

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 7, 2024**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 7th, 2024, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

ATTENDANCE Members Present

David Boyer, USMC
Jessi Brown, City of La Mesa
Cynthia Cornelius, Member-at-large
Glenn Farber, San Carlos Area
Council
Rick Gulley, City of Parks and Recreation Committee
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group (alternate)
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee
Dorothy Leonard, Special Member
David Lipson, SDSU
Kevin Loomis, Chair
Lane MacKenzie, MTRP Foundation
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member
Mike Pent, Special Member
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners
Gary Strawn, City of
Santee
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council

Members Absent/Excuse

Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic Association

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 Kevin Loomis.

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Gulley) to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 5, 2024. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

CHAIR'S REPORT – Kevin Loomis

- Task Force approved Bridge For Max design and it has been passed on to City of San Diego Development Services Department for review
- MTRP reservation fee structure was approved and is in effect immediately

STAFF/RANGER'S REPORT – Rob Wheeler

- Park Ranger interviews have concluded and job offers will be made starting in July to fill one vacancy
- Rangers have been working on repairing and improving trails damaged by winter storms with notable projects in the grasslands, along the VC Loop, and on Cowles Mountain
- MTRP staff is working with contractors to clear overgrown trails after significant rainfall this past season

FOUNDATION REPORT - Lane MacKenzie

- Escrow has been closed on the acquisition of 55 acres in April and donation to the City is in progress
- Received an additional \$2M grant for land acquisition and are approaching landowners with adjacent parcels to purchase with potential of up to an additional 70 acres
- Working with the City to plan a multi-year grant funded invasive species and brush removal project funded by a \$1.8M grant from the San Diego River Conservancy
 - The project will be managed by the Foundation in collaboration with the City
 - Recon Environmental has been hired as the contractor to perform the work
- Hosted a celebration for three of the parks founders; Dorothy Leonard, Dick Murphy, and Mike Pent
- Expansion of the trail guide program has been going well and is now offered eight times a month every Wednesday afternoon

COMMUNICATIONS –

ACTION ITEMS

101. Request MTRP Antenna Funds for West Sycamore. Total amount needed is \$934,792 for Bid Start in November of 2024 – *Erika Ferreira*

- **MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Thesing/Leonard) to approve the request for funds. The motion passed unanimously with Boyer abstaining.

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WORKSHOP ITEMS – None

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego River Bridge project – PRJ-1050170 – Task Force approval of the conceptual design for the San Diego River Crossing Bridge to go to DSD (Development Services Department) – *Kevin Loomis*

- Cultural resource survey has been completed
- Biological resource assessment is ongoing
- Once surveys are complete the discretionary process through the City will start and survey findings will be submitted along with design drawings for assessment and environmental review

302. MTRP Fee Schedule (handout) – Task Force approval of the MTRP Fee Schedule – *Kevin Loomis*

- Approved by Task Force

303. Antenna Funds Income sources, amounts, and renewal status – *Ed Christensen*

- Income sources are as follows:
 - Scripps Media - \$2,709mo / \$32,508 annually
 - SDGE - \$12,359mo / \$148,310 annually
 - San Diego Metropolitan Transit System - \$34,578 annually
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation - \$913mo / \$10,960 annually
 - Total annual revenue \$226,356 annually
- Leases were renewed in 2023

304. Oak Grove Trail improvements status report – *Rob Wheeler*

- Test patch installed in March has held up well to foot traffic and significant rain events
- Implementation of the test patch approach across the entire project area to be discussed and alternatives considered

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*

- Environmental assessments required; process has not started
- Updated appraisals required

306. MPU Implementation Priority Projects Currently Underway– *Kevin Loomis*

- Constructing the new East Elliot hike/bike loop trail through land acquisition
- Constructing the Bridge for Max

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- Oak Grove Trail improvements
- Preservation and maintenance of Old Mission Dam
- Supporting Stowe trail development
- West Sycamore staging area and ranger station

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

- Project added to department master project list to become a capital improvement project
- Will eventually be sent to Engineering and Capital Projects Department to be implemented

308. Old Mission Dam Dredging project status report– *Ed Christensen*

- All necessary permits have been acquired
- Work plans are being finalized
- Will be negotiating contracts for the project this month
- Work to be begin in September/October if all goes according to plan

309. FY25 budget related to Mission Trails Regional Park– *Ed Christensen*

- Position adds in response to land acquisition throughout the City: Park Ranger, Biologist III MSCP
 - These positions are not specific to Mission Trails Regional Park but may have some overlap

310. Bilingual signage program– *Rob Wheeler*

- No update

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 PM.

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, July 2nd, 2024, 6:30 PM.