

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF MAY 6, 2025**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday, May 6, 2025, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

**ATTENDANCE** Members Present

Jessi Brown, City of La Mesa  
Cynthia Cornelius, Member-at-large  
Shawn Chambers, MTRP User Group  
Glenn Farber, San Carlos Area Council  
Rick Gulley, City of Parks and Recreation  
Committee  
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee  
David Lipson, SDSU  
Kevin Loomis, Chair  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
Scott Penwell, City of El Cajon  
Mike Pent, Special Member  
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners  
Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic Association  
Gary Strawn, City of Santee  
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council

**Members Absent/Excuse**

David Boyer, USMC  
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group (alternate)  
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 Kevin Loomis.

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (Gulley/Cornelius) to approve the amended minutes of the meeting of May 6, 2025. The motion passed unanimously.

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**CHAIR'S REPORT – *Kevin Loomis***

- City is suggesting Lake Murray closure Mon-Fri due to budget cuts

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

- Ranger staff have been taking advantage of the cool weather and repairing damaged trails and bridges in areas of West Fortuna and Cowles Mountain including monthly volunteer events with members of the community.
- Rangers have also worked with volunteers and the Foundation to acquire and plant over 200 native plants in the Grasslands and East Fortuna Staging Areas

**FOUNDATION REPORT – *Cynthia Cornelius***

- City council has accepted the Foundations 53 acres purchased bringing the total to 108 acres acquired for MTRP
- RECON is continuing to work with the invasive brush removal in the park and is doing a second pass after invasives have resprouted
- Kickoff meeting with RECON and City staff over removal of the water primrose in Kumeyaay Lake and Old Mission Dam
- Getting closer to a final template for the review of interpretive signs in the park and content of signs that will be placed on Oak Grove
- Field trips for the school year and wrapping up and summer camp is started June 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Photo contest opening reception is the evening of May 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Hiring a new position for Education and Outreach Coordinator as well as Camp Counselor and Camp Aids for summer camp

**COMMUNICATIONS –**

- Jeff Stoner, Endurance Race Series, introduction

**ACTION ITEMS**

**WORKSHOP ITEMS – None**

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**301. Bridge For Max Project Update – *Evan Lakin KPFF***

- Meeting was held to review mitigation strategies
- Surveys to begin on Thursday
- City review comments for the building permit have been received

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- Dept Fish & Wildlife meeting scheduled on site for Tuesday
- Maintenance cost estimate has been determined

**302.** East County Advanced Water Purification Project Update – *Rebecca Abbott, Engineering Manager, East County Advanced Water Purification Joint Power Authority*

- Work to start in next few weeks; May 19<sup>th</sup>
- Bypass pipeline materials will be staged on site
- Sound walls to be installed at work site for duration of project

**303.** Oak Grove Loop Trail Resurfacing Project Update – *Rob Wheeler, Senior Park Ranger, MTRP*

- The use of the funds for the projected scope of work has been approved.
- We are waiting for approval from the Dept of Finance to move forward with ordering the materials from the vendors we've obtained quotes from
- Once approved we hope to begin the project as soon as possible.

**304.** West Sycamore Staging Area Project Update – *Ed Christensen, Supervising Park Ranger, Open Space Division*

- No timeline updates from last meeting
- Staff requested \$170k from the regional park improvement fund for the project and was heard an approved at the CNS committee last month and should go to City Council for approval in May

**305.** Stowe Trail Ad-hoc Subcommittee Update – *Kevin Loomis, Chair*

- County task order is nearing approval which is needed for the Dept of the Navy to complete their federal endangered species act and national historic preservation act requirements which will support CEQA and NEPA requirements
- Kevin to meet with County Environmental Planner on Thursday
- Boundaries have been set

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Tuesday, July 1st, 2025, 6:30 PM.