

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ADAMS COMMUNITY RECREATION GROUP

MINUTES/PUBLIC MEETING

Virtually on Zoom

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Estevan Negrete, Chairperson
Kim Emerson, Secretary
Dennis Reiter, Member
Ryan Darsey, Office CM Whitburn
Gary Weber
Vickie Everich
Connie Terwilliger, Ward Canyon Waggers

STAFF

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II
Rafael Padilla, Recreation Center Director I
Jenny Hall, SD Police Department
Jennifer Cyphers, Librarian, Kensington-Normal Heights Library

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jim Baross, NHCPG
Ally Welborn, NHCA
Jojo Turner, Mid-City Little League
Michael Nichols, VAVI Representative
Emily Rose-Weber, Member
Pete Evangelisto, Member

Elizabeth Chennamchetty, Vice Chairperson
Nancy Lawler, Member
Jane Bird – VOLO/VAVI Representative
Mark Lawler, Member

COMMUNITY GUESTS

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Estevan Negrete, Chairperson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval: It was moved/seconded (Connie Terwilliger/ Kim Emerson) to approve minutes from May 24, 2022, meeting. MOTION APPROVED (5-0-0).

COMMUNICATIONS *(limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to five (5) minutes and is not debatable).* **Vickie Everich** reported, everyone loves the park, nothing but compliments. People from Point Loma coming to visit the park. Its been real great addition. A couple of maintenance issues that people had mentioned. Vickie suggested that she will use the get it done app. Vickie also noted that signs to notify the public that it's a dog park. Michele stated, signs have already been created, standard city dog signs that are at Ward Canyon. Kim, communication future ward canyon efforts.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT –**Estevan Negrete**, Chairperson reported about what do regarding 501c3. Moving along slowly, encountering a couple of issues. Plan to move forward with their original plan.

ORGANIZATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. San Diego Police/Community Relations Officer – Jenny Hall, reported beginning of last month. Three vehicle break ins Normal Heights area, on 4437 33rd Monroe and 4500 40th, residential break ins -3300 Adams, 4800 33rd street and 4900 34th north of Adams. Stolen vehicles 4800 33rd, 4500 Sultan, 4600 36th, and 3500 on El cajon Blvd. Invited Thursday June 30th, Coffee with a cop at Starbucks on 3206 University 10am-12pm. Estevan asked as far as the parks go was anything in particular that relates to park in crimes or opportunity for improvement. Jenny Hall reported usual calls regarding homeless at Ward Canyon. Did not look over at Adams Parks. Jenny will go back and review their dashboards to review what calls they have been getting from Adams.

2. City Council District 3 Representative – Ryan Darsey reported they passed a budget it has been signed. They are excited to address Homeless crisis, including increasing shelter capacity. Addressing encampments on our sidewalks. Also, a new conservative ship unit

within the city attorney's office. Also, Councilmember has been a big proponent of which safe camping. Will be developing a pilot program for seniors. Vendor ordinance has gone into effect. Much of difference at Balboa Park, funding for enforcement. Also, thankful of dog at Ward Canyon will be putting one at North Park Community Park within a week or two. Two hundred thousand dollars was put into the budget for SDPD street racing and enforcement operations. Estevan suggested the completion of the GDP, stated they are ready. Connie wanted to reiterate that they are looking for a timeline, expected progress on the permanent plan for the park. Kim Emerson agreed. Wanted to know if we can have GDP on an ongoing item on agenda.

3. San Diego Library – No report.

4. Mid-City Little League – No report.

5. VAVI/VOLO – No report.

6. Normal Heights Community Association – No report.

7. Normal Heights Urban Arts – Kim Emerson reported that Mosaic mural project fundraising is ongoing. They sold at “Taste of Adams” event. It was a great way to get the word out about the project. So far, they have raised about \$30,000. She has obtained a structural engineer who is volunteering his time. He is doing it Pro-Bono project estimate is \$2,500. Thanks to Michele for providing the plans of Adams Recreation Center. Next meeting was decided to be on ZOOM, not meeting at the Recreation Center. July 12, 2022 at 6pm.

Dennis Reiter reported, have several artists paint the electrical boxes; he already prepped a couple of boxes. They have 4 different artists painting 5 boxes different with cool designs. Scott Kesler has paint cans to help with graffiti.

8. Normal Heights Planning Group – Vickie Everich reported past meeting “**The Mars project**” where DiMille's has been a topic of great conversation. A letter to the Mayor, City Council, and other city official's stating that they oppose the project that was proposed. They are drawing out permits, its under the development department review now. If they need any more community input, then they will reach out to the planning group again. They are currently creating a **Working Committee** for dangerous intersections and traffic issues. They are also creating a **Historic Committee** for Normal Heights.

9. Ward Canyon Waggers – Connie Terwilliger started off by thanking Parks and Recreation for getting the fencing up around Option C- Temporary Dog Park. Connie reported that there has been lots of discussion on Social Media extremely positive. About the area the fact that it has grass and shade proximity to a water fountain. One of the issues, the lost of the two tables and benches that had handicap access. The only location where there is a bench accessible is in the center of the field closest to the playground. Suggest that if we could possibly get one table with a concrete pad installed across the sidewalk from the now fenced in tables. It would be very beneficial to those people who lost that area and can't reach with their motorized wheelchair. They have been very successful using surveys to get opinions from the community. Connie offered to create one and have Michele review it for approval. Michele stated that we can put up a temporary sign at the new dog park. Connie wanted to know when we will begin resurfacing the dog park. It was mentioned for July. Also, if possible, Connie requested more shade and or seating. There is a portable wooden bench. No timeline has been sent to Michele. Connie thanked Gregory Stone for managing the Saturday sweep this month. Next Ward Canyon Waggers Sweep will be on Saturday July 9th at 9am. Connie will be present. Gregory is currently recruiting around the neighborhood.

10. Adams Elementary – No report.

11. Normal Heights Elementary– No report.

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS

- 1. Rafael Padilla, Center Director I** – Reported the summer programs, summer camps, and lunch programs.
- 2. Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager** – Michele reported that we had a Mulch Project at Adams Recreation Center. Two Trucks dropped off two loads of mulch. Michele and Rafael assisted the maintenance staff. It looks beautiful. Michele ordered more ground covering for playground area. At Ward Canyon, seeing a huge amount of homeless in the area, keep vandalizing our sprinkler heads. Constantly repairing sprinkler heads. Police helped with the encampment issue at the vacant building over at Ward Canyon. She is proud of the staff. Dog park is finally open and the North Park dog park they have two onsite, one large and one small. The public uses both daily.

People are loving it, it's a space for the dogs. There is going to be a brand new one at the Education Center on Park Blvd. currently awaiting on paperwork from school district. Hoping that this year it will be complete. Michele, added to visit Adams Recreation Center, currently waiting on passwords from Ashley for Facebook and Digital Display.

ACTION ITEMS Consent (Items are adopted without discussion)

ACTION ITEMS Adoption (Each item requires individual action)

WORKSHOP ITEMS

- **Fact sheet-** Estevan reviewed the GDP fact sheet dated February 21, 2021. Estevan asked Rafael to send out Fact Sheet.

INFORMATION ITEMS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Estevan Negrete - Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next Adams Community Group meeting will be Tuesday, July 26, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

Submitted by: *Rafael Padilla*

Reviewed by: *MChicarelli*

Rafael Padilla, Recreation Center Director I

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.
CONTACT Rafael Padilla, RECREATION CENTER DIRECTOR I AT (619) 235-1149.

Adams CRG

Quick Fact Sheet

Workshop Item:

Interface with Normal Heights Community Organizations

Normal Heights Urban Arts

The Normal Heights Urban Arts Group is a volunteer organization seeking to promote community development through urban design and streetscape with public art, enriching the quality of life for residents and visitors. They continue to meet monthly,

-Information obtained from the Normal Heights Urban Arts Facebook Page

Representation at P&R Group: Kim Emmerson and Dennis Reiter

Meetings:

Chair:

Contact: normalheightsua@gmail.com

Normal Heights Community Association

Their “purpose is to promote a community where neighbors help neighbors and foster an environment that promotes community involvement for the betterment of all those who live, work, learn, and play here.”

“They produce a variety of fun events, including Summer Movies in the Park, the Holiday Decorating Contest& Party, monthly mixers at local restaurants, bars and pubs and ore. “

-Information obtained from the Normal Heights Community Association Website.

Representation at P&R Group: Ally

Meetings:

Chair:

Contact: normalheights.ca

Normal Heights Planning Group

The community planning groups are a formal mechanism for community input in the land use decision-making processes in San Diego. The NHCPG meets on the first Tuesday of every month at the normal Height Community Center. They post updates about activities monthly meetings and minutes, and pertinent neighborhood updates on their Facebook page.

-Information obtained from NHPG Facebook Page

Representation at P&R Group: Jim Baross

Meetings: This group meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:00 and via zoom (during pandemic). Physical location: 4649 Hawley Blvd. agendas can be requested via

sdplanninggroups@sandiego.gov

Contact: 619-282-7329 *via Facebook, www.adamsavenuebusiness.com/NHCPG.html,

nhcpgchair@gmail.com

Adams Avenue Business Association

The AABA is a nonprofit corporation that formed in the early 80's. It was worked to improve the neighborhood's economic conditions through its own activities and in partnership with local businesses and property owner, private companies and public or government agencies. The mission of the Adams Avenue Business Association is to promote and increase commercial activity within the Business Improvement District.

-Information obtained from the AABA website

Representation at P & R Group: currently not represented

President: Mikey Knab, Executive Director: Scott Kessler –

scott@adamsavenuebusiness.com

Contact: www.adamsavenuebusiness.com, 4649 Hawley Blvd., 619-282-7329

Normal Heights Ward Canyon Waggers

The Normal Heights Ward Canyon Waggers is a group of dog lovers advocating for a solution to the closures and challenges that face the two dog parks at Ward Canyon Park. They also support the completion of the GDP as a permanent solution to a permanent dog park in Ward Canyon Park.

Representation at P & R Group: Connie Terwilliger

Organizer: Connie Terwilliger

Contact: wcwaggers@gmail.com, Facebook page: Ward Canyon Dog Park

Mid-City Little League

*This community group that rents space at field

Mid-City Little League is singularly committed to the development of character and sportsmanship. By providing the area's youth with a safe, healthy, and accepting environment in which to learn the fundamentals of baseball, Mid-City Little League instills values that promote citizenship and community responsibility. The League competes in 2 seasons per year. Spring runs from February through May and Fall Ball runs from mid-September through mid-November.

-Description obtained from midcitylittleleague.com

Junionrs are located at Adams and 35th field

Representation at P&R Group: Jojo Turner

Contact: www.midcitylittleleague.com, Russ Havens, 858-472-3245, crhavens@gmail.com

*contact from website

Volo (previously Vavi)

*This community group rents space at the field

A social sport leagues. Volo brings together fun-loving San Deegan's through San Diego sports leagues, events and 5k runs. Volo Sports and Social Club is the largest organizers of coed adult sports leagues, social events, races and tournaments in the country. Volo runs more than 25 different types of adult sports with over 650 leagues across San Diego.

-Information obtained via Facebook and yelp

Representation at P&R Group: Varies depending on participation on the field.

Owner:

Contact: www.volosports.com, 858-273-3485, sandiego@volosports.com

Adams CRG Quick Fact Sheet

Workshop Item:

Ward Canyon Park - Dog Park Concerns/Issues

History of Ward Canyon Temporary Dog Park:

Ward Canyon Park, with the help of generous community involvement, created a temporary Dog Park in the south east corner of Ward Canyon Park. The dog park consisted of two fenced areas. One enclosure was intended for large dogs. The second enclosure was intended for small dogs.

The dog park did not follow typical easement rules other dog parks across the country have followed. This resulted in the large dog park becoming a nuisance to local home owners. The barking, after hours attendance and large plums of dirt and dust created an uninhabitable situation for property owners. Additionally, the dog parks were challenged with maintenance issues. Most of these issues stemmed from inadequate ground cover and construction debris, which was causing injuries to dogs and distress to dog owners.

As a result, many community meetings and options for alternative temporary placement and ground coverings have been discussed and proposed over the course of several years.

The formation of a local group, called the Ward Canyon Waggers, has been created to advocate for dogs and their humans in the creation of an appropriate alternate temporary dog park, until such time the Ward Canyon Park GDP can be realized.

Current State of the (existing) Temporary Dog Park

The temporary Dog Park closest to private property, known as the Large Dog Park, has been closed permanently. The Temporary Dog Park, to the north of the larger enclosure, known as the Small Dog Park, remains open to both large and small dogs.



Currently there are concerns with the small dog park (which all dogs are currently using).

These concerns are as follows: large dogs and small dogs grouped together, the area is too small for the population it serves, the ground cover is inadequate, there are ongoing maintenance challenges, there is no way to control the dust (no water hook ups nearby), there is no landscaping (bushes etc.) which is also a result of no water hook ups, weeds and general maintenance are a reoccurring issue, signage is poor and rules are unclear, the gates are not locked consistently

Solutions (Two Phases):

Current (temporary) Proposal by the City:

There is currently a proposal (known as "Option C") to open an additional temporary dog park within Ward Canyon Park. This temporary dog park has been approved and funded, however there is no fencing in this location. The City of San Diego currently does not have a fencing contractor. The City is in negotiations with a contractor. These negotiations have lasted several months. When such an agreement is finalized, the fence will be installed.



Option C – interim off leash dog area

Orange area 7,600 SF Blue area 13,000 SF



Final Goal:

All parties involved agree, the ultimate goal is Ward Canyon Park GDP completion. With the completion of the GDP for Ward Canyon Park, the permanent dog park will be realized on the east side of the property (closest to the freeway). The dog park will extend onto an existing road and be converted into park space. This property currently belongs to Caltrans. The City is in negotiations to obtain this land.



Quick Fact Sheet: Ward Canyon Dog Park(s)
Adams CRG: 3491 Adams Ave, 619-235-1149
Updated: 1/26/22