

# PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 12, 2018

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## MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 8:35 am
  
2. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK
  - None
  
3. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA
  - Committee Member Spaeth – Commented that he met with Senator Joel Anderson to see if there is a way for him to help them get some additional assistance and resources from State Parks regarding trail maintenance and working together and that it seems like there will be some coordination/collaboration re-established in the future.
  - Committee Member Groenewold – Asked if it would be possible to have the invasive plants as a future agenda item. I had some discussions during and after the Lilac Fire and it seems that there was some connection between invasive species and/or overgrowth that contributed to the Lilac Fire spread. Since this happens across the county it might be good to have another update on this.
  - Committee Member Hutsel – Commented that the City of San Diego has been on an aggressive clean-up effort which has removed about a million pounds of debris and they are still continuing this effort with a goal of getting through the river areas by April 2018.
  - Committee Member Goad – Stated that there has been an issue in Encinitas recently of illegal dumping and/or fill in the flood plain that ends up in the watershed and affect the area.
  
4. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2017 MINUTES  
MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 13, 2017 MINUTES WITH COMMENTS AND REVIEW – Bert Long, 2<sup>ND</sup> Ron Gaines  
ALL IN FAVOR – 6-0-1
  
5. PLDO & CSA FUND BALANCE REPORTS
  - Distributed the monthly CSA and PLDO reports.
  - Committee Member Hutsel – Noted that they are one of the largest land owners in the Central Mountain area and I would be very interested in participating in the future discussion about the Park Land Dedication Ordinance revisions.
  
6. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Jill Bankston
  - On Wednesday, January 24, 2018 we will have four items going to the Board of Supervisors. Two of these are to develop new parks at Ildica and Estrella which are

parcels of land that we have owned for a while, but previously did not have the funding to build.

- We are also going forward to get approval to apply for the Whale Tail grant that would give funding for reimbursement of expenses related to getting schools/classrooms out to the parks to participate in the Outdoor Education Programs.
- We are also looking to get \$250k from District 1 NRP funds at Sweetwater Summit campground for a new shade structure over the amphitheater.
  - ◆ Committee Member Hutsel – Questioned if there were any updates on the Poway / Hwy 67 undercrossing?
- I do not have much more information on this project, but it seems that it has changed from a bridge to a tunnel.

## 7. BORREGO SPRINGS PARK AND LIBRARY – Stephen Paul

PowerPoint presentation over view and details of project. The project is 16 acres with a Sheriff sub-station in the northeast corner and a library across the street. This will be a two phase project, Phase 1 is the East Park and Phase 2 the West Park. Phase 1 will include a cosmos walkway/solar system interpretive path, public restrooms, children's playground (junior and tot-lot areas), spray cooling misters, picnic areas with shade structures and tables, basketball court, san volleyball court, adult fitness station, and a dog park. Phase 2 will consist of an amphitheater, bocce ball court, and more. Funding for this project is approximately \$3 million with \$2 million of that cost as part of Phase 1.

- Committee Member Long – Asked how many parking spots are part of this project. Also, what about maintenance for the park long term?
- Committee Member Hutsel – Asked if there were items that the community wanted that was not able to be accommodated.
- Committee Member Spaeth – Stated that it might be good to look into the possibility of night time use of the sports fields/areas due to the extreme heat in the area during the day.
  - ◆ I do not have the exact number at this time, however the number of sites is based upon research on the amenities and the possible usage of the amenity at any one time. There of course are some items that were requested that could not be accommodated such as an observatory. We have however worked with the community creating the amphitheater as a source for them to bring their telescopes for stargazing. The site has a volunteer pad included so we will have a live-in volunteer for maintenance as well as this will be added to our park system so there will be assigned staff, however they will be coming from Santa Ysabel Preserve.

## 8. SYCAMORE CANYON PUBLIC ACCESS PLAN – Melanie Tylke

PowerPoint presentation overview of the plan. This plan is being done in conjunction with the Resource Management Plan update and includes some new properties the county has acquired in the Sycamore Canyon area. There is currently not an official public access plan for the area, but we do have some trail plans in this area. During this planning effort we have done quite a bit of stakeholder outreach including but not limited to the San Diego Mountain Bike Association, San Diego Trails Alliance, Friends of Goodan Ranch, Wildlife Agencies, City of Poway, City of San Diego, and more. We are still at the beginning of this

process and will be holding the first public workshop on January 24, 2018 at the Lakeside Community Center at 5:30 pm (flyer handed out). We plan to have this plan finalized in Summer 2018 and beginning trail construction in 2019. Showed draft map of the trails.

- Committee Member Hutsel – Commented that if there are pre-conceived assumptions about the biking and mountain biking in the plan it could be somewhat persuasive on the process and planning and alienate requests for other options/routes in the area by non-bike groups. Asked if there are any parcels of land in this area that have been acquired through funding that will restrict the use for the area. I don't
- Committee Member Goad – Asked if we had any update on the Stowe Trail access on MCAS property.
- Committee Member Spaeth – Questioned what a premier mountain bike facility is defined as? I know that many times it can be dangerous in some situations to have both mountain bikers and equestrian riders on the same trail so I hope that there is a lot of thought put into this during the planning.
  - ◆ The trails are designated as multi-use, however there are some areas that are one-way as well as a steeper downhill that would be one-way for mountain bikers to be more of a premier site for them. We will definitely continue to look at the safety and inclusion aspects of all groups throughout the process. The draft cultural and biological studies have been done, however we will not do the final CEQA until further along in the process to ensure it includes everything in the final plan. The Miramar MCAS part of the Stowe Trail is still restricted and you have to get an individual permit from MCAS Miramar to access their land.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:02 am

ATTENDEES:

Doug Goad, Chair District 3

John Carroll, District 1

Ed Spaeth, District 2

Ron Gaines, District 2

Bert Long, District 3

Rob Hutsel, District 4

Rod Groenewold, District 5

Jill Bankston, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Stephen Paul, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Melanie Tylke, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Deb Mosley, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Sabrina Powell, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation