

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
RANCHO PEÑASQUITOS RECREATION ADVISORY GROUP

March 28, 2021

MINUTES

Meeting Location:
Virtual Meeting on Zoom

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Steve Leffler – Chairperson/Tennis
Sanjit Menezes – Cricket
Sean Bascom – Sprockids
Brian Reschke – RPB

OFFICERS

Steve Leffler – Chairperson/Tennis

STAFF

Mark Moncey – Area Manager
Becky Lowndes – Center Director, Canyonside
Rex Cabanas – Center Director, Hilltop
Lura Clarkin – OCA Asst. Center Director, Hilltop

ABSENT

Glenn Hachadorian – Pony/Colt
Ben Airth – RPLL
Steve Mauch – Vice Chairperson/PQGSA
Theresa Gonzaga – Town Council
Jennifer Palkovic – Sienna’s Playgarden
Rick Hudson – Secretary/Pop Warner
Peter Stogsdill – PQYSA
Diane Wavrik – YMCA
Efrain Gonzalez – Wolverine Yth Football

VISITORS

A. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 7:04pm.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 25, 2021

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Sean Bascom/Sanjit Menezes) to approve minutes from February 25, 2021 meeting with the amendment of the spelling of Robin Kauffman’s name in the Chairperson’s Report. (2-0-1)

C. TREASURER’S REPORT – Becky Lowndes reported that there were no updates to the financial report.

D. REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCES – None

E. COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to 5 minutes per speaker, informational in nature, items not on the agenda. Not to be debated or voted upon at current meeting unless agreed upon by full council). – None

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board (RPPB) request for Park Improvement suggestions.

Steve Leffler stated the Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board (RPPB) is canvassing the community to find suitable projects for expected developer funds, totaling \$2 million, that may arrive soon.

Brian Reschke, a member of the RPPB subcommittee, informed the group that the \$2 million is intended to be spread across the whole zip code to include other entities such as the library, YMCA, MADs, and Parks and Rec. Only a portion of the available funds will be dedicated to Parks and Rec improvement projects. All the projects listed that the RPPB had listed for Parks and Rec since 2004 have been completed. The RPPB has the discretion to allocate funds as they see fit, so they are looking for opportunities to benefit more members of the community instead of one specialized project. Given that all the previously listed Parks and Rec projects are completed, no money will be set aside for Parks and Rec unless there are specific projects identified. One suggested park improvement would be to place cement ping pong table or cornhole boards at Hilltop and donate paddles and other equipment to be checked out. Brian also mentioned that there are a lot of factors so even if an item is listed, the City may not approve it. RPPB is compiling a cohesive presentation of all projects and budgets to present to the donor. The funds may not be available until at least six months to one year from now.

Mark Moncey stated that input from the Recreation Advisory Group on what is desired from the community could be gathered tonight but could be brought forward on next month's meeting. Mark also shared the Unfunded Park Improvement list for the Rancho Peñasquitos Area which describes the projects desired by the community which can be used as inspiration and a starting place for future community needs. Additions or changes could require amendments to the General Development Plan (GDP), which will need to be approved by the Advisory Group, Area Committee, and Park and Rec Board before it can be considered for implementation.

Sean Bascom, representing Sprockids San Diego and San Diego Mountain Biking Association (SDMBA) presented that SDMBA is interesting in increasing the number of bike parks around the county, given the high volume of activity the current parks have. The Sweetwater Bike Park was the first bike park in the county. It was a \$2 million project that includes a 15-acre site with many features for BMX and mountain biking. The Sweetwater park is the second most popular park in the County park system, behind the Waterfront Park in downtown San Diego. Without a designated space for mountain biking to occur, the bikers have been creating their own features in nature which is problematic for sensitive habitats and private properties. If the City can provide access to an undeveloped and underutilized area, such as hillsides of a park, the creation of a bike park would be an excellent use of \$200,00 - \$300,00. SDMBA has helped build design and fund the bike parks in other

areas of the County and can play an active role in the development of a new park in the city.

G. ACTION ITEMS

- a. Appoint RP RAG representative to Rancho Peñasquitos Planning Board for April 2021 – March 2022 term**

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (B. Reschke/S. Bascom) to elect Steve Leffler as the representative for RPPB. The motion passed unanimously. (3-0-0)

H. CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Steve Leffler No Report

I. VICE CHAIR REPORT – Steve Mauch Absent

J. SECRETARY REPORT - Rick Hudson Absent

K. PARK AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS

1) Rancho Peñasquitos Area Manager – Mark Moncey

Mark reported an update on Junipers park from Scott Sandel. Scott Sandel has requested to be on the agenda for April for Park & Rec Board. Maps and the proposed GDP will be shared and discussed with Board virtually Thursday, April 15th at 2:00pm. Mark also reported that the parking lot at Canyonside does not have a specific completion date yet, but signs listing additional parking have been received.

2) Canyonside Recreation Center Director – Becky Lowndes

Becky reported that they are now issuing permits youth and adult sports to have games on site, organizations will need to follow CDPH guidelines. The number of participants in the cohort have risen to 16, including a coach. Youth sports are allowed spectators of the same household; however, adult sports are not allowed spectators at this time. Canyonside is still running virtual book club on the last Tuesday of every month at 10:00am and the virtual guitar club which will be run on Thursdays from 3:30pm to 4:30pm by Brian, a Recreation Leader. Prize pick-up for the Spring Easter Egg Hunt will be on Saturday April 3rd from 10:00am to 12:00pm at Hilltop Park. Participation is hard to gauge, but we expect a lower turnout due to sports games being allowed to occur. The two swamp cooler fans in the gymnasium purchased by the Recreation Council may be donated to other City facilities who do not have any fans, HVAC systems, or other ways to generate airflow when indoor programs resume.

3) Hilltop Recreation Center Director – Rex Cabanas

Rex reported that the Large grass area behind the building has been open since March 1st with lots of utilization. The old wooden PQ sign looking over Black Mountain Middle school was graffitied and will take some time to clean up due to the weather. The Egg Scavenger Hunt Prize distribution will be in the cul-de-sac of

Oviedo for a drive by prize pick up on Saturday, April 3rd. The area will be blocked off on Friday to allow for a safe event space. A JHAT (Joint Hazardous Assessment Team) training took place regarding how recreation centers will reopen safely. Site plans are being created and laid out; however, there is no opening date yet.

L. ORGANIZATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1) Community Parks I Area Committee – Glenn Hachadorian Absent

2) RPB Basketball - Brian Reschke

Brian Reported that RPB plans to come back in the Fall.

3) PQ Girls Softball – Steve Mauch Absent

4) PQ Town Council - Theresa Gonzaga Absent

5) PQ Youth Soccer - Peter Stogsdill Absent

6) RP Little League – Ben Airth Absent

7) Cricket – Sanjit Menezes

Sanjit reported that Cricket continues to practice with the kids, and they are very grateful to have games allowed again. The first game was a great success. Feels like things are getting closer to normal.

8) Pony/Colt - Glen Hachadorian Absent

9) YMCA - Diane Wavrik Absent

10) RP Tennis - Steve Leffler

Steve reports they are continuing with restrictions and playing intermural leagues.

11) Pop Warner - Rick Hudson Absent

12) Planning Board - Steve Leffler

Steve reported that there is no additional information to share beyond the information item.

Brian Reschke requested additional information regarding the phased construction plans for Black Mountain Ranch Community Park. Mark Moncey reported that there is no date set for construction to begin, but the next phase should include a comfort

station in the center of all of the backstops, a multipurpose field, and outdoor court. Additional information can be requested from Public Works.

13) Wolverine Youth Football - Efrain Gonzalez Absent

14) Sienna's Playgarden - Jennifer Palkovic Absent

15) Sprockids - Sean Bascom

Sean reported that they have started an afterschool program and it is going great.

M. Workshop Items

N. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm

Respectfully submitted,
Becky Lowndes

Approved by,
Mark Moncey