandermost
Johnathan Applebaum
Justin Daniel
John Degenfelder, Alternate
Holly Kicklighter

San Dieguito River Park JPA
San Dieguito River Park JPA
Volcan Mountain Foundation
California Native Plant Society – SD
Ramona Trails
Citizens Coordinate for Century 3

Introductions and Announcements

Chair Khoury called the meeting to order at 10:35 AM.
Judy Swink introduced Holly Kicklighter who may take over Diane Coombs role as the primary representative for Citizens Coordinate for Century 3

Approval of Minutes- 6-2-23

Liz Gabrych moved to approve the minutes of June 2, 2023 and Maggie Brown seconded the motion. All members were in favor.

Chair's Report – Chair Khoury remarked on the high meeting attendance and that he and JPA staff have been working on the membership roster to ensure a record of quorums are met and, if needed to achieve a

quorum at a meeting, an organization that has not attended the last three meetings or has missed four meetings within one year may be suspended.

Chair Khoury reported on the level of Lake Hodges and that a City of San Diego Public Utility Department representative will attend a future CAC meeting to give a presentation about their future plans for Hodges Reservoir. He would like to discuss whether there might be mitigation measures that could be taken to minimize environmental impacts from the low lake level.

Chair Khoury followed up on the GSOB infestation to report that expanded spraying was completed around Lake Hodges by the Del Dios Habitat League and on JPA land at the base of Volcan Mountain with coordination by the Volcan Mountain Foundation.

Khoury summarized the two JPA meetings that have occurred since the last CAC meeting.

Executive Director's Report –Director Anderson shared that the state awarded \$1.3M to the JPA by Senator Pro-Tempore Toni Atkins for the SDRP Western Gateway and Reach the Beach Trail. The Del Mar Foundation also donated \$25,000 toward the project design. Anderson stated that project plans will be presented to the CAC and Trails Committee in the future.

She reported that the Del Mar Fairgrounds' tour of their Water Quality Improvement program will occur on August 14th; that SDG&E will be removing 35 utility poles in the lagoon area west of the freeway; and shared photos of the Watershed Explorers program summer camp.

Public Comment - None

DISCUSSION/ACTION

1. Cooper Land Donation

Executive Director Anderson reported that the JPA Board approved the Cooper land donation of about twenty acres located near the San Dieguito Lagoon restoration project. She provided an overview of the land, its value and usage as open space and restoration.

CAC members were pleased by the generous donation by the Coopers. Pam Heatherington from the Sierra Club mentioned the San Diego regional 30x30 funding which provides potential opportunities for land purchases and studies.

2. Status of Osuna Segment of Coast to Crest Trail

Executive Director Anderson reported that funding for a estimated \$1.4-million budget shortfall for the Osuna Trail project is being awarded in the State budget as requested by Senator Blakespear. There will be a press event in September to celebrate the Senator's accomplishment.

She updated the project milestones including the completion of the CEQA process and progress made on permits and other required easements and agreements. Construction is estimated to start September 2024.

A question was raised about the timing of project construction scheduled through the winter and Executive Director Anderson answered that it is a project requirement to avoid construction during the bird breeding season March through early September. Justin Daniel inquired about using the existing Morgan Run golf bridge and Executive Director Anderson answered that the corporate owners declined several years ago to allow the trail on their property.

3. Committee Reports

a. **Project Review Committee** – Sue Carr, Alt. – no report.

b. **Trails Committee** – Don Wendt from Ramona Trails Association reported on a \$1 million grant to County Parks for the Santa Maria Greenway. They are working with County Parks on a plan for a trail connection from the Old Survey Road to the CTC trail in San Pasqual Valley at Bandy Canyon. The Ramona Old Survey trail is open for three months starting August to November.

Executive Director Anderson mentioned the CAC Trails Committee meeting to occur August 8th at 12:30 PM at the SDRP headquarters to discuss a trail user survey and will be looking for volunteers to conduct the survey.

c. **Interpretation Committee** - Liz Gabrych reported on the Outdoor Equity Grant programming and updating the bird and native plant brochures for the lagoon. Executive Director Anderson suggested that the JPA's Senior Interpretive Ranger Leana Bulay present at a future CAC meeting as she did at a recent JPA meeting.

INFORMATION

4. Park and Project Status and Updates (oral) – no report.

Linda Oster made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Judy Swink seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.