

## MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board

### **BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

September 5, 2013

#### **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  
Mick Hager  
Andrew Kahng  
Luanne Kanzawa  
David Kinney  
Don Liddell  
Minnie Rzeslawski  
Michael Singleton (6:04 P.M.)  
Rob Steppke

##### **Members Absent**

Susan Lowery-Mendoza  
Mike McDowell  
David Strickland

##### **Staff Present**

Marie Wiggins, Balboa Park  
Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M. There was no re-ordering of the agenda or any requests for continuances.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF JUNE 6, 2013**

**MOTION:    MOVED/SECONDED        MR. STEPPKE/MR. HAGAR**

A motion was made by Mr. Steppke and seconded by Dr. Hager to approve the June 6, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was approved (6-0-2), with Rzeslawski and Kahng abstaining.

#### **REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES**

None.

#### **NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

**La Jolla Regional Group of the Horseless Carriage Club of America – Mr. Newell Booth**

Mr. Booth stated the club will be showcasing their pre-1915 automobiles during the Cabrillo National Monument's Centennial Celebration on Saturday, October 12, 2013. The cars will depart Shelter Island at 9:30 a.m.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Kinney stated there was no report, because the Park and Recreation Board did not meet in August.

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Council District Third District – Mr. Steve Hill**

Mr. Hill reported it's been an eventful summer in San Diego and at City Hall. After Mayor Filner resigned, Council President Gloria assumed the office of the Mayor on August 30, 2013. In addition to focusing on the issues of District Three, Council President Gloria is looking at a top down review of all city departments. He's working to make sure that contracts are signed and implemented, so that the critical work of the city can get done. Additionally, he is focusing on improving communications from the City and Mayor's office, to keep information flowing. The new Central Public Library will be officially opening to the public on September 30, 2013. The grand opening will be on September 28, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. The public will get a sneak peak tour of the first floor lobby and auditorium.

Chairperson Kinney thanked Mr. Hagar for his willingness to serve on the Balboa Park Committee until he is reappointed or there is a new appointee.

### **Marie Wiggins, Balboa Park Facility Management, Area Manager II**

Marie Wiggins provided the following report on behalf of Susan Lowery-Mendoza:

Upcoming Events for September include:

- The Municipal Gym's roof project is underway. The projected completion date will be the end of November 2013.
- The Museum of Man's elevator modernization project has been completed. The next upgrade will be Casa de Balboa and shortly thereafter Casa del Prado.
- The "chiller" for the HVAC unit at the Casa del Prado Theatre will be removed and upgraded within the next month.
- There are several Americans with Disabilities Act projects ongoing in Balboa Park, to include the Museum of Man, Casa de Balboa, and the Timken Museum of Art. The Hall of Nations House of Italy is currently not accessible. A ramp and new door will be installed to bring it up to code with the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The Balboa Park Activity Center project has been sent out for a bid.
- Civic Dance Art program had two summer camps with over 400 dancers in attendance.
- The American Indian Pow Wow was canceled for 2013 due to lack of funding. It will resume May 2014.
- The Haunted Trails event is fast approaching. It will be up and running next month.

**Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park Operations District Manager:**

Bruce Martinez provided the following report:

- Possible location for the Cabrillo Bridge field offices will be over by the Chess Club. Once Caltrans secures the permit, parking stalls will be restriped and an additional 15-20 parking stalls will be added. Parking will be open to the public after 5:00 P.M. during the week and weekends.
- Plaza de Panama Project - New decorative bollards will replace the current ones in the plaza. Benches will be placed around the tram stop loading passenger zone.
- There are several ongoing projects with Friends of Balboa Park that have been identified as needing Right of Entry Permits that staff is currently working on.
- The Balboa Park Trust has requested more bike racks be placed throughout the Park.

Comments/Questions from Members:

- Is there a plan to put something in the center of Plaza de Panama? Mr. Martinez stated tree planters will be placed on the sides of the Plaza. The center will remain open.
- Is the flow of traffic in the Plaza working well during the peak time? Mr. Martinez stated for the most part it is flowing very well. The only time there's a back-up is when a bus or delivery vehicle five (5) tons or greater traveling northbound on Pam American East Rd.

Chairperson Kinney acknowledged the tremendous amount of work Mr. Martinez and his crew did on the Plaza. They were faced with a very aggressive timeline, extremely limited resources, and various institutions and other stake holders' concerns. Chairperson Kinney stated he was impressed and thanked Mr. Martinez for his flexibility and willingness to honor these institutions.

**CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES**

Dr. Mick Hager reported that the annual Park passes are underway and will be named the Balboa Park Explorer. The soft launch is set for October 2013 and the hard launch will be March of 2014. Seventeen institutions will be participating in the program. The cost, for one year, will be \$199.00 for a family of four. In addition, the daily, weekly and annual passes will also be offered. In mid-November, the Partnership plans to host an event for the shareholders, institutions, board members, and the founding patrons of the Balboa Park Explorer. Dr. Hager stated they will be selling 500 Founding Patron Passes at \$1,500 a piece. Ultimately, there will be 5,000 complimentary passes for families in need. They will be distributed throughout the City Council and County Supervisor Districts.

**Balboa Park Sustainability Program – Ms. Luanne Kanzawa**

Ms. Kanzawa reported the next Sustainability Walkabout is scheduled for October 9, 2013. The event will kick off with an informative panel discussion from four of San Diego's Green Building community leaders. The Sustainability Program is in the process of replacing the faucet aerators in all of the institutions in the Park. This will save San Diego over 1.5 million gallons of water in one year.

**Balboa Park Learning Institute – Ms. Luanne Kanzawa**

Ms. Kanzawa stated the Balboa Park Learning Institute (BPLI) is coordinating the Park-wide Customer Service collaborative to define a quality customer service for the Park and develop a Park-wide training module. Two staff members from each organization will participate in developing the program.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Consent**

101. None

**Adoption**

Chairperson Kinney stated the committee formerly had a presentation on Item 201, Balboa Park Golf Course Improvements. More time will be spent on the areas where the committee needed additional information, revisions or any changes that occurred as a result of other public hearings.

**201. General Development Plan (GDP) for Balboa Park Golf Course/Clubhouse Improvements** – Presenters: Mr. Todd Schmidt, Project Manager for the Public Works and Mr. Jack Gallagher, Dahlin Group.

Mr. Schmidt is requesting a recommendation of approval for the Balboa Park Golf Course Clubhouse GDP. The plan includes approximately a 30,000 square foot facility to include the refurbished historic clubhouse. In March 2013, the GDP was presented to the Balboa Park Committee as an informational item. It was recommended that Mr. Schmidt go back to the Greater Golden Hill Community Planning Committee to gain feedback on the proposed plan for the Park's Golf Course and Clubhouse improvement. The project was well received. Their concerns surrounded the relationship of pedestrians and bicyclists getting to the clubhouse along Golf Course Drive and to the recreation center, getting people and bikes safely from 26<sup>th</sup> Street to 28<sup>th</sup> Street, and the possibility of a multi-mobile pathway along the south and east sides of Golf Course Drive.

Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Gallagher proposed two design options in response to the comments. Option one, build a 10 foot-wide pedestrian pathway on the north and west side of the roadway because there is not ample room between the golf course and the roadway on the south and west side of the road. Also, a shared system where bikes would share the road with cars in a class three bike lane. This would require crossing Golf Course Drive at the recreation center. Option two proposes a pedestrian pathway on the south and east side of the roadway as recommended. This option would require a realignment of Golf Course Drive to avoid affecting the golf course; however it would eliminate the need for crossing at Golf Course Drive to get to the recreation center. Either option can be explored during Phase II, which is the construction document phase of the project.

Mr. Gallagher gave an overview presentation on the project plans for Balboa Park Golf Course/Clubhouse Improvements. This information can be found on the city's website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/golf/clubhouse.shtml>.

#### Comments/Questions from Members:

- Mr. Steppke asked to see the exact locations of option one and two on the map for more clarification. Mr. Schmidt pointed out the option plans on the map.

#### Public Comment:

- Mr. Bruton stated the BP Men's Club is in favor of the basic overall plan, but under the new proposed plan parking would be reduced to 110 spaces with only three ADA parking spaces. Mr. Gallagher stated there will be 350 parking spaces under the new plan.
- Mr. Wilkins stated the plan should be about building a better golf course by renovating the existing clubhouse. Mr. Schmidt commented that golf operations' has spent a considerable amount of capital funding on the golf course.
- Mr. Skillman asked for a first rate path along Golf Course Drive.
- Mrs. Skillman inquired about appropriate traffic studies being conducted due to an increase in traffic with the event center. Mr. Gallagher stated their civil engineer and traffic engineer did a comprehensive traffic study.
- Mr. Spiegelman stated he is a member of the new Municipal Golf Committee and has been appointed 'watch dog' over the golf enterprise fund. The golf course will lose more money if this project is implemented. He begged the Balboa Park Committee not to approve the project, or at least indicate it is subject to the municipal golf committee's approval.
- Ms. Cheryl Brierten concerned about pedestrian safety and traffic.
- Mr. Wade stated the GDP looks great. Suggested digging a tunnel for the golf carts to go underneath the road and build a sidewalk 10 feet wide.

Comments/Questions from Members:

- Dr. Hager inquired about the location of the sidewalk. Mr. Schmidt stated there is no sidewalk along Golf Course Drive at this time. The sidewalk is not in the scope of the GDP because there is currently no funding for this part of the project.
- Chairperson Kinney stated it's a great project. The committee's consensus is that GDP should include appropriate sidewalks, locations and destinations.
- Mr. Steppke stated it will be expensive, but public safety is a concern when crossing through the "t" section.

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. LIDDELL/MR. HAGER**

A motion was made to table the General Development Plan (GDP) for Balboa Park Golf Course/Clubhouse Improvements as it was presented, until the sidewalk issue has been resolved. Mr. Schmidt and Mr. Gallagher will return to the Committee once they revisit the project and the potential ability they may have to include the modified sidewalks.

Motion was unanimously approved (7-0-2) with Chairperson Kinney abstaining and Mr. Singleton recused.

**Special Events**

301. None.

302. None.

**WORKSHOP ITEMS**

401. None

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

501. **Balboa Park 2015 Centennial – Presenters Mr. Gerry Braun, Director of Communications for the Balboa Park Celebration, Inc., and Ms. Allison Rynne**  
Mr. Braun stated they are the organizers for the Balboa Park Centennial Celebration. They have the exclusive right to plan the public areas of Balboa Park, outside of any lease hold programs and events. A power point presentation was also given of what potential kinds of programming may occur during the yearlong celebration.

Comments/Questions from members:

- Ms. Dilno inquired about the communities' response to the Centennial Celebration. Mr. Braun stated they are getting good feedback; however most people feel that 2015 is too far away.

### **SUB-COMMMTTEE REPORTS**

**601. Land-Use and Policy – Mr. David Kinney**  
No report.

**602. West Mesa Subcommittee – Mr. Don Liddell**  
No report.

### **COMMMTTEE MEMBERBS REPORTS**

No report.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting:           Thursday, October 3, 2013  
6:00 P.M.  
Santa Fe Room/Balboa Park Club  
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Wiggins  
Area Manager II