

**MISSION TRAILS REGIONAL PARK CITIZENS' ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF July 11, 2023**

**TIME AND PLACE**

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee was held on Tuesday July 11, 2023, at the Mission Trails Regional Park Visitor and Interpretive Center.

**ATTENDANCE**

**Members Present**

Dorothy Leonard, Chair, Member at Large  
Marilyn Reed, Navajo Community Planners  
Kin Searcy, Scripps Ranch Civic Association  
Mickey Zeichick, San Carlos Area Council  
Rob Hutsel, Co of SD Parks and Recreation Committee  
Ryan Hartegan, MTRP User Group (alternate)  
Nancy Acevedo, Member at Large  
Lane MacKenzie, MTRP Foundation  
Dick Murphy, Vice Chair, Special Member  
David Boyer, USMC  
Gary Strawn, City of Santee

**Members Absent/Excuse**

Kevin Loomis, MTRP user group  
Michele Greenberg-McClung, City of La Mesa  
Richard Thesing, Tierrasanta Community Council

**City of San Diego**

Erika Ferreira, Open Space Division Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation Department  
Ed Christensen, Open Space Division District Manager, Parks and Recreation Department  
Daniel Kimpel, OCA Senior Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation Department

**CALL TO ORDER:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by CAC Chair Dorothy Leonard.

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded (HUTSEL/MacKenzie) to approve the minutes of the meeting of March 2, 2023. The motion passed unanimously with BOYER and Lipson abstaining. Correction needed for Action Item 102. showing Boyer abstaining.

**CHAIR’S REPORT – Dorothy Leonard**

- No Chair report-May Task Force canceled.

**STAFF/RANGER’S REPORT – Daniel Kimpel, Erika Ferreira**

- Our newest Ranger, Geoff Hasenauer had his first day with us. He is a past city Lifeguard and Ranger, has a wealth of experience, and will be a great addition.
- Recent completed projects are fixing potholes in the Jackson staging area and Visitors Center Parking Lot, the Jackson pipe removal project, trimming overgrown trails, and invasive plant removal throughout the park.
- City Council voted to approve the acceptance of a donation of 43 acres from Tri-Point

**FOUNDATION REPORT- Lane MacKenzie**

- We recently graduated our first group of twenty teen eco-ambassadors last month, and applications open again in the Fall. We are hosting 4 weeks of summer camp with three days spent at MTRP and two days spent at Lake Murray.
- Staff and the production team from the Geology video recently completed a video on water within the park. The video can be viewed on the Foundation Newsletter and Youtube Channel.
- We're working with city staff to identify smaller trail projects that need funding and we recently purchased materials for city staff to build the Kumeyaay Lake Bridge.
- We are getting reading to host students this Fall for field trips, last year the Foundation hosted over 3300 students.

**COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**ACTION ITEMS**

**101.** City of Santee Mesa Road project – *Nick Chavez, Community Services Director, City of Santee*

- The project has been approved and is on hold until funding is obtained.

**102.** West Sycamore Staging Area design review – *Erika Ferreira, Open Space Division Deputy Director, Parks and Recreation Department*

- We met with E&CP staff to discuss the West Sycamore staging area concerns.
- The concrete in the staging area meets standards for paving. There is no more than 1% grade in the staging area so there will be no issues with runoff. The project plan is good to move forward.
- Open Space staff will be making simple changes to the plant pallet selection.

**MOTION:** It was moved/seconded HUTSEL/SEARCY to support the design pending approval of the plant pallet by Open Space Staff.

**WORKSHOP ITEMS** None

## INFORMATION ITEMS

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

- They are resubmitting documents and working to get approval next week.
- A Biological report was completed to identify what is and isn't an impact.
- The water will also need to be empty in order for them to do the borings.

**302.** City of San Diego FY2024 budget as it relates to the Parks and Recreation Dept. Open Space Division and MTRP operations. – *Ed Christensen and Erika Ferreira*

- The operating budget for Mission Trails this year is \$693,226, a small increase from last fiscal year.
- An existing MTRP Park Ranger position was changed into a Senior Park Ranger position. The department is working on developing a promotional track and creating two new Supervising Park Ranger positions, one of those positions has been approved.

**303.** MTRP Antenna Fund update (aka Mission Trails Fund 200403) – *Ed Christensen*

There is currently \$816,958 in the MTRP Antenna Fund.

- There is currently \$816,958 in the MTRP Antenna Fund.
- At the request of the CAC chair, Ed will report back regarding the amount of the encumbered funds in the MTRP Antenna Fund. These would be funds allocated for the West Sycamore Staging Area project

**304.** Oak Grove trail improvements status report – *Ed Christensen and Daniel Kimpel*

- We recently obtained two evaluations from SDMBA and Spurlock. Funds have been assigned to categories leaving \$100K for materials and for \$100K design and materials.
- Staff are researching, pricing materials, and developing processes also to hopefully complete part of the project in-house.

**305.** Stowe Trail status report – *Ed Christensen*

- Coad family representative stated to Department of Real Estate and Airport Management that they're still interested in selling to the City. The sale will not have to go through City Council due to a 2021 resolution pertaining to the acquisition of East Elliott parcels but is instead a Mayoral action.

Report from MTRP CAC ad hoc subcommittee to monitor status of land acquisition negotiations between the County of San Diego and MCAS Miramar – *David Boyer*

- The Marine Corp and Navy Staff will be meeting with County staff to assess the parcels next week.

**307.** Old Mission Dam Dredging - *Ed Christensen*

- We have been working to get a consultant on board to prepare the permit applications for the dredging work. We are almost complete with the procurement process. Once they are on board, we will proceed with submitting the permit applications.
- The project is still anticipated to take place in the fall of 2024.

**308.** Cowles communications tower, power pole replacement – *Erika Ferreira*

- Sturgeon Electric has provided a quote for repair of one poles and related materials. \$17,825. This will allow electrical lines to be re-energized by SDGE. There are questions regarding who is responsible for replacing the poles – SDG&E or the City. SDG&E said they belong to the City. Dick Murphy thinks this should be pursued further.
- Potential cost to the City is \$1m.
- Communications facility at the top of Cowles houses City and County emergency services along with others.

Next meeting, Tuesday September 5, 2023, 6:30 PM

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 PM