

MINUTES

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

August 5, 2010

Meeting held at:

Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
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
Jason Elrod (arr. 6:07)
Park
Scott Glazebrook
Mick Hager
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney
Mike McDowell
Michael Singleton
Rob Steppke
Donald Steele

Members Absent

Don Liddell

Staff Present

Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park
Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:03 P.M. He introduced the newest member of the Committee, Mr. Scott Glazebrook who is representing the greater Golden Hill community.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED (MCDOWELL/KAHNG) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 1, 2010 MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING CORRECTION: PAGE 3, COMMITTEE COMMENTS, CHANGE THE WORD QUALCOMM TO PETCO. MOTION CARRIED (7-0-3) DILNO, GLAZEBROOK, STEELE, ABSTAINING.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Kinney reported the following:

- The Balboa Park Task Force Report regarding the funding, management and governance of the Park was heard by the City Council and no opposition was expressed.
- He met with the Rock n' Roll Marathon organizers and several stakeholders in the Park to discuss the event. The no-parking signs posted in Balboa Park will not be the standard sign that lists 3:00 p.m. as the ending time and will they be removed more quickly. The delay in the opening of State Route 163 this year was caused by pallets of water which were not picked-up by the vendor in a timely manner. A new arrangement is being made with the water vendor to correct this issue.

STAFF REPORT

Bruce Martinez reported the following regarding Balboa Park Operations:

- Crystal Ritchie the Balboa Park Horticulturist has informed us she will be leaving employment with the City to move to Northern California. During the interim Mike Tully will manage the Central Mesa. Mike is more than capable of handling the day to day operations. The vacancy of this position will have a negative impact on our ability to handle some public relations aspects of the Central Mesa. However, we'll do our best to mitigate the loss and be as responsive to inquires as possible.
- An update to the West side bench project. After receiving a bench for the tram stop at Upas and Balboa Dr. we requested that the manufacture send a rep to discuss several concerns with the bench. Immediately they accommodated our request. We had a great conversation and received assurances that our concerns were theirs too. In fact we are working on a single pour bench with an arm rest in the middle of the bench. The new bench design is being evaluated for Title 24 compliance by City staff, which from initial conversation looks promising. We should have an opinion by next week, once approved we can move forward with ordering. Concrete pads have been poured in the locations the benches will be placed in.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events District Manager reported the following:

- On Wednesday, August 4, a power outage was caused by faulty equipment that impacted nearly all facilities from the Japanese Friendship Garden to the Air and Space Museum from 8:26 A.M. to 5:40 P.M. The Auto Museum and Starlight Offices were not impacted. SDG and E crews were on-site the entire day running new cable. The outage unfortunately forced the closure of most buildings the entire day and caused damage to electrical systems. Fortunately, the power was restored in time for the Twilight Concert at the Organ Pavilion.

- Effective August 1, the changes to the Park and Recreation Fee Schedule were implemented. For the new fees, a process was identified by which collection would take place. An example of this is how the fitness class fee would be implemented at Balboa Park and Mission Bay. Areas were identified for this type of activity taking into consideration available parking, special event permit sites and impact to park lessees, and others.
- Upcoming Events to Note:
 - Saturday, August 7, the Balboa Park 8 and 3 mile Runs sponsored by the San Diego Track Club
 - Saturday, August 7, the Philippine Arts Festival at Park Blvd. and President's Way
 - Sunday, August 15, AFC Half Marathon Race ends in Balboa Park in the Palisades Parking lot
 - August 28 – 29, Celebrate Dance Festival, in the Cascades area and Casa del Prado Theater
- Mike Rodrigues, Area Manager over special events and recreation for the last five years has been promoted to District Manager in Community Parks I Division.
- On July 30, a case was heard against the City by an individual who filed a request for injunctions and TRO in Superior Court to compel the City to issue a Park and Recreation Special Event Permit during the summer moratorium. The court denied the request, stating that there is insufficient evidence showing irreparable harm, there would be more harm to the City if the order were granted, and there is no reasonable probability of success for the group on the merits of its claims.

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES

Michael Hager reported the following:

- Dr. Micah Parzen was selected as the new Executive Director of the Museum of Man.
- The new Executive Director of the Museum of Art, Roxana Velasquez Martinez del Campo will start in September.
- The Balboa Park Cultural Partnership nominated Luanne Kanzawa from the Japanese Friendship Garden to represent the small institutions in the Park.
- On August 20, from 5:00 P.M. – 6:30 P.M. the Mingei International Museum will host a 2010 arts and culture election mixer.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. None

Special Events

301. Walk to Cure Diabetes – Alexis Rodriguez, Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation

Susan Lowery-Mendoza provided information about the festival and walk to be held on November 1. The event was proposed initially on April 1, 2010 when the Committee made a motion to approve the festival and walk, but added that the walk route shall not cross El Prado, it must remain North of El Prado. The Permittee is requesting a review of the route to provide a 5K route to participants. The organizer is proposing three alternate routes.

Alexis Rodriguez reported that their walk rose over \$770,000 last year for research and this will be their 23rd annual walk. The walk had previously been at UCSD, however a date could not be guaranteed due to construction on the campus. The participants will be expecting a longer route than can be accommodated in the Park space allocated. One lane of traffic and parking on 6th Avenue will be closed because of the large number of walkers on the sidewalks.

Sean McParland, Executive Director of JDRF San Diego, stated that the walk raises money for research in San Diego. He stated that many in the audience tonight are here to show support of the walk and that a partial road closure of El Prado for an hour and half will not affect the business of the Park and is a reasonable request. The road will be open 40 minutes prior to the museums opening time.

Mr. Kinney informed Ms. Rodriguez that the Committee looks at land use issues and walks that close roads have an impact on the Park and the Park users. Many walks begin at 7:00 AM, as 8:00 AM is a challenge. This walk may be too large for the Park.

Committee Comments:

- A 5K route can be accomplished if Balboa Drive is closed north of El Prado
- Closing roads does have an impact on the Park users, not only the museums
- Use of the Bridal Trail should be explored for participants who are physically able to use it
- Road closures at Park entrances have significant impacts on the institutions of the Park
- The Committee would support closing Balboa Dr. north of El Prado
- It is a difficult situation because societal issues are important and solutions should be found to accommodate the participants.

MOTION: MOVED/ SECONDED (SINGLETON/MCDOWELL) TO APPROVE A MODIFIED VERSION OF THE EVENT TO ACCOMMODATE A 5K ROUTE WITHOUT CLOSURE OF EL PRADO. BALBOA DRIVE MAY BE CLOSED NORTH OF EL PRADO. THE ROUTE TO BE WORKED OUT WITH STAFF WITH A REPORT TO COME BACK TO THE COMMITTEE. VOTE WAS UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVED (10-0-0).
WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. None.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Balboa Park NextG Telecommunication Nodes – Charles Daniels, Park Designer
Mr. Daniels reviewed the proposal by Next G Networks, Inc. to install, maintain and lease 25 nodes throughout Balboa Park. A new agreement is needed to install the nodes in the Park. He described the size of the antennae, the equipment enclosure and the different types of installations on light poles and other utility poles. He also described the benefit to the City and Park such as increased revenue to the General Fund, City access to fiber optical and data transmission, and possible Park WIFI.

Committee Comments:

- The visual impact is lessened due to the smaller size of the antennae.
- Can antennas be hidden by Park signs or in the shape of a fleur- de- lis?
- At Mission Trails Park, revenue is received from the antennas on Cowles Mountain
- Could the antennae and Equipment Closure colors match the pole color?
- Since there is an unusual collaboration in the Park with the institutions, the City, has anyone asked what the needs are of the institutions?
- Has a need assessment for communications, telecom sites been conducted for the Park? This project should work in conjunction with the Balboa Park Online Collaborative so that there is a better understanding of the possibilities.
- Will it meet the needs of the public when we have large special events?
- What about coverage inside the buildings?
- What about coverage around the perimeter of the Park?
- Efficiencies need to be maximized in the Park with maximum coordination of efforts.
- It is setting precedence as to how things are done in the Park for commercial ventures and there should be more effort to have the antennas fit better into the Park.
- A custom made design antennae is needed for the decorative poles. The poles are tapered and the antennae will be very noticeable.
- The Park spent a lot of money on the light poles and they add to the character of the Park.
- Why isn't NextG going to provide WIFI for the Park?
- Can it be verified that Historic Resources staff will review the proposal?
- Is the cabling or raceway inside the poles?
- Can the system be added onto?

Mr. Daniels noted that he put NextG in touch with Mr. Cherry of the Balboa Park Online Collaborative. The City will have access to a couple of strands of the fiber optic cable and the City and NextG are close to entering into a ten year agreement. A separate agreement will be entered into for the Park as it is not in

the public right of way. There is some flexibility still as to where the antennas will be located in the Park.

Mr. Maddafer of NextG noted that the proposal fits into the City Council adopted plan; micro cell sites are esthetically pleasing; it will fill gaps in coverage for cell phone users at busy times in the Park; the City gets access to an infrastructure being installed at no charge to the Park; should the Collaborative wish to install WIFI for example, the pipeline in there with fiber optic cable. He made a commitment to help facilitate a meeting with Stacey LoMedico, Park and Recreation Director, Rich Cherry of the Balboa Park Online Collaborative, Real Estate Assets and Next G so the discussion can go forward about the use of the fiber optics. There will be aerial fiber and fiber installed in the ground via trenching to get to the end point.

Public Comments:

- Mr. Rich Cherry, Director of the Online Collaborative welcomes being part of the conversation as he has been working on online reality games, fiber optic network for the Collaborative members and updating websites. He asked where the fiber terminates, and is there a limitation on its use? Does the City have any plans to use their cable strands and at what band width?
- Concerns about the revenue not benefitting Balboa Park with its unfunded needs was expressed
- Concern about the impact to the Friends of Balboa Park Kiosks was expressed

MOTION: IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED (MCDOWELL/HAGER) TO DRAFT AND SEND A LETTER TO MAYOR SANDERS REQUESTING CONSIDERATION THAT THE REVENUE GENERATED FROM THIS PROJECT BE DEDICATED BACK INTO USES AT BALBOA PARK. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY (10-0-0).

Mr. McDowell asked if Mr. Daniels could return at the next meeting to update the Committee or provide a report as to what has occurred with the Balboa Park Online Collaborative and the Golden Hill Recreation Council.

SUB - COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – No meeting and there is an opening for a chairperson for this committee.
602. West Mesa Subcommittee – none.

COMMMTTEE MEMBERS REPORT

- Mike McDowell noted that large events such as the Rock-N-Roll Marathon need to be supported as they generate TOT funds that are needed by the institutions. Mike Singleton inquired about the Centennial planning process and noted that walkway improvements are needed for better Park access.
- Andrew Kahng congratulated Mike Rodrigues on his promotion and that the Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council have formed a Budget Sub-Committee which is looking at revenue sources generated by facility rentals.
- Rob Steppke reported that the community plans are being updated.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kinney adjourned the meeting at 8:08 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting: Thursday, October 7, 2010
6:00 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager