

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Trails Advisory Committee

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 6:00 pm

3 Civic Center Drive San Marcos, CA 92069 – Meeting held via GoToMeeting.com

CALL TO ORDER: Parks & Recreation - Recreation Coordinator, Taylor Oshinski, called the meeting to order at 6:02PM.

ROLL CALL:

Adam Watkins (Chair), Carrie Alidaee, Rich Amiton, David Simpson & John Walsh

Parks & Recreation Commissioners - Jay Franklin & Travis Lindsay

Guests: Carolyn Reed

Not Present: Torrey Olson (Vice Chair)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Taylor notified the TAC members that an email will be sent prior to each meeting. He requested to receive feedback if you are unable to attend the meeting. All meetings for 2021 have already been scheduled and are available on the first page of the agenda.
2. The Trails Master Plan is currently under the final revision but the City is currently searching for funding for the Guidelines & Classifications portion. Taylor explained that the Trails Master Plan has not been updated since 1991 so the City will not be releasing the map portion until the entire project is complete. If the City finds additional funds, the consultant will then be hired to complete the project. If there are no additional funds, the City will complete the project in house. The City hopes to have an answer and timeline for completion by the end of the year.
3. Taylor spoke about the future bike park slated for Bradley Park in the empty eight acre field behind the multipurpose fields. The TAC members received a preliminary concept plan for the park prior to the meeting. Taylor let the group know that the design was funded through the Friends of San Marcos Parks & Recreation to get the City ahead when the grant money comes through from the state. The design went through a series of public meetings to receive resident input on what they would like to see at the park. The design will go out to bid with the major features listed in priority within the budgeted amount for the project. The City is in the process of forming a maintenance agreement with SDMBA. However, the City will be seeking additional volunteers to help with the maintenance. The additional volunteers will go through the same process as Reserve Rangers for the City. The TAC is an integral part of the recruitment and sponsorship process as they are the ones connected directly to the mountain biking community.
4. Carolyn Reed was present on the call as a guest but was unable to communicate on the GoToMeeting app. The City has still not received her TAC Application to be approved by the Parks & Recreation Commission. She will remain a guest until an application is received. Taylor offered

assistance over the phone at a later time in case she needs help with either the application or GoToMeeting app.

NEW BUSINESS

1. The TAC members spoke about the heavy trail usage since COVID began. All have experienced a major influx in the trails that they regularly use. Adam Watkins explained that he has witnessed an increase in vehicles parked in the neighborhood surrounding Lakeview Park. He also notified Taylor of a wall that needs some attention. Taylor requested pictures of the wall and will follow up with the Public Works Department. David Simpson also voiced his concerns regarding additional foot traffic through the Stone Canyon Community. He also notified Taylor of some waste on the trails. John Walsh also notified the TAC that he has witnessed flashlights on the trails after hours. However, the majority have experienced friendly hikers that are respectful of nature, surrounding neighborhoods and other hikers. Taylor let the TAC know to please contact him with any trail concerns and he will forward to the proper agency for clean up or repairs.
2. John Walsh and Travis Lindsay asked about the recent Democracy In Action project completed by CSUSM. Taylor notified the group that he would send it to the group when he returns to the office next week.
3. John Walsh entertained the idea of a social media campaign for trail etiquette, safety and rules. Taylor notified the group that the San Marcos Communications Team completed a campaign at the end of 2019 so it is time in the near future to discuss another campaign. Taylor requested to hear what the TAC members would like to include in this campaign.
4. Taylor spoke about how the City adapted to be able to offer the Double Peak Challenge. He explained that the course was marked for a three week period and the runners could run the course at their own pace. The funds generated from the DPC benefit the Friends of San Marcos Parks & Recreation. Registration numbers were down to 150 this year but still a positive turnout given the COVID circumstances. Just for registering the runners still received a ribbon, DPC facemask & socks, a koozie and a coupon for a discount at a local brewery.
5. The TAC spent a portion of time discussing E-Bikes on San Marcos trails. Taylor spoke about the research he has done on E-Bikes and how they offer an inclusive option for riders of all abilities and ages. Taylor also let the TAC know that he worked with the San Marcos HR Department regarding E-bikes. The HR team notified Taylor that JPIA does not see any issues with approving Class 1 & 2 E-bikes. However, Class 3 and homemade E-bikes will not be permitted. The process of amending the Municipal Code begins with the TAC so this will be voted on at the January meeting. If approved by the TAC, it will go to the Parks & Recreation Commission for approval and then to the City Council.



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Taylor explained that this is a lengthy process but is the proper way to change a current Municipal Code. Adam explained that E-bikes are selling very quickly, are growing in popularity and are here to stay so this is a great time for the discussion of allowing E-bikes. Rich Amiton questioned the current signage and Taylor let him know that the signage would need to be changed throughout park and trail system by the City.

6. Carrie questioned sections of lodge pole fencing around the City and in particular the Walnut Grove Park area. Taylor explained that JPIA has been involved with the lodge pole fencing concerns and they are not recommending the removal of every 11th lodge pole throughout the City. Taylor let Carrie know that he would follow up with HR to obtain the language from JPIA and forward it on to her.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Trails Advisory Committee

July 2020 TAC meeting minutes were approved. John Walsh motioned to approve and David Simpson seconded.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. No additional information was presented or requests made.

TAC MEMBER COMMENTARY

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2021 at 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Taylor Oshinski adjourned the October 14, 2020 San Marcos Trails Advisory Committee meeting at 7:10PM.

ATTEST:

TAYLOR OSHINSKI, RECORDING SECRETARY
CITY OF SAN MARCOS
TRAILS ADVISORY COMMITTEE