

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board **BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

October 6, 2011

Meeting held at:

Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing address is:

Balboa Park Administration Building
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Jeri Dilno
Michael Hager
Andrew Kahng
Luanne Kanzawa
David Kinney
Don Liddell
Mike McDowell
Minnie Rzeslawski
Michael Singleton
Rob Steppke
David Strickland

Members Absent

Jason Elrod

Staff Present

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park
Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M. and re-ordered the agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED (KAHNG/STPEPKE) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 1, 2011 MEETING. MOTION CARRIED (10,0,1) RZESLAWSKI ABSTAINING.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Jarvis Ross noted the motion of Item Number 330 at the City Council meeting of July 19, 2011. The alternatives are to be considered for environmental review. Mr. Ross stated that it is clear from presentations made by Civitas that they have been instructed not to present a fiscally responsible plan.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

David Kinney noted that the Park and Recreation Board approved the naming of the Jerry Schad Memorial Trail. Unfortunately, Mr. Schad has passed.

STAFF REPORT

Todd Gloria, City Councilmember – District 3

Councilmember Gloria thanked the Committee for their service. The Council District 3 Newsletter has information on three important items in Balboa Park:

- The San Diego Museum of Man re-roofing project is underway which is expected to take six months at a cost of \$2.1 million. Roofs will be replaced on the Administration Building, the building and arcades on the South side utilizing the existing red roofing tiles, restoration of ornamentation, and restoration of windows and re-sealing the dome.
- The City Council approved the Casa del Prado roofing project last week which is a \$1.4 million dollar project, coming out of the 2009 infrastructure bond. It is expected to go out to bid in the next month and begin around the first of the year. It is yet another infrastructure project in time for the Park's Centennial in 2015.
- Councilmember Gloria invited all to join him on Sunday, October 9, 2011 at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion for a Family Festival Day from 1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events District Manager

Susan Lowery-Mendoza provided the following report:

- Along with the Museum of Man roofing project, the Casa del Prado will be receiving a new roof. The project will more than likely begin in late December or early January. User groups should not be impacted; however the Patio areas will probably not be available for use.
- Ms. Lowery-Mendoza reported staff has been working with event organizers for December Nights which will be held December 2 and 3, 2011. The Botanical Lawn area will be used for vendors and will host a community stage. The exterior of the Botanical Building will be colorfully illuminated.
- Staff received a report of a break in at the Marston House last night. Several windows in the basement area were broken, however nothing was taken.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events District Manager

Susan Lowery-Mendoza provided the following report: (continued)

Upcoming Special Events:

- Saturday, October 8 – Hope in the Park 6th and El Prado North lawn
- Saturday, October 16 – Making Strides Against Breast Cancer – 6th and El Prado South Lawn
- Saturday, October 22 – Walk to End Alzheimer’s – Park and President’s Lawn
- Saturday, October 22 - Light the Night Against Crime 5 K - Lower Inspiration Parking Lot and Park Blvd
- Sunday, October 23 – Diwali Festival – Organ Pavilion and portion of the Organ Pavilion lot.

Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park Operations District Manager

Bruce Martinez reported the following:

- Mr. Martinez announced the promotion of Ryan Robertson to the vacant Senior Park Ranger position in Balboa Park. Ryan has been a Ranger in the Park for four years. He also introduced Mario Llanos, the new Balboa Park Horticulturist. Mario comes to Balboa Park from the private sector and brings a wealth of knowledge in supervision and nursery management.
- The Museum of Man Roof Project has started. Mr. Martinez informed the Committee that Park Staff is working diligently with the project management team to mitigate as many of the impacts to the Park, its patrons, and institutions. Mr. Martinez also stated that while there are no guarantees there won’t be any impacts throughout this project, staff can guarantee that we’ll do our best to minimize the impacts.

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES

Michael Hager reported the following:

- We are happy to report the Balboa Park EECBG (\$2,000,000) energy efficiency projects are nearing the milestone of halfway to completion. Eight projects are completed and seven are underway. Institutions are noticing improved infrastructure benefits and energy savings. As an example, the Old Globe has reported they are now saving \$8,900.00 each month after the air conditioner retrofit and computer server consolidation.
- The annual Great California ShakeOut!, an earthquake preparedness activity, is taking place on October 20, 2011 from 10:20 A.M. to 10:35 A.M. The goal is 100 percent participation with the Park. Bells from the Museum of Man’s California Tower and Park Wide Radio will broadcast the signal for the start of the drill.

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES (continued)

Luanne Kanzawa reported the following:

- We are excited about the energy efficiency project and are turning our attention to the Balboa Park ADA projects funded by CDBG totaling \$412,000.00. These projects will increase accessibility to the public and improve the visitor experience at the institutions.
- The Sustainability Program has funded seven Balboa Park Facilities Directors to attend the SDG&E nationally accredited Building Operators Certification consisting of eight full day classes. This professional opportunity will begin October 26, 2011 and conclude March, 2012.
- The Sustainability Program is partnering with the San Diego Zoo Global and California Association of Museums for Ignite! Museums as Catalysts for Sustainability, an event on October 14, 2011. This regional round table and statewide conference will engage museum, environmental, and community leaders in a dialogue to address the question of how museums can inform, educate, and inspire their visitors about environmental sustainability.
- The pilot Environmental Sustainability Walk-About in the Park is scheduled for Fall, 2011. This event will offer sector professionals an opportunity for hands-on learning about sustainability in Balboa Park. The San Diego Natural History Museum, Reuben H. Fleet Science Center, The Old Globe, and the Mingei International Museum are the host sites for this behind-the-scenes tour led by the institution facility director and a LEED-accredited professional.
- The Learning Institute has received rave reviews from the pilot program Balboa Park Mix and Match, which fosters professional growth and enhances the Balboa Park network through social mix-ups and strategic mentorship pairings. In October, the Learning Institute will offer an extension to Mix and Match in the form of a mentoring group that will focus on wellness in the workplace.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. **Adoption**

201. Balboa Park Activity Center, Verison Wireless Telecommunications Facility -
Shelly Kilbourn of Verison Wireless

Ms. Kilbourn presented plans for a proposal to construct a wireless telecommunications facility. Verison plans to build a concrete tower adjacent to the Balboa Park Activity Center with the antennas placed inside the tower and the equipment room at the base of the tower. Two different placements were considered, one closer to the building and another closer to the street which Park and Recreation prefers.

Committee Comments:

- Inquired as to who will own the tower and for how long of a lease
- The Balboa Park Collaborative would like to make the entire Park wifi friendly
- A number of different repeater projects have been presented. Could they be co-located together in a consolidated effort?
- Like the design of the tower
- Concerned about long term maintenance
- Prefer the tower to be closer to the building
- Would like to see planting plans around the tower
- Signage issue for the Center can be addressed with a monument sign
- Concerned that the proceeds do not benefit the Park
- Discussed the coverage area
- Have mixed feelings about new structures in the Park
- There is a need for additional coverage in the Park

Verison will own the tower and a lease will be in place for ten years. It is not designed for additional antennas. Charles Daniels, Park Designer noted the most recent telecommunication facilities approved were for the Next G micro nodes which have compatibility with other carriers. We will be receiving other proposals from other carriers in the future.

201. Balboa Park Activity Center, Verison Wireless Telecommunications Facility - Shelly Kilbourn of Verison Wireless (continued)

Public Comments:

- The Kiosks have a small dome and share revenue with the Park
- Location may be in conflict with proposed trolley line
- Fake trees should be considered instead of structures
- Health concerns should be evaluated for these installations as they are in Europe

MOTION MOVED/SECONDED (KINNEY/SINGLETON) TO TABLE THIS ITEM UNTIL THE PROJECT MANAGER IN DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIVISION CAN ATTEND TO RESPOND TO QUESTIONS AND THE COMMITTEE CAN DO MORE RESEARCH. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (11-0-0).

Special Events

301. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Plaza de Panama, Circulation and Parking Structure Project - Mark Johnson of Civitas

Mark Johnson of Civitas stated that the focus this evening will be on architectural designs of the Centennial Bridge and the building at the top of the parking structure. A breakout session will occur to answer specific questions related to these two elements. The draft environmental impact report should be completed in January. At the next meeting, they would like to respond to the many questions and comments they have been receiving. There are 21 alternatives and more than a dozen are getting the full technical review.

Tonight, the focus is on the bridge, valet stand, pergola, maintenance facility, and in the parking garage area, the restroom, elevator and visitor center. He reviewed the Secretary of the Interior Standards for the District; design principles for the bridge; where the new bridge will meet the Cabrillo Bridge; design principles that repeat in the Park; the desire to have a pedestrian sidewalk and bike lane on the bridge.

He introduced Charles Keyes, PE of Martin Martin Engineers, a member of the design team working on the bridge, who noted that they are collecting information so that the details can be incorporated into the design. The design concepts will be turned into structural concepts. The strength in the arch design, the slender columns, and the concrete material are being considered.

401. Plaza de Panama, Circulation and Parking Structure Project - Mark Johnson of Civitas (continued)

David Marshall discussed the visual impact of the bridge and presented a map of photographic locations, based on historic views in the Park which will be included in the environmental review document.

Mark Johnson reviewed the questions that they are seeking information on during the workshop sessions. He also commented on the forty to fifty (40 to 50) lamp posts that didn't survive the years which were made of plaster of paris. After the break-out session, feedback was provided by the designers to the Committee. The next tour of the project will be held on Saturday, October 15, 2011 at 10:30 A.M. beginning in the California Plaza.

Public Comments:

- The camera lens doesn't have the ability to see like the human eye does
- In the future, there will be no cars in the Park so don't build a parking garage
- A parking structure is needed on the West side of the Park

Committee Comments:

- When analyzing the visual impacts, consideration must be given the fact that vegetation comes and goes in the Park due to many reasons, including disease. The worst case scenario must be considered addressing land forms and buildings.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. San Diego Museum of Man Roof Project – Ali Darvishi, Project Officer II, Engineering and Capital Projects Department

Mr. Darvishi reported that Fordyce Construction Company has been awarded the job. A notice to proceed was issued on September 26, 2011 and the work has begun. He described the scope of the work and the cost of the project is \$2.1 million. A jobsite meeting has been coordinated with the San Diego Museum of Man and the Old Globe and Park staff. Any issues can be directed to Susan Lowery-Mendoza to relay to the project manager. The contractor has 180 working days to complete the project. There was discussion about the construction staging areas. There will be no closure of the park roads, only some delivery trucks coming to the worksite.

502. Balboa Park Centennial Committee

Mike McDowell introduced Mark Germyn who has been retained as a consultant to the Committee, taking the lead on the operational management. He has held positions as the President of Legoland and the COO of the United State's Pavilion at Shanghai's World Fair. Mr. Germyn noted that he has a great affinity in San Diego and has served on other committees related to tourism, marketing and community initiatives. This opportunity is unique, a major celebration for San Diego and the region. The MOU is in process, going before the Rules Committee of the City Council next week.

Gerry Braun, Director of Special Projects, Office of the Mayor reported that planning for the 2015 Centennial has been underway for a number of years. Mayor Sanders, Councilmember Gloria and Park stakeholders agreed to put together a steering committee. A non-profit organization, Balboa Park Celebration Inc. has been formed and the relationship is being formalized and a broad framework put in place. He presented some highlights of the MOU such as: The Committee will be the sole organizer of events; use their best efforts to work with existing events; ability to raise funds and develop planning documents; develop a business plan; the Committee will be financially responsible for the celebration; grants and sponsorships opportunities; and states that any funds left over after the celebration will be used for Balboa Park capital improvements. The MOU will be before the Rules Committee on October 12 and then on for full Council action on October 24, 2011.

SUB - COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – None

602. West Mesa Subcommittee – None

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COMMMTTEE MEMBERS REPORT

Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council – Andrew Kahng reported that the Recreation Council met yesterday and established a special investigative committee to study the liability issue mentioned last time. Before December, the Council plans to investigate bylaw revision, D&O insurance, and the outreach to other recreation councils to share information and best practices regarding volunteer liability.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, November 3, 2011
6:00 P.M.
Ballroom/Balboa Park Club
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager