**San Diego Trail Alliance**

**Monday, April 24th, 2017 Meeting Proposed Minutes**

Attendance- 20. 2 San Diego County Parks staff attended- Melanie T (Resource Group) and Meg (Planning & Development Services).

New Board member Julie Klein was introduced to the group. She has been working for a while on trails in the Del Mar area.

1. PLDO- Mark Kukuchek

 There is no final plan at this time- the PLDO is currently in a holding pattern until the consultant comes back with a plan.

 When completed the proposed plan will go before the county Board of Supervisors in 6-9 months.

 PLDO sees trails as “passive” recreation- this helps trails tin sensitive areas to be developed.

 Cheaper to put money in PLDO for developers

 Trailheads are in PLDO.

 The Quinby Act will affect the proposed PLDO.

 Developers build the mechanism into their development

 Build private parks within the development?

 Are private parks part of the proposed PLDO?

 20% of PLDO to maintenance

 Jill Bankston (?)

 From capital- $7 million fund

 Approve in principal 3-2

 SDTA Write a letter on quack (?)

1. El Monte- Lisa Wood

 EIR not out yet- once it is out, we have 45 days to comment (possibly out in August)

 New design is on-line, bigger area, not as deep

 Cleveland National Forest Foundation has earmarked a fund to allow donations to be used for the El Monte Project (most likely this money would be used for attorneys).

 $1000 was raised at the fundraiser April 17th at the Eastbound Grill in Lakeside.

Tour -Lisa took Adam Wilson, Greg Cox on the tour in the Hazy Meadows area of the San Diego river bottom. But still need to offer tour with the Policy Advisor with Ron Roberts and Kristin Gaspar.

 The Sand Miners could ask Helix water for an extension of the 8 million.

 Staging areas?

1. County Master Trails Map- Martin Jorgensen

 Working through Adam Wilson of Supervisor Jacob’s office SDTA will be receiving copies of the map from the county. This map not only will show designated and dedicated trails but also planned (but not officially dedicated) trails and easements. SDTA has initially received the maps for the Lakeside area to assist those working with trail issues in the Lakeside area, but SDTA’s intent is to take delivery of the maps for the entire county and make them available to organizations working on trail issues in their own area.

1. TREVEA- Emma Reese

 Emma stated that currently if the trail is wet, it’s contaminated. They have been riding on the mesas because the low-lying tracks are bad/contaminated. She recommended that people give the trails at least 30 days to dry out.

 Proposed County Parks campground

 Hollister Bridge is too dangerous, Dairy Mart- need a tiny bridge for north/south

 There is no north/south trails access/connections due to flooding and contamination.

Ongoing trail plan- Cox gave funding- but no funding & connections from the breakaway bridge so it move to narrow section west. Bridge is in the plans and needs $200,000.00, but Supervisor Cox doesn’t have it for the bridge. SDTA needs to send a letter making a case for funding for bridge in the plan.

 Border Patrol maintaining area.

1. Stowe Historic Trail update- Cyndi Denny, Sandy Jones, SDMBA (Ben Stone)

 Ben Stone met with Padre Dam to discuss the reroute of the Stowe trail.

 Training with the Marines is scheduled with Mike Overy

 Conditions on (?), Fall CEQA (?), Water Authority (?), California Fish and Wildlife (?),

 Contact Padre Dam (?)

There needs to be connection from Mission Trails (city of San Diego) for equestrians to proposed trail head at Castle Rock for Stowe Trail and temporary trail head at HomeFed/Fanita Ranch.

1. PAP Trail Plan on Sycamore Canyon with Melaine Tylke (County Parks and Recreation Land Use Planner)

 Ben Stone from SDMBA expressed concerns about the sustainability of the trails.

1. Other Notes: 60% of the people using our county parks are trail users

Maryann Vancio got a lifetime award and retired

El Monte- we can use the staging area which is designated but not been dedicated yet.

Lorrie Bradley- interim County Trails Coordinator;

Report any trail issues and information to trails@sdcounty.ca.gov

Stock Packing has less impact on the environment.

 8. Trails update from BCHC-SD- Martin Jorgensen

 The U.S. Forest Service is pursuing new policies advocating working closer with volunteer organizations to address issues and reduce the backlog of trail maintenance. The local districts of the Cleveland National Forest have been demonstrating to work closer with local organizations, including SDTAS, BCHC-SD, and SDMBA.

 The U.S. Forest Service, in partnership with other agencies and private organizations, is offering $67,000 in grants to organizations who will do trail work. They are also asking for input from organizations and the public as to trails that need work.

 The Descanso District of the Cleveland National Forest is getting ready to rebuild the Boulder Oaks Campground where the Pacific Crest Trail crosses the I-8 freeway just east of the Buckman Springs offramp. Included will be new bathrooms, new picnic tables and fire rings, and a redesign of the pull-ins for the equestrian campsites. BCHC-SD is working with district recreation staff to insure that the pull-throughs will be able to accommodate the larger rigs most equestrians use now days. They are also looking at the possibility of reestablishing the mounted assistance/patrol unit in the Mount Laguna area.

 The Palomar District of the Cleveland National Forest is looking to install corrals at the Indian Flats Campground on the Pacific Crest Trail northeast of Warner Springs and improve the route from the trail to the campground. BCHC-SD is working with the district to insure that the needs of equestrians are met. In addition, BCHC-SD recently taught a stock and packing orientation class to district staff.

 On Wednesday April 26th, 2017 there will be a meeting at the County Operations Center to discuss the ongoing development of a Multi Species Conservation Plan for the county. These meetings will continue in the near future.

 There is currently an open comment period for management plans for the Bridal Veil area of Yosemite National Park.

 Santa Margarita (Fallbrook)- Meetings between trail users and the water district continue, the Fallbrook Trails Council is on top of the situation and will let us know if they need help from the rest of the equestrian community. The council is working on trails but it is advised that many of the water crossings are dangerous at this time.

 California Riding and Hiking Trail- local residents in the Descanso area are looking to reduce the posted speed limit on Boulder Creek Road due to what they feel are hazardous conditions for those using the trail, which runs along the shoulder of the road in that area.

 Local agencies are looking for input on the Carlton Oaks segment of the San Diego River Trail. A meeting was held at West Hills High School.

 BCHC-SD was recently contacted by the San Diego River Park Conservancy, to assist them with accessing a parcel they own on the southeast side of El Capitan (El Cajon) Mountain. The conservancy intended to insert a crew into the area for a week to do non-native plant eradication, and they were looking to BCHC-SD to use stock to pack the camp and supplies in. (The only trail access is seven miles in from the County El Capitan Open Space Preserve parking area off Wildcat Canyon Road.) The conservancy initially considered using a helicopter but this was ruled out due to golden eagles nesting in the area. Upon the completion of a scouting ride up the trail it was determined that the trail was inaccessible past the three-mile mark. BCHC-SD will continue to work with the conservancy to assist with similar projects.

 BCHC-SD is working with Lakeside Frontier Riders and California State Parks to install memorial benches at Granite Springs Trail Camp in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park for Garry McClintock and Bernie Martin. Cindy McKievick has been meeting with park staff to work out the details. In addition, LFR is looking to fund the construction of a round pen at Los Vaqueros Equestrian Group Camp as a memorial to Bernie.

 Marty Jorgensen- Padre Dam is looking to construct pipelines in the future in the Santee/Lakeside areas to interconnect two water systems. Easements will be needed, so there is a possibility that trails could use those easements.

 BCHC-SD recently acquired a two-axle enclosed trailer that will be used to store trail tools and equipment and haul them to projects. Lakeside Frontier Riders and the Pine Valley Mountain Riders both donated funds to acquire and refurbish the trailer.

9. Ramona- RTA (Don Wendt and Glen Morgan)

 Old Survey Road 97- State Fish and Wildlife has backed down from their stated intent at the meeting with Duncan Hunter’s staff and is now refusing to allow access to the area. RTA is meeting with Duncan Hunter’s office and is looking at options to pursue, specifically legislative.

 Canada De San Vicente- State Fish and Wildlife continues to refuse to work with RTA about access to the area.

 Need public pressure on state Fish & Wildlife, can Senator Joel Anderson help?

 9b. Pamo Valley/Orosco Ridge/Bike Parks- SDMBA (Ben Stone)

 According to Ben about 60 people showed up for the meeting at the Palomar District Forest Service office but only 8 had RSVP’ed.

 Ben stated that the mountain bike community was funding the construction of this project and any subsequent maintenance. No federal funds (Forest Service) would be used.

 At this time 80 miles of trails are proposed by SDMBA- 15 miles of which would me Mt. biker exclusive/directional.

Monies collected so far for this project: $40,000 for consultant, $32,000 from Grants, $12,000- from individuals.

 Four bids from contractor come end of May

 2018 FS budget- to 2019 budget: Signing maintenance

 According to Ben there will be no federally listed species affected by the project and there will be no need for a NEPA or to consult with Fish & Wildlife.

The JPA (San Dieguito River Park) is still waiting for the city permit for their proposed trailhead at the junction of the Santa Ysabel West Truck Trail and Pamo Valley road.

 Water Authority (S.D.)

SDMBA plans on tapping into tourist funds and advertising the area as a tourist destination, Community reinvestment fund for phase one, support from Ramona Mountain Bike team.

 Greensticker damage

 An example of IMBA-constructed trail- The Skyline Trail in Big Bear: 40 ft. (?), 300 ft. standard ?)

 Public Stakeholders meetings

9c. Other Mentions: New Connections with Lucky 5, Nobal Canyon, Trails and reroutes in Laguna, addressing peddle assist E Bikes access, ADA, ATV Access.

 10. Del Mar- Julie Klein

 11. Horse/bike interaction clinics for East County and Ramona- Vicki Krauss

 She is available for clinics.

 12. Bike park update- nothing to report other than Orosco Ridge above.

 13. Letters needed from SDTA?

 To San Diego County concerning the PLDO (see PLDO/Mark Kukuchek segment)

 14. Communication

 15. Recreational facilities