

MINUTES OF THE March 18th, 2026 MEETING OF THE
TECOLOTE CANYON CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TIME AND PLACE

This meeting of the Tecolote Canyon Citizen's Advisory Committee was held on September 17th, 2025 at 6:30pm at the Tecolote Nature Center.

ATTENDENCE

Members Present

Darrel Madison

David Harpster

Anitra Kaye

Niki Ahrens

Lauriel Adsit

Cynthia Contreras

Marc Schaefer

Beatrice Darimont

Absent

Terressa Whitaker

Suzy Ellison-Logan

Wilbur Smith

Robert Mathers

Guests

Evan Sollberger, SDMBA

Youth Volunteers + Family

City of San Diego Staff

Austin Lane, Parks and Recreation Department

CALL TO ORDER

Darrel Madison called the meeting to order at 6:38pm

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF January 21, 2026

1. (MADISON), Do I have a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the meeting of January 21st, 2026 with correction: (City Councilmembers report section change 33' height limit to 30' with the exception of select commercial areas.) (Shaefer) Motioned. (Harpster) Seconded. (All) were in favor to approve the minutes with correction.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

None.

CHAIR PERSON'S REPORT- DARREL MADISON

1. (MADISON) urged everyone to participate in upcoming City Councilmember election as it can have future impacts on Tecolote Canyon.

RANGER'S REPORT- PARK RANGER AUSTIN LANE

1. Lots of programs are occurring at Tecolote Nature Center and foot traffic is increasing.
2. The trails in the southern portion of Tecolote Canyon near the Nature Center remain closed due to impacts from the Tecolote Canyon Trunk Sewer Project.
3. The annual Canyon Connections event will be held on June 6th at the Tecolote Nature Center.
4. A number of large oak trees have been cut down in Northern Tecolote as a result of the Trunk Sewer Project.
5. Trailwork days in conjunction with San Diego Mountain Biking Association have helped maintain trails throughout the canyon.
6. Tecolote Nature Center has undergone many changes including a renovated library.
7. Planting has concluded at the "Site 10" restoration area. Watering and weed abatement will continue through the summer.
8. Larry Klausen, longtime volunteer with Tecolote Rangers, has passed away.
9. Tecolote Rangers are seeking new volunteers with herbicide licenses.

WILDLIFE REPORT

1. (Madison) saw a Great Blue Heron on the golf course.
2. (Kaye) witnessed a hummingbird nesting in Marian Bear Memorial Park.
3. (Lane) spotted a California Gnatcatcher in "Site 11" Restoration Site.
4. (Darimont) expressed desire to perform bug surveys in Tecolote Canyon.

Public Comments

None.

ACTION ITEMS

101. None.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

201. Wildcoast Restoration Project

1. Wildcoast provided an overview of past and present restoration/preservation efforts.
2. Discussed restoration work performed thus far in Tecolote Canyon and expressed desire to continue restoration efforts long-term.
3. Debuted draft interpretive signs to be placed in "Site 11" restoration area.

202. Friends of Tecolote Canyon

1. ESCAPE educational programs are occurring regularly.
2. Seeking new sources of funding.
3. (Contreras) is now Director of Community Engagement and Stewardship.

204. Tecolote Canyon Trunk Sewer Replacement

1. (Madison) noted poor cuts on oak trees.
2. Group agreed to draft a letter expressing concerns.

205. Golf Course Proposal

1. (Madison) would like to ensure access to the canyon be maintained.
2. Group wants golf balls to be cleaned out of creek and canyon.
3. Group would like to see environmentally friendly practices moving forward.

206. Group Liaison Assignment

1. (Madison) is seeking volunteers.

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. Youth Trailwork Volunteers

1. Presentation outlining recent trailwork as part of school service project. Projects included trail tread improvement and brush removal.

301. Natural Resource Management Plan/ Master Plan Update for Tecolote Canyon Natural Park

1. The City hired a new biologist and they are actively working on the plan.

303. Friends of Tecolote Canyon Update/ fund raising events

1. See Section 202.

304. Open Discussion

None.

COMMUNICATIONS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 20th, 2026 @ 6:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Austin Lane, Park Ranger, Tri-Canyons

Please Note: If there are questions regarding this agenda, please contact Staff Representative Park Ranger Steve Smith at 858-581-9961.

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