

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Trails Advisory Committee
Wednesday, October 13, 2021 6:00 pm
3 Civic Center Drive San Marcos, CA 92069

CALL TO ORDER: Parks & Recreation - Recreation Supervisor, Taylor Oshinski, called the meeting to order at 6:03pm.

ROLL CALL:

TAC Members: Adam Watkins (Chair), Torrey Olson (Vice Chair), David Simpson, Mary Stanford, John DeBevoise & Nate Hatfield
Parks & Recreation Commissioner: Jay Franklin
City of San Marcos Staff: Taylor Oshinski and Hugh McMenamin
Not Present: John Walsh & Travis Lindsay (P&R Commissioner)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Taylor welcomed all in attendance to the October 13, 2021 TAC meeting. All members were present with the exception of John Walsh and Parks & Recreation Commissioner Travis Lindsay. Taylor explained that staff members would be looking down at their notepads while members are speaking so notes can be accurately documented for meeting minutes. He also wanted to ensure that members don't hesitate to ask questions if they have them. Taylor asked if anyone had taken part in the Sage Hill Preserve webinar. Adam said he did and gave a summary on the topic. Taylor notified the TAC members that he would send them the recorded version to listen to at a later time.
2. Taylor notified the TAC members that an email will be sent five to seven days prior to each meeting. He requested to receive feedback if you are unable to attend the meeting. All meetings for 2022 have already been scheduled and are available on the first page of the agenda. Meetings will be held in person at the San Marcos Community Center.
3. Taylor gave an update on the last Star Walk that had 140+ total in attendance. He notified the group that TAC Member, John Walsh, does an excellent job with the presentations and the next event is scheduled for December 12th if they'd like to join. Taylor provided an update on the Double Peak Challenge that had close to 500 participants between the 5k and 10k. Mary Stanford asked what the Friends of San Marcos Organization is and Taylor provided her with their goal and mission to benefit the residents of San Marcos and the Parks & Rec Department. Taylor talked about the City Hikes that occur on the first Saturday of each month and all were welcome to join either the moderate or fast pace groups.
4. Taylor asked if there were any trail maintenance concerns to be discussed since the last meeting and all agreed that the trails have held up well even after the recent rain. The trails have seen lighter crowds compared to the height of the pandemic.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Taylor asked if there were any questions regarding the July Minutes. There were no questions or concerns so he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. Adam Watkins motioned to approve and Nate Hatfield seconded. The Minutes passed 6-0. Taylor explained why Commissioner Jay Franklin does not vote and explained his role with the Parks & Recreation Commission. Taylor also explained the nature of Travis Lindsay's position.
2. Taylor updated the members that are coming up for renewal in January, 2022 and asked about their involvement moving forward. Torrey and Adam both wish to continue. John Walsh was not present for the meeting but Taylor believes that John would still like to continue being a part of the Committee. The renewals will be added to the January 2022 agenda.
3. Taylor discussed the E-Bike proposal and how the measure is being reviewed by the City Attorney. The City Attorney will examine the proposal and City Council will take public comments and offer their recommendation once provided the official proposal as an agenda item. Taylor notified the TAC members that he would maintain communication with all members for when this is an agenda item at the City Council meeting.
4. At the July, 2021 TAC meeting a social media campaign was set in motion. Taylor gave an update on its progress and most recent posts regarding trails and proper trail etiquette. He gave an update on numbers of "likes" per post. The City worked with JPW Communications to create six posts that were posted to social media from August 20th – 30th. He asked for additional material for future posts and campaign interests when the time comes. A "naming a new park" item was brought up and discussed, the park going in at the north end of Las Posas Road in the Highland Project. South Lake area was also brought up and discussed. Taylor gave an update on both projects and answered questions. Questions specifically were asked about future trail developments and designations, specifically single track mountain bike trails. Concerns were shared about falling behind general public use of trails as opposed to the preferred move of the City getting ahead of such developments to make official trails the City desires. Taylor talked about the progress with the Trails Master Plan Update and how this will be moving to City Council by the end of the year. Adam requested a copy of the most up-to-date TMP update so he would have time to review it by the time it is presented to City Council. Taylor explained that he would speak with Management and provide him with an update at a later time.
5. Taylor asked for responses for updates on the Trail Etiquette Brochure that were assigned at the July meeting. It was recommended to find new ideas from other agencies. One idea was to condense it to make it smaller and easier to understand. Using symbols instead of text was suggested. Taylor asked for further input to be ready by the January 2021 meeting.



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6. Taylor asked if there were any additional items to discuss before adjourning the meeting. Adam asked about the progress of the bike park planned for Bradley Park. Taylor said no progress was available to share. It is still planned to be done in 2-3 phases as funds become available. Attention was given to the Ride and Stride Horse event taking place on October 17th at Walnut Grove Park. Nate brought up Strava on his personal laptop and showed City staff data on how many unofficial trails are given heavy use. Adam commented that according to Strava's tracking data, the City of San Marcos has 350 miles of trails based on unapproved usage. Taylor notified the group that he would share this info with the Management team.

7. Taylor thanked everyone for their time and a productive meeting!

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Trails Advisory Committee

July 2021 TAC meeting minutes were approved. The Minutes passed 6 yes votes and 0 no votes.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

1. No additional information was presented or requests made.

TAC MEMBER COMMENTARY

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 12, 2022 at 6:00pm

ADJOURNMENT

Taylor Oshinski adjourned the October 13, 2021 San Marcos Trails Advisory Committee meeting at 7:03PM.

ATTEST:

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