San Diego Trail Alliance

Monday, April 18th, 2016

Purpose:

1. Keep Trails Open for All recreational Users.
2. Foster Good Communication between all recreational user Groups.
3. Maximize usage of Recreational Facilities for all.

Agenda:

1. PLDO (Park Lands Dedication Ordinance) – SDTA meets with SD County Parks & Rec. Mary Ann V. - Letter due by May 10th. June 29 is Board meeting. Maryanne Vancio, San Diego County Parks & Rec Trails Coordinator, spoke to the group regarding the PLDO. PLDO is an Ordinance requiring developers to provide land or funds in lieu of land for the creation of community parkland. If subdivision has 50 units, then give the Community park land, under 50 units, pays 2010 fees to community $3,000 – 6000.00. The ordinance did not provide for trails to be a provided for or funded by the PLDO. The County Board of Supervisors asked the Parks Dept. to look at the PLDO and provide recommendations as to how it should be updated. Currently 60% of Park Users are trail users. The Parks Dept. will report back to the Board of Supervisors on June 29th. The Parks Dept. is currently soliciting responses from groups and individuals about changes they’d like to see to the PLDO. Of the 150 stakeholders, community groups, clubs, Planning Groups, Builders contacted by the Parks dept., 30 groups have responded. Community feedback includes more communication to communities and stakeholders, Fees should be higher, and include Utility groups such as water utilities to stakeholders. PLDO needs to include passive recreation which is hikers, bikes, and equestrians. PLDO should fund multi-use, non-motorized trails at Planning group, Park, and local communities level. Park Planning should follow Individual planning groups. Trails should be considered linear parks. One model is City of Belmont, Hidden Meadows requests money for trails, not a park. No timeline to use the funds, and fund division formula is a percentage There will be public review. The Parks Dept. also has additional information of a website link. <http://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/parks/public_review/park-lands-dedication-ordinance--pldo-.html> SDTA drafted a letter and has included it with these minutes for you to use to create your own letter
2. City Attitudes/ Multi-use Trails – SDTA meets with City of Santee
   1. Santee wants Equestrian input on staging for next development

Lisa Woods talked about how SDTA met with the City initially to apologize on behalf of Equestrians who blew up on Facebook after the City posted pictures of horse hoof prints on a trail after the rain and discussed the horse diaper issue. City of Santee stated they are Equestrian Neutral. The diaper/poop bags were a suggestion to appease Fish and Wildlife. The City also asked SDTA to be involved in the creation of new trails including a staging area at Castle Rock Development.

b. Ben suggests utilize the Infrastructure at Mast to reach out to Castle Rock, while permitting through city of San Diego, this is to be annex to City of Santee. Trail cross Padre Dam to Fanita. However Padre Dam does not have filters for its water supply so trail access could be restricted?.

1. Iron Mountain – SDTA attends Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Sandy discussed how she was information seeking and inquiring as to Equestrian Staging- met individually with Mayor Steve Vaus, Diane Jacob and the engineer who designed the parking lot- all agreed there are three designated parking spots for Equestrians near the handicap spots. Ellie Lane is not an option for Equestrians as it is too dangerous. No expansion for any additional vehicles will be permitted as the usable space is at capacity. However, Diane Jacobs announced the future (approx. 3 years) they are working on acquiring more grants for purchase of land to build a bridge across HWY 67 to connect to Poway and at that point Equestrian Staging may increase as well as other vehicles.

Marty requested maps of proposed staging and trail connection from Jim Haggen, but has not received anything. Don Wendt of RTA states the proposed bridge is connection to Sycamore but CDFW blocks it. The proposed bridge needs to connect Mt. Woodson to Poway to Iron Mountain to Boulder Oaks/ N. Shore of San Vincente to Boulder Oaks. Foster Truck trail off hwy 67 has alignment of cross county trail.

4. SDMBA meeting Feb 1st - SDTA attends & supports Mission Valley Trails through

Miramar area. Ben Stone, VP of SDMBA reporting

a. Ben discussed SDMBA regaining their MT Bikes from Marines

1. Discussed how SDMBA are almost at 1000 member capacity! Third largest Chapter in US.
2. IMBA w/ SDMBA Trail School, SDTA attended Sandy inquired to future Trail School Training for all clubs, interested parties to join. Ben mentioned SDMBA will be holding their own trail school in the future and all are welcome. Mary Ann V. then added the Parks also has Trail Bldg. classes available.
3. Cyndi discussed Trail work on Del Mar Mesa trail with equestrian input and signs recommendations; Don Wendt, Mark K, her and Steve worked on the trail with the crew.
4. At the end of Cobbles, trail is annex to Del Mar Mesa.
5. Anti-horse comments in SanDag survey.
6. Forest Service decommissions 80% of roads, SDMBA is objecting.
7. SD River Foundation – working on Kitchen Creek, N. side of El Capitan reserve, Eagle Peak, homestead property connection.
8. Trans county trail South, Torrey Pines > Cuyamaca > Laguna;
9. Westside Truck trail from El Monte to connect to El Capitan.
10. San Diego /Pacific Crest, forest Service changed their permit program
11. Endurance Trail runners to have a 100 mile run in Mt. Laguna
12. Miramar Base: Meeting between Duncan Hunter and General about trail alignment and city easement; Legal trail – Stowe Trail at end of Castle Rock, 16 acres belongs to private party.
13. Ben suggests we find other Land trusts to compete with Michael Beck, Land Trusts who are open to trails and public access.

5. Trails Update:

a. Lakeside Trails

* 1. El Monte Valley, Sand Mining: Project plan changed! Project to cover more acreage and dig to depth of 30 feet, not 90 ft. With state mandate law of not using water, Sand mining project states they will get water from Helix which means taking water from the aquifer which is against the state law. Helix states they are not giving water to the Sand Mining project. The EIR may come out in November, 2016, 45 days for public review and response; Stay tune.
  2. Hanson Pond project: Lisa Wood announced El Monte/Hanson Pond Trail Ride Wednesday, Apr. 20 @ 6pm, meet at 7/11. Lisa and Jeanie (LFR) reports that this new trail was built with public funds which mandate public access at Hanson’s pond, owned by Mike Beck and Endangered Habitat who gave permission and the trail was built with Opening ceremony scheduled and now Beck has closed the trail. Access moved back to lower dirt road, on the other side of the berm where trail users cannot see the pond. In fact, the only view of the pond is on this new trail. Difficulty is Endangered Habitat owns the property. Everyone needs to write Diane Jacob and County Board of Supervisors to complain that public funds were spent on a trail on private property now closed to the public. .
  3. Lakeside Community Planning Group trails sub-committee (LCPG) Lisa reported there have been no additional meetings of the Sub-committee, same report at the last meeting. To date, only two meetings were held.
  4. Lakeside Downs Conservancy Project District 2 County Supervisor, Diane Jacob met with Michael Beck and he said No to trails. We need to keep pursuing this.

1. Ramona Grasslands / Survey Rd. 97: Don discussed Docent rides, which start in September. Don, Glenn Morgan, John met with Duncan Hunter on Survey Rd. 97, he is aware of State and Federal Wildlife constraints. Don also needs letters regarding the needs for trails at Santa Maria Greenway, 50 letters written in support so far. We will ask Don to forward some bullet points, so we can pass the information on and send a letter from SDTA.

Per Mary Ann, two dedications of property

Don reports that 50,000 lbs. of trash picked up in Santa Margarita Greenway; The Three year Raptor program, Duncan Hunter to make sure the study does not get extended by the CDFW;

San Dieguito River Park bought five lots in Pama Valley for Coast to Crest Trail. Pama is connection between Upper and lower San Ysabel trail.

1. Elfin Ridge – no report
2. TRVEA:

Trail Report from Emma, Trail Coordinator for TRVEA:

Emma discussed how Elfie Mae is being “pumped out” no access to trail during this process from Hollister staging to the Beach, must ride down the road to access the beach. The dirt bridge is closed. Emma has had great success meeting with Councilman David Alvarez’s assistant Ruth Martin and permits have been extended indefinitely. After meeting with her, they got everything lined up to get the pumping done.

* + 1. Horse/Bike Clinic Update
    2. Discuss next Horse/Bike clinic in Lakeside & Bonita- Vikki Krauss was successful with her Mt Bike/Equestrian Clinic and plans to expand to Bonita and East County. Sandy volunteered to assist in the Bonita clinic. For East County/Lakeside, per Lisa Wood, Harring Ranch volunteered to have the Horse/Bike clinic, Cyndi will assist.
    3. Marty suggested Vikki gets nominated for an award for her efforts and success from her clinics!
    4. Marty/Ben also suggests that Vikki be considered to hold the bike/horse clinic at the Trails and Greenway Conference next year to demonstrate a clinic to bring Bikes and equestrians together.

1. Fallbrook Santa Margarita and the Conservancy. Marty states the utilities want to sell to “anybody”. Western River Conservancy holding title. Access will continue for now but still seeking a buyer. Two board members may need to recuse themselves because they live too close to the trails involved; Also elections of FPUD Board coming;
2. Lilac Hills – no report
3. Diane Jacob Trails Advisory Meeting Feb 1: CRHT sub-committee to work with CDFW on Hwy 78 – S2 trail parameters, Julie Murphy on the sub-committee to set it open; Brian Albright states tread width to be 4 ft. only, tread width is not the whole trail, this will increase trail maintenance.
4. Trails and Greenway Conference in Riverside, CA: Three days; BCH paid $4000.00 for their members to attend, Marty & Terry attended; Ben attended for SDMBA; There was only one other equestrian group besides BCH, both from SD; Good Presentations, BCH put on a mule packing demo for Land managers; Plum Canyon in Litigation and land swap with BLM, Anza Trail to Borrego Springs; BCH had face time with State park trails coordinators; Marty connected with Federal Forest Service and put in request for more Equestrian Design Guidebooks for Trails, Trailheads, and Campgrounds;

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1. Communication:
   1. Free desktop or laptops for $120.00 with Windows office for 20.00; fill in application to S.D. Futures Foundation; order up to five laptops, printers, copiers, if you are a 501c organization; www.sdfutures.org.
   2. Share calendars. Get 2016 calendars to Ramona Trail Assoc.
   3. Website is up! Input is welcomed
   4. Networking with other user groups: Brainstorm
   5. Pursue Meeting with: City of Poway, San Diego River Park Foundation, SanDag;
2. Recreational Facilities:
   1. Reports from the Field – Dates planned
   2. How to get the best usage from facilities