

PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 9, 2018

MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 8:35 am
2. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK
 - Mr. Whalan -- Will defer comments until PLDO presentation if appropriate.
3. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA
 - Committee Member Goad – Suggested this topic be put on agenda for future discussion.
 - Committee Member McCoy -- states that there is a bill in senate with Toni Atkins to fund San Diego River watershed, Sweetwater, Otay, and Tijuana River watersheds-- all South County, from Mexico to San Diego River. Rob Hutsel will be in charge.
 - Brian Albright – knows there is a proposed South San Diego watershed bill.
 - Committee Member Rob Hutsel -- there is an existing San Diego River Conservancy vs. state charter conservancy. Vision of having San Diego River conservancies as first step for identified certain watersheds to begin to do fiscal management. The issue of competing discussed. We will remain neutral.
 - Brian Albright – the County will remain neutral on this. There have been efforts with the County to direct some of the bond funding. San Diego River is only state approved conservancy in county. We have had to compete for funding with state wide conservancies.
 - Committee Member Rob Hutsel -- other agencies have seen county as having had its share.
 - Committee Member Mike McCoy -- Discussion on river conservancy and receiving of grant money, administrative grants.
 - Committee Member Rob Hutsel—gave solutions to obstacles to getting money for administrative costs. New Federal laws guarantee 10% administrative costs. You can negotiate with the feds for more. California Overhead Project guarantees overhead for non-profits.
 - Committee Member Mike McCoy -- discussed Tijuana River law suit. Mexico is the only one who can get it moving in the Tijuana River Valley and it's a County Park. Gave a suggestion to look at areas as regional for funding. Funding is a problem. Mexico needs U.S. dollars to deal with problems.
 - Committee Member Ed Spaeth – commented that Dr. Dave Bitner had revitalization meeting. Brought up golden eagle nesting in Banning Canyon. A drone was sent in and pictures taken. This brought up a question in Ramona: What is the plan/procedure for maintaining observation of eagles' nests? You can't manage access to trail systems when there are eagles there. Everyone agrees nobody goes on the trails. This raises questions about eagles; Ramona community question: Is there a date when they can have Kearney trail open this year?
 - Hand out: Map of Old Survey Road (aka Kearney Rd.) suggested orange section should be closed permanently – that's where the eagle's nest is. Ramona community wants this resolved. The drone does not disturb bird. Discussed the distance needed to keep away from nest. When can it open? They are asking for a decision.

- Also the Old Rodeo staging area near the airport has been tied up. Karen Gobbel from Fish and Wildlife is tying this up. Kangaroo rat issue. Bureaucratic blockage. We would like to have this staging area. Community is frustrated. We don't want to shut trails down unnecessarily if nest fails/is abandoned. Community would like to have this trail.
- Committee Member Rob Hutsel – San Diego Park partners is working with Charles Gaillband to plant more trees – it was a mixture of trees. The next time it will be large Box Trees.
- Mr. Albright expressed thanks.
- Committee Member Rob Hutsel -- one of the properties on El Cajon Mountain – their eagles fledged. They are working with the County to acquire remaining property.
- Committee Member Doug Goad – commented about overlay of user importance that has to do with river preservation. Trails in Encinitas are very popular.
- Committee Member Bert Long -- Brian put him in contact with Chelsea Jander. She is helping him with community garden that is still in early stages. Same company will manage this garden as the Tijuana community gardens.

4. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2018 MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 9, 2018 MINUTES WITH COMMENTS AND REVIEW – Doug Goad

- Brian Albright: Had one requested amendment. My comment under number 3 while speaking on San Maria creek. Brian Albright commented that restoration should be done. I think a more accurate reflection would be that I commented that while restoration would be beneficial the project ultimately depends on the direction of board.
- Doug Goad – We accept the minutes with that amendment.

ALL IN FAVOR – 8 – 0 - 0

5. PLDO & CSA FUND BALANCE REPORTS

- Distributed the monthly CSA and PLDO reports.

6. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Director, Brian Albright

- County Board of Supervisors will consider the Capitol Improvements Needs Assessment (CINA) on Tuesday: This year there is a recommendation of \$220 million in additional funding for existing projects not fully funded or for new projects. DPR as a department accounts for more than half of them. Substantial funding coming to our department. Every project proposed is listed online.
- Next couple of months. Board semi-annual donations report on March 28th-- We are trying to acquire some land to expand Santa Ysabel Preserve. DPR will be bringing a board item on April 18th to acquire some additional land. The MSCP annual report is slated to go forward on May 9th. That is also the date that the park land dedication ordinance update is anticipated to be heard.
- May 16th there is another large acquisition in North County close to the Newland Sierra Development. We are hoping to acquire about 700 acres. This is an area called Mountain Gate
- Committee Member Doug Goad –Asked if there was a way to see what Agenda is?
- Brian Albright -- Yes, will add you to board meeting list. Doug and Ed wanted to be added.

- Brian Albright -- commented on Annual awards ceremony. Thanked Bert for attending. Mentioned Mary Niez being presented top award – winning Cinthia Pasek Customer Service award.
- Committee Member McCoy – questioned decision made by board about carbon offsets for affordable housing. How is that going to impact this organization?
- Brian Albright --The Climate Action Plan for the County is the leading document for all that. The County was sued and lost in court on original plan. That is why major adjustments were made to that plan. The board accepted the plan last month. We use the CAP for things we do that are climate beneficial. An example is our comprehensive tree program.

7. PARK LAND AND DEDICATION ORDINACE UPDATE – Marcus Lubich

PowerPoint presentation overview of the PLDO

- What we have heard from stakeholder groups and what our recommendations to the board are going to be. Give you an opportunity to further weigh in on it. We do not yet have an approved written ordinance from counsel today but we will for April meeting.
- Presentation of new basis for fees. Including flexibility and clarity as part of the process. Quimby Act and Mitigation Fee Act. How funds would be dispensed and spent.
- Website has been created with new documents being uploaded. Links will be sent out to all planning sponsors and other stake holders.
- Explained toolbox, clarity, realigning of local park planning areas and consistencies with the Live Well San Diego, County's Strategic Plan and General Plan. Handed out design guidelines.
- Outreach efforts to date: 18 PLDO update advisory committee meetings and over 60 community meetings were attended.
- Jim Whalan -- provided comments regarding Masterplan Communities during subject of trail centered communities and park oriented communities.
- Brian Albright-- The proposed ordinance will be presented in April. You can have recommendations
- Brian Albright-- what we are talking about is what we are going to propose for board to consider. This is not guaranteed to be part of the update. Including potential to waive requirements. We know county board will be split on many areas of this.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:00 A.M.

ATTENDEES:

Doug Goad, Chair District 3

Ed Spaeth, District 2

Bert Long, District 3

Dr. Mike McCoy, District 1

Rob Hutsel, District 4

Ron Gaines, District 2

Paul Davis, District 5

Jim Whalan

Brian Albright, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Jill Bankston, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Marcus Lubich, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Irene Flynn, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation