

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF JANUARY 9, 2024**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, January 9, 2024, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present

David Boyer, USMC  
Jessi Brown, City of La Mesa  
Glenn Farber, San Carlos Area Council  
Rick Gulley, City of Parks and Recreation Committee  
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group (alternate)  
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large  
Kevin Loomis, MTRP user group  
Lane MacKenzie, MTRP Foundation  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
Gary Strawn, City of Santee

**Members Absent/Excuse**

Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large  
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee  
David Lipson, SDSU  
Mike Pent, Special Member  
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners  
Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic  
Association  
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council  
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council

**City of San Diego**

Ed Christensen, Open Space Division District Manager, Parks and Recreation Department  
Rob Wheeler, Senior Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation Department

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard.

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Loomis/ Hutsel) to approve the minutes of the meeting of November 7, 2023. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF – JANUARY 9, 2024**

**CHAIR'S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard**

- Last meeting as chair of the CAC after 12 terms and 24 years. Will return to CAC as special member

**STAFF/RANGER'S REPORT – Rob Wheeler**

- Announcement of the two newly appointed Senior Park Rangers; Julie Aeilts and Rob Wheeler

**FOUNDATION REPORT - Lane MacKenzie**

- Finishing up phase one environmental report on 55-acre parcel acquisition which will then go to City for approval with escrow to follow.
- Grant from Dr. Seuss program will aid in expansion of Trail Tykes Program to eight times a month
- Hired first full-time fundraiser supported by a grant for capacity building
- A third eco-ambassador to start in late January. Seeking additional funding to sustain this program for the next couple of years. Youth field trips to continue.
- Planning lectures and film screenings for Spring including a book signing tour with SDSU Professor and Kumeyaay history scholar.

**COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**101.** Recommendation for one additional beverage machine at MTRP Cowles Mtn. trailhead – *Sarah Brenha, Asst Deputy Director, City of San Diego Economic Development Dept. and Alishia Zaldivar, Regional Director, Canteen Vending.*

- **MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Strawn/MacKenzie) to approve that the proposal to add one additional beverage machine at Cowles Mtn. trailhead be moved to Task Force. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

**102.** Report and recommendations regarding FY 2025 Regional Park Improvement Funds – Proposed Allocation Recommendations – *Dorothy Leonard*

- **MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Murphy/Gulley) to support the P&R proposals for distribution of the regional park antenna funds and to encourage the representative to speak strongly in favor of Old Mission Dam and West Sycamore projects. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF – JANUARY 9, 2024**

**103.** MTRP Visitors Center Facility Rental Program Updates – *Jennifer Morrissey*

- **MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Murphy/Gulley) to approve the updated fee schedule at Mission Trails Regional Park as recommended by the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation board of directors. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.
- **MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Murphy/MacKenzie) to approve the visitors center special event rules and regulations and reservation guidelines as recommended by the Mission Trails Regional Park Foundation board of directors with the addition of the following language to the agreement: “The City of San Diego reserves the right to refuse to rent the facility to any person or organization if determined not to be in the best interest of Mission Trails Regional Park or The City of San Diego”. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

**WORKSHOP ITEMS – None**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**301.** San Diego River Crossing Bridge project – PRJ-1050170 –*Evan Lakin, KPFF.*

- Second drilling operation to take place Friday, January 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Draft geotechnical reports and draft cost estimates are being considered

**302.** East County Advanced Water Purification Project – *Rebecca Abbott, P.E., Padre Dam Municipal Water District*

- Project status updates since presented in 2021; certified CEQA document, obtained project approval, performed a condition assessment on the sewer main this project will rehabilitate.
- Project is now in the design phase; expecting 60% design documents shortly to be followed by final design and construction phase later in the year
- Purpose of project: to diversify San Diego’s water supply to achieve regional water sustainability

**303.** Oak Grove trail improvements status report – *Rob Wheeler*

- Construction materials have been delivered to the site
- Test patch work can begin when MTRP takes delivery on new tractor to distribute the material in the coming weeks.

**304.** Status report on encumbering funds in Mission Trails Fund 200403 for start-up costs related to the preparation and planning of priority projects approved by the MTRP Task Force at the November 18, 2021- *Ed Christensen*

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF – JANUARY 9, 2024**

- Antenna fund total: \$849,869
  - \$369,536 is earmarked for projects including West Sycamore
  - Remaining balance is \$571,555 available to budget

**305.** Report from MTRP CAC ad hoc subcommittee to monitor status of land acquisition negotiations between the County of San Diego and MCAS Miramar – *Kevin Loomis / Lane MacKenzie*

- Landowner has decided not to sell the property and the City has stopped negotiations.
- Request has been submitted for the contract information with the property owner and family to pursue further information.

**306.** Cowles communications tower/power pole replacement update – *Ed Christensen*

- No update

**307.** Old Mission Dam Dredging project status report – *Rob Wheeler*

- Received update from Engineering & Capital Projects Dept that permitting should be wrapped up soon and they hope to have a contractor lined up by September so they can start work as soon as breeding restrictions end on September 15<sup>th</sup>.

**308.** Bilingual signage program – *Rob Wheeler*

- Inventory taken on signage and will plan to meet with Facility Ops group to discuss next steps.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:21 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024, 6:30 PM.