

# PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 11, 2019

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## MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 8:30 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 Hutsel congratulated the County on the Puetz Creek acquisition, a partnership with the San Diego River Park Foundation.
  - Committee Member Murphy mentioned she has received a lot of good feedback on the Trails Etiquette video "Share and Be Aware".
  - Committee Member Davis is transitioning from Encinitas to Carlsbad. He commented on how amazed he was to learn of the many trails in Carlsbad after reviewing their Trails Volunteer calendar.
  - Chairman Goad attended a meeting in which Animal Rescue hopes to establish a group that facilitates the transporting of large animals from the back country in emergency situations. There will be a follow-up meeting at the Del Mar Fairgrounds to better establish this group and how to get them trained and certified.
  - Committee Member Utt gave updates on several Mission Trails projects which he is the point man on. The budget to remove/replace existing restroom facilities has been approved. Utt is working with City of San Diego staff to repair the Visitors Center roof leaks. A new Ranger Station is under construction at the equestrian location on Mast Blvd.
  - Committee Member Spaeth suggested that Mission Trails could be a potential emergency location for large animal evacuations.
  - Committee Members representing Districts 4 and 5 are awaiting to hear whether they will be reappointed under the new District Supervisors. Until appointments are made, they may continue to serve as normal.
4. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 9, 2018 MINUTES  
MOTION TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 9, 2018 MINUTES – Chairman Doug
  - Committee Member Davis motioned to approve with minor edit; Committee Member Long seconded.ALL IN FAVOR – 5 – 0 – 4
5. PLDO & CSA FUND BALANCE REPORTS
  - Director Albright discussed the recent PLDO ordinance that was strengthened and clarified last year. The portion regarding timing of park construction is currently being reviewed. Current park requirements for subdivisions state that a park must be constructed before the first certificate of occupancy is issued. Developers generally wish to build homes first and parks later. One idea to compromise would be to give a

guaranteed finite amount of time from the first certificate of occupancy for a park to be built (six months or one year).

- ◆ While the concept of incentives is a focus (how to incentivize the speed of building parks after or during housing); the PAC agreed it is best to continue supporting the policy as it currently is. Committee Member Hutsel emphasized that setting aside open space, play space and trails is agreed to upon issuance of a building permit – that agreement should be enforced.
- Chairman Goad asked for Director Albright's thoughts on the importance of trails as it seems the public is prioritizing trails over parks. Albright commented that the issue is more complex than it seems because of the legal requirements of nexus and proportionality. He did state that the County has a Board-approved PMP for trails, (regional and community), but there are many jurisdictional lawsuits that occur to change responsibility of certain areas.
- Committee Member Utt has observed the changes in the PLDO Report during the past five years – specifically that projects in Alpine, Ramona, Lakeside, Spring Valley, and Fallbrook are receiving more money. Utt asked Director Albright what his predictions over the next 2-3 years are in terms of PLDO fees?
  - ◆ Director Albright believes the trend will continue. He is hopeful to extend the greenlight program to match PLDO. The increase of in-lieu fees has also contributed to the increase of balance.

## 6. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Director Brian Albright

- Board Items
  - January 30, 2019
    - TJ Campground – Presentation to certify environmental documents to accept Coastal Conservancy and Coastal Commission funds to complete the project. There is a tight timeline with state funding – if approved, it must be spent by March 2020.
- DPR Annual Awards Ceremony will be on Thursday, February 28 from 9:30am-1:00pm at El Monte County Park. PAC members are all invited.
- There are new security policies in place at the County Operations Center that will require all visitors to acquire a Visitors Badge from the front desk. PAC members may do this or wear their PAC nametags.
- Committee Member Hutsel inquired about flood predictions for upcoming storms, especially in the Mission Valley area. He requested an overview of park closures as a future agenda item. Park closures seem to happen more frequently now, and always with little notice – he'd like to ensure a better process to notify appropriate user groups.
  - Director Albright assured that DPR only closes parks for unsafe conditions or anticipated excessive damage to park facilities. Our goal is not to close parks. He has tasked the Operations team with defining a consistent protocol, with the focus to keep parks open.
- Committee Member McCoy requested sewage infrastructure as a future agenda item. Director Albright said this can be shared in the future as DPR is the lead in conducting the sewage infrastructure at TJRV. This is not a DPR issue, but DPR has taken ownership of the issue as the land owner. The first phase is complete, having identified areas for infrastructure improvements. The second phase is funding. It is a Federal issue, not a County responsibility. When asked about berms, Director Albright stated that berms were established by the City years ago, and they now protect many private properties. To

remove them would put those properties in danger of being washed out. Hydrology studies will be an important part of the study.

7. SAN DIEGUITO PLANNING AREA – Jessica Cissel and Marcus Lubich

- Director Albright explained that the San Dieguito Planning Area is the one of the highest cost of in-lieu fees based on the cost of land in this area.
- Jessica Cissel, Region Manager for the Central Coast District, provided an overview of existing parks and trails in the San Dieguito Planning Area. She also presented the priorities and future park efforts.
- A map of all trails within the area was shared to identify trail gaps.
- Marcus Lubich, Park Project Manager, presented on park deficiencies and needs. A high priority project is the San Dieguito ADA playground, which should be completed at the end of this month.
- Lubich shared some issues faced with the Harmony Grove Village, such as flood control easements and manhole covers. DPR is also coordinating with the developer to transfer ownership of the parks to DPR, but the park utilities are not being serviced by a public utility agency.
- Committee Member Utt noticed a lack of activity or DPR property in the “interior” of the planning area. Director Albright mentioned that the Trails Master Plan has limitations. Whoever was involved at the time the Trails Master Plan was established supported this area of Rancho Santa Fe that did not want any parks or public trails. DPR is trying to expand into the Rancho Santa Fe area and not have so many condensed properties in the northern part of the planning area.

ADJOURNMENT – 10:01 A.M.

ATTENDEES:

Doug Goad, Chair District 3

Mike McCoy, District 1

Susie Murphy, District 1

Ed Spaeth, District 2

Ron Gaines, District 2

Bert Long, District 3

Rob Hutsel, District 4

Roger Utt, District 4

Paul Davis, District 5

Brian Albright, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Marcus Lubich, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Jessica Cissel, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Joanne Emerick, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation