

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2025**  
**LOS PEÑASQUITOS CANYON PRESERVE CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee was held at 7:00 PM on September 18, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM

MEMBERS

Lillian Barnes, Chair, San Diego Audubon Society  
Pam Stevens, Vice-chair, Mira Mesa Community Planning Group  
Erik Basil, Treasurer, Multi-use Trails Coalition  
Matthew Bartelt, San Diego Mountain Biking Association  
Giovanni Benson, Rancho Peñasquitos Community Planning Group  
Anne Fege, Member-at-Large  
Ish Khan, Del Mar Mesa Community Planning Group  
Frank Macaulay, Carmel Valley Community Planning Group  
Beth Mather, Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve  
Jim Royle, San Diego County Archeological Society

Members Excused

Tim Gross, Member-at-Large, San Diego City College  
Shital Parikh, Member-at-Large, Friends of Del Mar Mesa  
Bunny Clews, Carmel Valley Trail Riders

Members Absent

Torrey Hills Community Planning Group

City of San Diego

Gina Washington, Sr. Park Ranger, City of San Diego, Parks & Recreation  
Haley Marshall, Park Ranger, City of San Diego, Parks & Recreation

County of San Diego

Brandon Schroeder, Regional Manager, County of San Diego, Parks & Recreation  
Justin Gibbons, Park Ranger, County of San Diego, Parks & Recreation

Others Present

Kerris Kennedy  
Matthias Blume

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES of JULY 17, 2025

**MOTION:                    MOVED/SECONDED                    Stevens/Bartelt**

The motion to approve the minutes, with the following corrections was made by Ms. Stevens and Mr. Bartelt 9/0/1

- Shital Parikh is a Member-at-Large
- Typos in the Ranger Reports.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – none

TREASURER'S REPORT

The account total as of August 2025 is \$1,905.42, an increase of \$0.01

RANGER REPORTS

Ranger Gibbons reported that the County hosted a National Recreation Parks Association pre-storm prep clean-up with members of the public and 42 Scouts. They collected 50 lbs. of recyclables and 80 lbs. of trash. Staff are working on replacing lattice on the Adobe's porch, this required going to specialty stores to acquire historically appropriate materials. County staff are also rebuilding the south main trail, filling rocks with ruts and topping with DG.

Ranger Washington reported that City rangers hosted a volunteer work project with Halozyme's Day of Service, a local business, to remove non-natives at the top of Old Lopez Rd Trail. They fill two 40 yd. dumpsters. Halozyme has purchased native plants to be planted in the rainy season. This is an example of one of the corporate partnerships we enjoy in the Preserve. Staff are prepping habitat restoration areas for fall planting. El Cuervo del Sur Wetland Creation Project has begun, at the west end of the canyon. This project will be replacing non-native invasive mustard, tree tobacco, etc. with functioning wetland and upland habitat. Ranger staff are using the new 500-gallon water trailer acquired by the Friends of LPCP through a POP's grant. It is an amazing tool for habitat and trail work. She introduced Haley Marshall, the new park ranger at LPCP, an increasing City ranger staff to 4, an all time high. The City will be hosting the annual Creek to Bay Cleanup at Cara Way this month.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Matthias Blume shared his concerns that Tunnel 5 in Del Mar Mesa Preserve, an unauthorized trail, is being rehabilitated as part of the Chapparal Lands Conservancy's programmatic plan. Mr. Blume expressed concern that the rehabilitation will block animal movement, cause erosion and damage roots of scrub oak. Additionally, Mr. Blume feels the trail should be open to public access.

## ACTION ITEMS

### 101. Letter in Support of the Les Braund Trail Naming

Ms. Barnes and Ms. Stevens presented a letter in support of naming the trail known as the Camino Ruiz Trail the Les Braund Trail. See the attached letter.

**MOTION:                      MOVED/SECONDED                      Basil/Fege**

The motion to approve the letter as presented passed unanimously 10/0/0

## INFORMATION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 201. Pre-Meeting Outdoor Classroom Site Visit

Mr. Schroder let a group of interested CAC members on a tour of the location of the \$1.3 million outdoor classroom project adjacent to the Ranch House. Details about the project can be found on the County's website here [Parks Development Plans](#)

### 202. Zoom Equipment

The new Zoom equipment has been purchased. Ms. Barnes requested an ad-hoc committee to test it out so it can be ready for use at the next meeting. She also requested that the City provide a letter outlining the use of Zoom for public meetings. It was expressed that the purpose of providing online access to the CAC meetings is to encourage more public involvement.

### 203. Trail Abuse in Neighborhoods Adjacent to the Preserve

Ms. Barnes shared concerns about abuse of trails, speeding electric bicycles, motorcycles, etc. on the Marvin Gerst Trail adjacent to Carmel Mountain Preserve.

## ORGANIZATION REPORTS

Friends of Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve – Ms. Mather shared they are continuing habitat restoration work at Black Mountain Open Space with volunteers every two weeks. They have also been working with the A.L. Clinton Foundation on getting funds to improve Monarch butterfly habitat in several areas within Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve.

San Diego Archaeological Society – Mr. Royle shared that “Arch in the Park” will be held at the Ranch House on Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. There are 30 groups participating in the event. The Society for California Archaeology will hold its annual Data Sharing meeting the same day at the Ranch House, 3:00- 6:00 PM.

San Diego Mountain Biking Association – Mr. Bartelt shared that they participated in a cleanup of the Trans-County Trail with City rangers trimming the trail and fixing approaches to the footbridges. They are applying for a grant from the State Senator, funding to be used to complete the Calle Cristobal Trail.

Audubon Society – Ms. Barnes shared that they are coordinating with SanDAG on reviewing plans to widening Hwy 67. The wildlife monitoring studies are fascinating.

Multi-use Trails Coalition – Mr. Basil shared that they did an inspection of Cobbles trail corridor where their volunteers had done much work in the past. The repair on Lower Cobbles, near the “whoops” has fail; he requested that it be fixed.

COMMUNITY PLANNING GROUPS

Rancho Peñasquitos – Mr. Benson said that the RPCPG would sign off on naming the Les Braund Trail if someone presents it at the 10/1/25 meeting. They will be holding a Fire Safe Council meeting on October 4<sup>th</sup>. The RPCPG would like to coordinate with the County/City to get more parking as the Canyonside Rec Center is adding four more tennis courts. The question is, can the trailhead parking be moved to the lower County lot that is gated?

Mira Mesa – Ms. Stevens shared that they approved the naming of the Les Braund Trail at the August meeting. The Mira Mesa Street Fair will be held on October 4<sup>th</sup>.

NON-AGENDA MEMBER COMMENTS

ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING AGENDA

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM

Respectfully submitted,  
Gina Washington