

**PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA
CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
RANCHO BERNARDO COMMUNITY RECREATION GROUP**

**Minutes
Wednesday, July 20, 2022
7:00pm**

This meeting was conducted online via the following zoom:

This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request, as required by the American with Disabilities Act (ADA), by contacting Eric McDonald at (858)538-8129 or emcdonald@sandiego.gov. Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations required to facilitate meeting participation, including requests for auxiliary aids, services or interpreters, require different lead times, ranging from five business days to two weeks. Please keep this in mind and provide as much advance notice as possible in order to ensure availability. Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are available for the meeting, if requested at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting to ensure availability.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order 7:02 pm by Robin Kaufman, Chair. Members in attendance: Robin Kaufman, Kelly Batten, Sally Grigoriev, Dani Antique, Trevor Christensen, David Arnold, Katie Newbanks, Tiffany Coles. Member not present: Patrick Batten. Staff Present: Becky Lowndes, Eric McDonald.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – April 6, 2022. Motion made Katie Newbanks/David Arnold to accept the minutes as presented. Motion passed 7-0-1 with Tiffany Coles abstaining as she was not a member in April.

TREASURERS REPORT – Ms. Grigoriev. No report was sent to us by staff ahead of time. Becky Lowndes sent the information to Robin Kaufman, Chair, afterwards. For record purposes, as of June 30, 2022, the RB Community Recreation Groups funds are as follows:

Annual Revenue: \$30,242

Annual Expense: \$18,417

Annual Net Positive: \$11,825

Ending FY22 Balance: **\$232,883.15**

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – None

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT – Robin Kaufman reminded everyone of the meeting protocols. She also shared the following:

- Several inquiries about joining the tennis club. They were all referred to Scott via phone number and email address;
- Two inquiries regarding renting the gazebo – Eric was cc'd in the communication and office number was given;
- Several complaints from parents saying the sand by the children's playground is not being confined to the play area. This transpired while I was doing a walk in the park. The condition of the park was relayed to Eric.
- Contacted after 10 pm on July 8 in regard to a bonfire taking place by the gazebo. I reached out to Becky (no response) and then Eric to see if they wanted to send staff or if I should just call the police. Eric immediately responded asking me to call police. After speaking with police, I gave Eric the info of who I spoke to on the matter
- 2 complaints regarding comfort stations. Eric was cc'd in communication and office number was given.

- Several complaints about people running their dogs off leash on the fields. This was via various messages;
- Robin met via zoom with various levels of Park and Rec staff, Mayor's staff, City Councilwoman and her staff on June 22. This was a follow up to several park walk throughs over the past few years, which included one with Andy Field when he became park and rec director back in 2019, one with Salome Martinez when she became the area manager in 2020, one in January 2021 with Marni von Wilpert and her staff after she became our new city councilwoman and one with Becky Lowndes when she became area manager in 2021;
- Robin also participated in another park walk through on July 18, 2022 which included all levels of the park and rec department, pointing out dead plants, where new trees could possibly be planted, irrigation issues throughout the park, the old lawn bowling area, the ball fields, the children's two play areas and the off-leash dog park, including drinking fountain issues, trees and so on.
- Robin also took time to share the following to clarify misinformation pertaining to the Community Recreation Group and the individual members:
 - There seems to be some misguided information being passed along in regard to the community recreation group, which is composed of very dedicated volunteers. This is even after detailed information is repeated at each of our meetings as to the role of the CRG and the role of staff. There is a big difference between 'belief' and factual truth.
 - The city has greatly limited the role of all community recreation groups, which began in 2017 (there is one CRG in each community in the city of San Diego). As it clearly states on the City website:
 - **The role of Community Recreation Groups (CRGs) is to make recommendations to City Council, the Parks and Recreation Department, and its various boards with respect to recreation programs in the community and to provide recommendations on the expenditure of Recreation Center Funds. The City does not delegate any authority to Community Recreation Groups to act on behalf of the City. Community Recreation Groups are voluntarily created and maintained by their members.**
 - **Fact:** All user groups (such as the sports groups) pay a substantial fee to the city to utilize the fields or the gym;
 - **Fact:** on top of paying a substantial fee, the user groups help maintain the fields and prep them for practice and games. They bring in their own equipment (ie: field goals, equipment to drag the fields, dirt to build up and maintain the pitching mounds and so on);
 - **Fact:** Staff (not any of the community recreation group members) is solely responsible for any maintenance of the off-leash dog park. This includes making sure the trash cans are emptied, the poop bag dispenser are kept full, bringing in dirt to fill in any holes, watering issues and so on.
 - **Fact:** Staff (not any of the community recreation group members) are responsible for posting any and all information in any of the kiosks. Staff, not CRG members, are the only ones who post any official items and are to remove any posters/flyers related to any business, selling items and so on.
 - **Fact:** Staff (not CRG members) are responsible for posting/promoting meeting agendas/notices.
 - **Fact:** The City has no restrictions on naming any city property after someone who is living. In Rancho Bernardo alone we have the Ed Brown Center, Dave Kreitzer Bridge, Bruce Cornblum gymnasium, George Cooke Expressway Drive, and we believe a couple of the rooms in the library were originally named after living donors.

- **Fact:** attending 3 meetings does not mean an individual becomes a member of the CRG. We are limited to 9 members. If we have a vacancy throughout the year, a person must be approved by the CRG members, not staff.
- **Fact:** If we do not have a quorum for a regularly scheduled meeting and there is a time sensitive matter, we will reschedule as soon as possible with a date that works for staff and CRG members. We **do not** purposely cancel a meeting and reschedule it for another date/time in an attempt to avoid having any particular resident from attending a meeting.
- **Fact:** All meetings are open to the public.
- **Fact:** A special meeting on April 6, 2022 was scheduled after it was brought to staff's attention by the CRG that the March 23, 2022 meeting was in violation of the Brown Act. Our Area Manager changed the zoom link to the March 23, 2022 meeting minutes prior to the scheduled time of the meeting as she was having log on issues. Changing the zoom link at that time did not afford the public the minimum of 72 hours notice required by the Brown Act.
- **Fact:** Ad hoc committees will be set up to deal with a specific matter and then will be dissolved once that matter has been completed. It is temporary in nature. An Ad hoc committee will **ONLY** meet if/when there is new information to discuss on the matter it is focusing on. If there is no **NEW** information to discuss, it does not meet. The CRG's only ad hoc at this time is the one related to upgrades for the off-leash dog park.
- The City is solely responsible for the forward movement of any upgrades to the off-leash dog park. Once the City has updated information on what is transpiring, it will pass along the information to the CRG and arrangements will be made for the ad hoc to meet and/or any special community wide meeting.
- **Fact:** Community events rarely take place at the RB community park due to all the documentation, permits and large fees the City charges for the use of the park. Instead, most large community events take place at Webb Park (a private park). Webb Park management is community friendly, allowing such events to transpire with a minimum application fee. There is also ample parking by Webb park. Unfortunately, our park has limited parking, especially on the weekends when there are various games or practices taking place at the park. Some community based events that take place at Webb park include Veteran's day celebration, Vines and Vittles, Beernardo, poodle palooza extravaganza, Memorial day pancake festival, July 4th community fair and more.

CITY STAFF REPORT –

Becky Lowndes –Area Manager: Becky shared the following:

- Additional dirt was added to the off-leash dog park area to help fill in holes. More supplies have been brought into the area for the rest of the pens. Pressure washing is taking place on the concrete portion of each pen. The grant usage is still in the design phase.
- The RFP for the lawn bowling area is still with the city attorney's office. It is still approximately 6 to 8 weeks before going out to bid.
- There have been some issues with the field lighting (Musco lighting) in getting them to work properly.
- Fee schedules have been upgraded. Some have remained the same while others have increased in price.

Eric McDonald - Recreation Center Director. Eric shared the following:

- Musco radio programs are not working properly on fields 3,4,7 and 8. Staff is working hard on finding the cause
- The fee schedules include a base fee and a lighting fee

- Staff has been picking up the slack of the landscaping crew (Aztec) by doing things such as cleaning the comfort stations;
- We now have a new staff member at the center;
- The plan right now is to hold a Halloween event which is scheduled for Friday, October 28.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – Ms. Kaufman: The meeting scheduled for July 6 was canceled due to lack of a quorum.

Community Council – Ms. Kaufman: They reviewed their donut dash fundraiser; approved their Hats Off To Volunteers recipient; elected officers, committee chairs as well as historian and PR liaison. They also appointed a website ad hoc committee

Planning Board – Ms. Kaufman: Due to lack of agenda items, the June meeting was canceled. The next meeting is scheduled for July 21.

Ed Brown Senior Center – Tim Rohane, President. No report was provided

Rancho Bernardo Tennis Club- Scott Davis – Doing well. They have a small waiting list for members.

Dog Park – Ms. Kaufman Dirt has been brought in to fill in holes and other areas. Other matters listed in the April minutes were also addressed (wells around trees, sprinkler heads and so on).

Youth Sports – David Arnold reported the field conditions are getting worse. He also mentioned there is a big turnover with user groups with new people in leadership positions and that there is a high participation rate with all sports. He also mentioned there is concern with the new fee structures as many cannot afford the increased costs.

ACTION ITEMS In following the procedures of the City, if any non-member has a comment on any agenda items, you will be afforded the opportunity to make a comment prior to each voting item. Comments will be limited to 3 minutes and are non-debatable.

101. Ratification of the 2022 elections: The public was asked if there were any comments. Seeing none, Kelly Batten, co-chair of the election ad hoc (Katie Newbanks was the other co-chair), reviewed the election process, which included mail in and also in-person voting opportunities. She commented that a deadline for mail in requests will be suggested for any future mail in opportunities as some people were waiting until the last minute to request a mail in ballot.

- Almost all who requested mail in ballots returned them
- There were 58 mail in ballots returned
- There were 59 in person voting
- Resident Gary Long, not associated with the CRG, oversaw the voting process
- 3 people counted the ballots
- There were 5 candidates for 4 positions
- Results:
 - Debbie Meyer: 23.9 percent
 - Dani Antique: 43.5 percent
 - Trevor Christensen: 48.8 percent
 - Tiffany Cole: 54.7 percent
 - Robin Kaufman: 65.8 percent

Motion made Kelly Batten/Katie Newbanks to approve the election results. Motion passed unanimously.

102.: Election of Officers: The public was asked if they had any comments. Seeing none, a motion was made Kelly Batten/David Arnold to elect the following as officers:

- President: Robin Kaufman
- Vice President: Kelly Batten
- Treasurer: Sally Grigoriev
- Secretary: Dani Antique.

Motion passed unanimously.

103. Canann Li: Local scout interested in constructing a kiosk for his eagle scout project. The public was asked if they had any questions. Seeing none, Canann presented a power point for his proposed eagle scout project. Motion made Kelly Batten/Tiffany Cole to approve the project, with having Canann work with our staff to complete it. Motion passed unanimously.

104. Glassman Brown Recreation Leadership Award (GBRL) Approval: The public was asked if they had any comments. Seeing none, a motion was made David Arnold/Robin Kaufman for a continuance with this item. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. None.

WORKSHOP – none.

ADJOURNMENT:

Next Regular Meeting: Wednesday, September 21, 2022
Rancho Bernardo Recreation Center
18448 West Bernardo Drive San Diego CA, 92127