

# PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**September 14, 2018**

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## MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 8:34 am
2. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK
3. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS ON ANY ITEM NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA
  - The Committee welcomed Susie Murphy as its newest member from District 1.
  - Committee Member McCoy inquired about General Plan amendments and how they impact the MSCP at a local, state or federal level. County Parks Director Albright suggested inviting (to a future meeting) someone from Planning & Development Services who can review the MSCP findings as it relates to projects that have been recently bundled and can present how each agency reviewed each MSCP compliance point. Committee Member McCoy is concerned about the impact on wildlife, biodiversity, and maintaining the integrity of ecological systems in our county. Committee Member McCoy also requested to add Newland/Sierra on a future agenda.
  - Committee Member Davis asked if County Parks has an emergency plan that can be shared with the Committee. Director Albright will share a link to access that plan.
  - Committee Member Murphy opened a request to the Committee for any panel proposals or key note speaker candidates for the upcoming California Trails & Greenways Conference that will be hosted in San Diego in April. Meg Diss from County Parks is also on the planning committee. They plan on having a trails workshop and bike workshop at the conference.
  - Committee Member Hutsel announced that San Diego River Park Foundation has the hearing for their permit for a Discovery Center in Mission Valley on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Along the river on Qualcomm Way, the Discover Center will span 17 acres of new nature park. Groundbreaking will be in 3 to 6 months.
  - Chairman Goad briefly commented on the lawsuit against the federal government regarding Tijuana River Valley, and how it can be productive for environmental sustainability.
4. APPROVAL OF THE JULY 13, 2018 MINUTES  
MOTION TO APPROVE THE JULY 13, 2018 MINUTES WITH COMMENT AND REVIEW –  
Chairman Doug
  - Committee Member Long motioned to approve; Committee Member Hutsel seconded. ALL IN FAVOR – 7 – 0 – 0
5. PLDO & CSA FUND BALANCE REPORTS
  - Director Albright mentioned we are in Year 2 of the County's Greenlight Initiative. \$13M from the General Fund has been added to the existing overall \$12M PLDO Fund (to increase to \$25M). The County executed several projects last year; now in Year 2, they will add amenities.

- The County is currently working on acquiring Lincoln Acres, a piece of land in National City, which would be the next project brought to Greenlight. Lincoln Acres is directly adjacent to the existing community center, so it would be easy to expand to an outdoor park.

## 6. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Director Brian Albright

- Director Albright reviewed upcoming Board items.
  - Sept. 26: Annual Report to the Board on Habitat Conservation (a state grant program that the County continues to participate in); General Plan Amendment.
  - Oct. 10: Semi-Annual Report of Donations; Friends of Fallbrook individual donation (separate because it is more than \$5k). The Friends of Fallbrook is donating the money for improvements to the auditorium in the community center and upgrading chairs and shadings.
- The MSCP Annual Workshop will be on Saturday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at Los Penasquitos Ranch House.
- The CSAC Annual Conference will be hosted in San Diego the week of Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>. Director Albright has been asked to create a half-day workshop for County Parks Directors, most likely at the County Administration Center by Waterfront Park. It is still in the planning stage, and possible topics to discuss may be homelessness or tree threats. The PAC will be invited. Committee Member Hutsel informed the group that the County Open Space Council will be held on Nov. 27 in Los Angeles, so hopefully the workshop can be scheduled another day.
- Chairman Goad asked who leads homelessness effort with the County. Director Albright answered that the County established an Integrative Services program that includes all departments.
- County Parks will meet with its new reservations system vendor today for the first time in-person to kick-off the project.

## 7. COMMUNITY GARDENS – Jill Bankston & Jake Enriquez

- Jake Enriquez, Region Manager, gave a presentation on community gardens in San Diego County. There are currently 90 community gardens in SD that help combat food deserts and add beautification, healthy lifestyles, and education to communities. The County owns 4 of them in Rancho Guajome, Los Penasquitos, Lindo Lake, and TJRV (the largest in the County).
  - The Resource Conversation District manages the community garden at TJRV Regional Park. This garden has six 1/4-acre plots and 210 30'x30' plots. Los Penasquitos has 20 garden plots. Rancho Guajome has 20 garden boxes. And Lindo Lake has 8 raised boxes used in youth programming at Lakeside Teen Center.
- DPR Policy C-43 defines guidelines and design considerations for the community gardens.
- Upcoming community gardens will be at Sweetwater Regional Park (200 plots next to Pinery, spanning over 3 acres); Ildica park in Spring Valley; and Otay Valley Regional Park, which just received its funding.

## 8. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- The Sweetwater Bike Park sponsorship has been completed and will go out for bid soon. This has been mentioned as a Greenlight project in the past. PAC members requested that it appear on a future agenda item.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:00 A.M.

ATTENDEES:

Doug Goad, Chair District 3

Mike McCoy, District 1

Susie Murphy, District 1

Ed Spaeth, District 2

Bert Long, District 3

Rob Hutsel, District 4

Paul Davis, District 5

Brian Albright, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Jill Bankston, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Jake Enriquez, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Joanne Emerick, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation