



**OTAY VALLEY REGIONAL PARK (OVRP)
CITIZEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC)
October 24th, 2019
2:00pm**

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER - 2:17pm by CAC Chairman Vogel

APPROVAL OF JULY 18, 2019 MINUTES

MOTION TO APPROVE - Committee Member Joan Schneider, 2nd Committee Member Kukuchek
ALL IN FAVOR – 11-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Jamie Stockus provided comments in written and verbal form, opposing the OVRP Bike Skills Park. Since the Bike Skills Park is not on today's agenda, the CAC is unable to discuss, per the Brown Act.

AGENDA ITEMS

1. GRANTS DISCUSSION

- County Staff Member Kaur reported that the County has recently applied for two grants.
1) Recreational Trails & Greenways Grant, which requests \$1.6M for the OVRP Heritage Road staging area and \$4M for OVRP Heritage Road trails; and 2) Public Access Grant, which requests \$500k for the Otay Regional Trail Alignment Study
- City Staff Member Ball reported that the City has applied for the Natural Community Conservation Planning Local Assistance Grant, which requests \$395k for the Vernal Pool Restoration and Eradication of Invasive Ward's Weed at Robinhood Ridge.
- Joint Staff suggested that the CAC provide their thoughts on future grant opportunities ongoing. Committee Member Joan Schneider suggested applying for a grant to restore Hollister Fish Pond. CAC Chairman Vogel suggested a look into grants for long-term maintenance, not just restoration.

2. STRAWBERRY FIELDS DISCUSSION

- Committee Member Joan Schneider reported that the Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee visited the site for the proposed business park as presented by John Carlon of River Partners in the July CAC meeting. The subcommittee requests to see the park designs.
- Mark Caro informed the CAC that there are no park designs yet since the City of Chula Vista does not yet own the land.
- City Staff Member Walker will provide a report back to the CAC on the breakdown of entire area to show areas of development and restoration.

3. CITY OF SAN DIEGO PRIORITY PROJECTS

- City Staff Member Ball presented a progress report of the City's internal list of priority projects. The only project with significant progress is the Area A Trail Improvements project, which is moving on to its next step of acquiring cost estimates.
- Committee Member Carrie Schneider suggested looking at Prop 1 funding for Eucalyptus Grove.
- CAC Chairman Vogel requested that the CAC be informed on how they can assist in moving projects along, such as support letters.

4. FRIENDS OF OVRP

- County Staff Member Kaur reiterated the Policy Committee's report that the Friends of the OVRP cannot be resurrected. The Policy Committee had recommended the CAC explore options for a new group with a new name.
- After discussion, members of the CAC recommended that a new group not be created, as there is a lot of work involved in creating 501c3 entities. Instead, the CAC would like to continue using the County Parks Society to hold their funds under a special project fund titled "OVRP Friends".

5. INVASIVE SPECIES MAP

- City Staff Member Ball reported that invasive species were mapped back in 2006 for the corridor. The City showed this invasive species map for Western OVRP. Strategies from this map will be included in the natural resource management plan.
- CAC Chairman Vogel requested that the City's MSCP Biologist return to the CAC to give an update.

6. RANGER REPORT

Western OVRP, Ranger Mika Shimada – City of San Diego

- Ranger Shimada informed the CAC of the upcoming Saturday cleanup on October 26.

Eastern OVRP, Ranger Lauren Raduc – County of San Diego

- Ranger Raduc reported on the last Movie in the Park event that attracted more than 150 people to Eastern OVRP last Saturday, October 19. Ranger Raduc is now preparing for the Holidays at the Lake event on December 14, and a new project to build a butterfly garden near the picnic area.

7. CAC CHAIR COMMENTS

- Elections will take place at the next CAC Meeting for the CAC Chair.

8. VICE CHAIR COMMENTS

- CAC Vice Chair Zarem asked Committee Member Caesar Castro to give small introduction.

9. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

Trails Subcommittee

- CAC Vice Chair Zarem shared photos prior to meeting of his hike through the Eastern OVRP trails. The Annual MSCP Workshop provided a tour of trails on October 9.

COYIS

- Committee Member Ben McCue is the new chair of this subcommittee.

Adjacent Development Review Subcommittee

- Committee Member Joan Schneider gave an overview and shared photos of the subcommittee's recent tour of the OVRP, which included Hollister Fishing Pond, the entrance and Rec Area 3, the Otay River Business Park, and the Community Garden.
- The subcommittee opposes the development project across from Hollister Fishing Pond as it would impede on the pond and fishing experience.
- The subcommittee would like to see better use of the entrance area and Rec Area 3, stating there could be room for a Kumeyaay Village display, interpretive center and ranger station. Committee Member Kukuchek commented that there is an existing plan for development but it cannot be implemented until the nursery's lease ends. County Staff Member Kaur will find out when lease terms out and bring the plan to the next CAC meeting. Committee Member Swanson also suggested to investigate for non-compliance, as there are many semi-trucks parked there for industrial use.
- The subcommittee suggests that the westside of Beyer would have better access for entrance to and parking for the Community Garden.

Economic/Habitat Restoration Subcommittee

- None

10. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

- None

MOTION TO ADJOURN – Committee Member Joan Schneider, 2nd Committee Member Kukuchek
ALL IN FAVOR – 11-0-0

ADJOURNMENT – 4:03pm

NEXT MEETING IS ON NOVEMBER 21ST

CAC MEMBER ATTENDEES

John Vogel

John Zarem

John Swanson

Robert Miller

Mike McCoy

Joan Schneider

Lisa Cumper

Mark Kukuchek

Susie Murphy

Caesar Castro

Carrie Schneider

STAFF PRESENT

Kiran Kaur

Michael Walker

Laura Ball

Joanne Emerick

Lauren Raduc

Mika Shimada

Stephanie Alvarez

Harold Phelps

Mark Caro