

## PARKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

February 08, 2019

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### MINUTES

1. Call to Order – 8:33 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 announced he has been reappointed to the PAC as one of D4's sitting members.
  - Committee Member Utt gave an update on one of the Mission Trails construction projects. The Ranger Station at the equestrian staging area on Mast Boulevard is moving forward.
  - Chairman Goad brought up an issue he noticed on the Next Door website for his neighborhood area. Many are complaining about dogs off-leash on trails, which is a concern for horse owners. He mentioned it to the PAC as something to track.
  - Committee Member Murphy gave an SDMBA update, noting that many events in Julian have been rescheduled due to the snow.
4. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 11, 2018 MINUTES  
MOTION TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 11, 2018 MINUTES – Chairman Doug Goad
  - Committee Member Long motioned to approve with minor edit; Committee Member Jaques seconded.ALL IN FAVOR – 8 – 0 – 0
5. PLDO & CSA FUND BALANCE REPORTS
  - Chairman Goad asked for an update on the Lakeside Equestrian Center. DPR Chief Mosley commented that the design and environmental review is in process. The design will be available for public review. Once a design is completed, permitting through FEMA would be requested as the location is in a flood plain. Construction can begin as soon as permits are issued. Chairman Goad noticed a lot of fundraising in the area for the center.
6. DEPARTMENT REPORT – Deb Mosley, Chief of Resource Management
  - DPR Chief Mosley reiterated the new safety and security procedures, encouraging PAC members to wear their PAC badges or Visitor badges when at the County Operations Center.
  - Mosley personally invited the PAC members to the DPR Annual Awards Ceremony as she is this year's Awards Committee Chairperson. The Ceremony will take place on Thursday February 28<sup>th</sup> at El Monte County Park. There will be refreshments offered at 9:30am, and the program will begin at 10am. The theme of this year's ceremony is to celebrate teamwork and achievements in parks. All of the PAC members believe they can attend.
  - Board Items
    - February 27, 2019
      - 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing for the Alpine Park Acquisition. This acquisition is for 98 acres by Wright's Field. Chairman Goad asked about several uses/plans for the land. Chief Mosley said there would be public outreach and public meetings first; it is unsure how much of the acreage will be developed, and there are existing trails in the area.

- 1<sup>st</sup> hearing on the Mt. Woodson Acquisition 84 acres, near Mt. Woodson preserve that is currently owned and managed by the cities of San Diego and Poway. The area being purchased is prioritized for a parking lot to address public safety. The parcel is directly north of an existing County parcel to allow legal access and offsite parking. Committee Member Spaeth suggested including an equestrian staging area as a use for the acquisition. Chief Mosley emphasized that the focus for now is the safety for hikers on the trail to Potato Chip Rock. The topography is very steep, so much of the 84 acres will not be developed but would be habitat. Committee Member Hutsel commended the County, saying this is a wonderful project and hopes the public will reflect on how good of a project this will be. The 2<sup>nd</sup> hearing would take place on March 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Two projects for approval: 1) Advertising and award for Pine Valley Park Pavilion, for improvements; 2) Otay Lakes Recreation Amenities, to establish appropriations for \$250k for design and environmental review.
- March 13, 2019
  - 1<sup>st</sup> hearing for Calavo Park Acquisition in Spring Valley. This acquisition is for approximately 10 acres of land.

## 7. BORDER SEWAGE INFRASTRUCTURE – Sheri McPherson and Todd Snyder, DPW

- Chief Mosley introduced Sheri McPherson and Todd Snyder from the Department of Public Works (DPW). DPR and DPW partner on this needs assessment. Mosley gave an overview, mentioning that the County received \$500k through SB 507 with the purpose of studying and analyzing the pollution in the Tijuana River Valley (TJRV). The assessment has been divided into two phases: 1) Reviewing everything that has already been done and assessing the gaps; 2) Identifying which projects can be implemented to solve the problems.
- DPW staff member McPherson led the presentation. She explained that the County is focusing on the problems of Transboundary flows. The study will demonstrate the magnitude of the need for each major drainage area in TJRV.
  - ◆ Process Overview: Engage stakeholders, collect organize data, identify gaps, establish watershed priorities, conduct technical evaluations for project alternatives, move forward with recommended projects to pre-design level, develop cost estimates for construction.
  - ◆ 4x4 ranking: 4 watersheds (Tijuana River Main Stem, Smuggler's Gulch, Goat Canyon, Yogurt Canyon); 4 issues of concern (sewage, trash, sediment, flooding).
  - ◆ Strategies will be developed by Spring 2019. Project and Next Steps will be developed by Winter 19/20.
- Committee Member Hutsel noticed that there were no business owners or landowners included in the stakeholder meetings and asked if the farmers were represented. McPherson said yes, they were mostly represented by the equestrian community. Hutsel suggested broadening the invitation range.
- Committee Member Hutsel asked for more clarity on the “Magnitude of need” – what is the goal? McPherson answered that the thought behind the phrase is to show a full picture of what can be done on the US side and the future effects. Realistically, the County cannot solve the whole problem; but the aim is to show the big picture and long-term effects, then conduct the biggest projects first that will assist the biggest problems.
- Chairman Goad asked how the project can move forward into the larger scenario of collaboration. McPherson commented that the current project has mitigating impact. The true fix will need to happen on the Mexico side. USEPA is doing work on the MX side; the County will give recognition to those efforts and add their work to telling the story, but we can only focus on the US side.

- Committee Member Spaeth mentioned it would be good to define the percentage of what the US can handle compared to the bigger picture.
- Committee Member McCoy would like to invite the DPW presenters to a future meeting with the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (TRNERR). TRNERR meets regularly with 13 other agencies represented, but not the County.
- Committee Member Utt asked if there has been any direct contact at all with the Mexican government. McPherson answered all input is provided by IBWC.
- Committee Member Hutsel asked which projects will be focused on first. Snyder gave several points of view. Goat Canyon seems to have a good system in place, but management of the disposal there is a costly issue so it will not be a focus. Smuggler's Gulch has pilot projects for trash booms that should become more permanent solutions. The stakeholder project would be extending the channel to create low-flow diversion into the IBWC treatment plant, where sediment would be treated then sent into the ocean.
- Committee Member Hutsel asked if there is a plan for what to do with sediment from Goat Canyon and Smuggler's Gulch. Mosley explained that the County owns the Nelson Sloan quarry. State Parks received a grant to plan and design Nelson Sloan as a disposal site for sediment. Potentially 1M cubic yards of sediment would be deposited, then restored and become part of the park. The project is in its planning phase right now and could be implemented in the next few years. Currently, sediment is disposed offsite and very costly.
- Committee Member Spaeth inquired about beach erosion and sand contamination. McPherson said these are very important questions that the County is asking as well. What are the consequences if we are capturing early on, and what happens to sand down the line? The answers are not yet clear and will be monitored in the future.
- Committee Member Hutsel inquired about non-contact recreation/water use and can it be an overlay into future projections. McPherson affirmed that was a good suggestion and they can look at adding that layer to the map.
- Chairman Goad asked if the PAC can receive an update in the future, possibly in May. Goad commended the County presenters on a great presentation and constructive discussion.

ADJOURNMENT – 9:55 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

Roger Utt, District 4

Ashley Jaques, District 5

Deb Mosley, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Sheri McPherson, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Todd Snyder, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation

Joanne Emerick, County of San Diego Parks and Recreation