

CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
University Heights Community Recreation Group
MINUTES

September 7, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.
Alice Birney Elementary School Library
4345 Campus Avenue, San Diego CA 92130

Mailing Address:

North Park Recreation Center
4044 Idaho Street
San Diego, CA 92104

ATTENDANCE

Marc Johnson, Chairperson
Ernie Bonn, Corresponding Secretary
Chris Milnes
Sol Schumer
Andy Cameron
Jeffery Taylor
Lance Lane -VOLO Sports

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Stu McGraw, Vice Chair

CITY STAFF

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II – Absent
Tianna David, North Park Recreation Center Director – Absent
Justin Necaize, Presidio Recreation Center Director
Council District 3 Representative – Ryan Darsey- Absent
Malik Thornton, Representative for City Councilmember Whitburn – Absent

GUESTS

Lauren Doucette of UH Garden Club
Christopher Sera of UH Garden Club

CALL TO ORDER – Marc Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:31 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was moved/seconded (Andy Cameron / Chris Milnes) to approve June 1, 2023, minutes as presented, motion carried unanimously (6-0-0).

COMMUNICATIONS – No report.

CHAIRPERSON REPORT – No report.

REPORTS

Parks and Recreation

Area Manager – Michele Chicarelli’s report stating Old Trolley Barn Park is experiencing a high volume of graffiti and encampments. Get it Done reports assist Police in responding to these incidents. No damages to report from the Summer Concerts. Birney Joint Use, no damages to report from VOLO renting the field for adult kick ball for 2 months. We are still

experiencing off leash dogs even though we opened the new Ed Center Dog Park on 8/19. Thank you, Marc Johnson, for creating and posting the new banners for the dog park.

North Park Recreation Center – Tianna David’s report stating successful Summer Programming, 9 weeks of camp at full capacity with additional nature camp. Summer basketball and futsal went great. Fall season is now open for all registrations. New highlighted adult/youth tennis lessons are being offered 4 times a week. Halloween event 5:30-7:30pm, movie to follow on Oct 27th. All fields are currently open and active. Pickleball court to be painted both outdoor and inside gym. Haunted Trails field trip 9/21 on a first come first serve basis, last day is 9/17 to turn in permission slip.

Presidio Recreation Center – Justin Necaise reported a successful first summer camp programming at Presidio Recreation Center. Presidio 10u basketball team won the Kearny Mesa Summer League, Presidio 10u Futsal finished 2nd in the Citywide Tournament. Fall youth programs are now open for registration. Movie in the park is scheduled for 9/29/2023 starting at 5pm. The fall event is scheduled for October 30th 5-7pm.

City Council District 3 Representative – No Report.

San Diego Police Department – No Report.

Birney Elementary – No Report

University Heights Point – No report.

Old Trolley Barn Neighborhood Park – Andy Cameron communicated the status of the permanent stage project at Old Trolley Barn Park and discussed the needed level of funding and potential ADA requirements. The permanent stage remains on the CIP list for park improvements.

Sol stated a resident requested having Parks & Rec remove the palm tree pods in Trolley Barn Park, to avoid hazards and the mess that occur when they fall off the trees.

Parks and Recreation Community Parks II Area Committee – Sol Schumer reported no meeting took place last month.

Uptown Planners – Sol Schumer reported that there would be an election soon with an additional 2 more vacancies that may remain vacant until April.

North Park Public Facilities Subcommittee – No report.

Education Center Redevelopment – No Report.

VOLO Sports – Lance Lane reported that Volo is thankful for the use of the summer joint use field. Participation was high and with more time to lead up time for registration, registration would be higher. Estimated 80-120 enrollments. Normal runway time for new programs is 2-3 months. Chairperson Marc Johnson recommended a new agenda item for November to reup VOLO joint use field permitting.

ACTION ITEMS – Consent (Items are adopted without discussion). None.

ACTION ITEMS – Adoption (Each item requires individual action). None.

WORKSHOP ITEMS –

1. Update on the Ed Center Temporary Dog Park – Grand opening was on Saturday August 19, 2023. – Marc Johnson reported a successful showing.
2. UH Historical Society - Historical marker for Old Trolley Barn Park (Kristin Harms). Breaks and rust noticed on recently installed markers. Kristin Harms is waiting to install through a vendor.
3. Homeless activity in Old Trolley Barn Park. Increase in complaints. Parks and Recreation advised community members to continue to submit Get it Done reports. Marc Johnson recommended speaking with local council members to address the issue.
4. Promotion of Off Leash Dog Park (reduce the number of dogs in Birney Joint Use Field). Marc Johnson reported a good turnout. 3x5 banners were vandalized/taken. Off leash dogs in Birney right after the opening of Dog Park. Humane Society presence helped. Volo assisted with informing patrons with off leash dogs. Andy Cameron promoted more signs and recommended metal signs in the future. Marc also reported that there was social media discourse resisting the change for a new off leash dog park. Parks and Recreation were asked to reach out to the Humane Society for more enforcement if possible. Justin said he would find out if the city can provide those and install them in a secure manner, like how the metal signs are installed on the temporary dog park fence.

INFORMATION ITEM –

1. University Heights Garden Club-Lauren Doucette informed that a Harvest Festival is scheduled for 10/21, 1-5 p.m. on the Birney joint use field in conjunction with Birney Elementary's Beekeeper Alliance
2. Sol Schumer informed that the UHCRG nominating committee needs be formed by/during the regularly scheduled October meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – There being no further business, it was moved/seconded (Chris Milnes / Jeffery Taylor) to adjourn the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING – Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 5:30 p.m., at the Birney Elementary School Library room.

Justin Necaise

Submitted by Justin Necaise, Center Director I

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST, CONTACT MICHELE CHICARELLI, (619) 235-1161, or email mchicarelli@sandiego.gov.
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Presidio Recreation Center, Justin Necaise, JNecaise@sandiego.gov