

**Minutes of the Meeting of the March 18, 2021
Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force**

TIME AND PLACE

The meeting of the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force was held on Thursday, March 18, 2021, via zoom.

ATTENDANCE

Members Present

Councilmember Colin Parent, City of La Mesa
Councilmember Raul Campillo, City of San Diego
Dorothy Leonard, Chair, MTRP Citizens' Advisory Committee
Councilmember Joe LaCava, City of San Diego
Supervisor Joel Anderson, County of San Diego
Councilmember Dustin Trotter, City of Santee

Members Absent

Supervisor Terra Lawson-Remer, County of San Diego

City of San Diego Staff

Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department
Paul Kilburg, Deputy Director (OCA), Open Space Division
Ryan Robertson, Senior Park Ranger, Mission Trails Regional Park
Laura Ball, Open Space Division Project Officer II
Vicram Vettiyil, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Michael Simonsen, Office of Councilmember Campillo
Richard Flahive, Office of Councilmember LaCava

County of San Diego Staff

Michael Kulis, Office of Supervisor Anderson
Matt Sanford, Region Manager, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Task Force Chair Raul Campillo at 10:01 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (PARENT/CAMPILLO) to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2021 meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT- *Councilmember Campillo*

- Councilmember Campillo commended the Parks and Rec. staff, the Mission Trails Foundation, and the Mission Trails CAC for the efforts they all put into the park. Also commended and announced were the new members to the Parks and Recreation Department management team. Those members included; Michael Jones, Assistant Deputy Director for the maintenance assessment districts, Gina Dulay, Deputy Director of

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Community Parks, Michael Tully, Deputy Director for Developed Regional Parks, and Erika Ferreira Deputy Director for the Open Space Division.

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE / MTRP FOUNDATION REPORT – Dorothy Leonard

MTRP CAC Report

- At the March 2 meeting of the CAC, the committee asked the City to provide some info at the next meeting. Information asked for included; a brief report analyzing the feasibility of constructing a bridge over the San Diego river along the San Diego River Crossing trail, any physical limitations, possible types of structures, seasonal or year-round crossable, and cost estimates.

MTRP Foundation Report

- Working with City staff, the Foundation has applied for a grant to fund the Old Mission Dam dredging project. A grant to fund the project is needed due to a lack of City funds.
- The online lecture series continues to be very popular. The next Geology lecture has 660 participants signed up.

COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable)

INFORMATION ITEMS

301. San Diego River Crossing Bridge – *Michelle Abella-Shon, City of San Diego Project Officer II*

- A Power Point presenting several of the on-going park priorities, some elements from the Master Plan, and a brief breakdown of the differences between public vs. privately funded projects on City property. A brief description of the known and potential permits and monitoring that would be mandated for projects regardless of funding source was also provided.

Public comments related to the information item:

- Ben Lenail and Laurie Yoler informed those present that their son Max had recently died while trying to cross the San Diego river. As a result of this tragedy, they are working with the City in an effort to have a bridge constructed over the river in the area where their son died. As a part of this effort, they have retained a Design and Engineering firm that will be presenting their findings today. They have three asks today of the Task Force. One is that the City join in their private fundraising efforts and work with them to raise funds for the project. Two is that the City pick one of the three bridge options that will be presented later, and three that the City initiate the project by starting to develop the project scope.
- Steve Merritt, KPFF Consulting Engineers, presented three possible bridge options that his company had developed and cost estimates for the three.
- Cynthia Wootton, Sierra Fang-Horvath, Kai Johnson, Susie Murphy, Susie Brusa, Sonia Arrison Senkut, and Patricia Murphy all spoke in support of constructing a bridge over the San Diego River.

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- Peggy Johnson, Amy Wo, Rohan Gandi, Nicki Ellis, Scott Turner, and Robert Kay all submitted written statements in support of building a bridge over the San Diego River. All submitted written statements were read aloud at this time.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Reappointment of MTRP CAC members for terms ending January 2023 – *Councilmember Campillo*

- Approve reappointment of Rob Hutsel representing County of San Diego Parks & Recreation Committee
- Approve reappointment of Michele Greenburg-McClung representing City of La Mesa and Carol Lockwood City of La Mesa alternate
- Approve reappointment of Dr. David Lipson representing SDSU
- Approve reappointment of Betty Ogilvie representing Tierrasanta Community Council (TCC) and Rich Thesing as TCC alternate
- Approve reappointment of Gary Strawn representing City of Santee

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (LEONARD/ANDERSON) to approve the reappointments as listed. Motion carried unanimously.

STAFF REPORTS

Water Department's Lake Murray Report – None

City of Santee Community Services Department – None

MTRP Senior Ranger Report-Ryan Robertson

- When fully staffed, MTRP has 7 Rangers. Currently there are only 5 Rangers. This means that on any given day, there are only 2 or 3 Rangers on Duty. One of the vacancies is currently in the process of being filled and the process to fill the other vacancy will begin as soon as possible.

Open Space Division Staff Report- None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, May 20, 2021, 10:00 AM