

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

April 15, 2010

MINUTES

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Held at:

City Administration Building
Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 37C
San Diego, California 92101

Members Present

Wilbur Smith, Chair
Ginny Barnes
Bruce Brown
Rick Bussell
William Diehl
Vicki Granowitz
Norman Greene
David Kinney
Roz King (arrived at 2:25)
Michael Stepner

Members Absent

Olivia Puentes-Reynolds

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Alexandra Corsi Morgan
Gene Matter
Jo-Ann Novak
Scott Reese
Clark Ritter
Shannon Thomas

CALL TO ORDER – Chair, Mr. Smith, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. Mr. Smith welcomed Mr. Kinney as the new Balboa Park Committee Chair appointee, as well as congratulating the Board Members who were reappointed: Mr. Brown, Mr. Bussell, Mr. Diehl and Mr. Stepner.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 18, 2010

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Barnes/Mr. Bussell

A motion was made by Ms. Barnes and seconded by Mr. Bussell to approve the March 18, 2010 meeting minutes, with Mr. Brown and Mr. Kinney abstaining. (6-0)

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – None

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as “Consent” items.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee Community Parks I

- Ms. Barnes did not attend the last Committee meeting, but reported on the action item heard regarding the proposed change to Kate Session Neighborhood Park 12 hour alcohol

ban which was unanimously approved 12-0. The Committee would like the Park and Recreation Department staff to complete this item this summer.

- The Committee will discuss the proposed changes to Dog Off-Leash Municipal Code Changes at their May meeting.

Area Committee Community Parks II

- Ms. King provided a hand-out to the Board Members, outlining the discussion at the last meeting (see attached).

Balboa Park Committee

- Ms. Granowitz reported the Committee reviewed the second request by House of Hungry to place a plaque adjacent to their cottage. This request was denied, but Department staff will work with this group to see about placing it somewhere in the West Mesa area.
- A special event request for Hash House Harriers Red Dress Run was denied.
- Ms. Granowitz would like to know when Balboa Park alcohol ban amendments will go forward to the City Council. (Ms. LoMedico stated it was in the process.)

Mr. Smith thanked Ms. Granowitz for her years of service on the Balboa Park Committee and her involvement in various other projects.

Design Review Committee – No Report

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Mission Bay Park Committee

- Mr. Bussell reported the North Crown Point Gazebo project has started and has an expected completion date of May.
- Sergeant Rick Strobel, San Diego Life Rescue Services, reported that the Lifeguards made a safety decision not to enter the flotilla due to the numerous cables hanging down.
- A spoke person from Sea World reported that modifications to the on ramp of South Interstate 5.
- The Committee received a special event request for San Diego City Fest for September 11 and 12, 2010. Committee approved permit with modifications.
- Paul Jacob, Associated Civil Engineer, reported on the Mission Bay Jetty repair which was partially incomplete due to storm-related ocean conditions.
- Mr. Bussell invited everyone to attend the 25th Linda Vista Multicultural Affair on April 24, 2010, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in the Linda Vista Shopping Mall.
- Mission Bay Oversight Committee was postponed.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee

- Ms. Barnes reported the Committee did not meet, but she is working with Department staff to schedule one or two additional meetings to set priorities for the improvements.

COMMUNICATIONS – (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.)

- Mr. Bussell would like to explore the possibility of setting a cost recovery program for the Trail Guide Program.

- Mr. Bussell reported that water rates will be going up 15% due to water conservation efforts. Mr. Bussell would like know what can be done about this increase due to conservation efforts.
- Ms. Granowitz distributed a flyer of a presentation on the Balboa Park's Plaza de Panama on April 20, 2010 at 5:00 p.m., at Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Mr. Smith stated the Department continues to face budgetary challenges as in previous years, and staff continues to rise to the occasion under these adverse conditions. Mr. Smith complimented staff on taking care of the parks and encourage them to continue the good work.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico distributed a hand-out titled Therapeutic Recreation, Senior Citizen Services; Beach Wheelchair Program which describes the Department recreational programs.
- Ms. LoMedico visited approximately 15 parks in the last month in the South Bay and South Eastern San Diego areas and the parks look amazing.
- Ms. LoMedico reported on the celebration of Arbor Day and the planting of many trees with the Friends of Balboa Park and Golden Hills Elementary.
- The Department had over 30 egg hunts and spring festivals.
- Community Parks II Division had the last Friday Night Teens event at Southcrest Community Park.
- Board Members will receive an invitation to the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Picnic Gazebo at Mission Bay's North Crown Point.
- The Independent Budget Analyst (IBA) report on "Residents' Opinions on City Services" will be heard at Budget and Finance Committee on April 21, 2010.
- The Mayor released the revised proposed Fiscal Year 2011 Budget which was e-mailed to Board Members today. The \$28.2 million shortfall has been recommended to be funded with no further reductions.
- Park and Recreation Department Budget hearing is on Wednesday, May 5, 2010 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
- Ms. LoMedico reported this is National Volunteer Month and thanked Board Members for their service by providing a pass to the Balboa Park museums.
- Ms. LoMedico took this time to present a certificate to Ms. Barnes and Mr. Greene (Ms. Puentes-Reynolds absent) in appreciation for their service as a Mayoral appointee on the City's Park and Recreation Board.

Ms Granowitz asked if any Recreation Councils requested and received CDBG funds. (For the record Ms. LoMedico responded no to both questions and will get back to her to confirm.)

ACTION ITEMS

101. City Heights Square Mini Park – Approval of General Development Plan

Ms. Corsi Morgan, Park Designer, Engineering and Capital Projects Department Architectural Engineering and Parks Division and Scott Molentin, Senior Landscape Architect, Estrada Land Planning provided a comprehensive presentation.

The Park and Recreation Board Members asked various questions about the presentation. Mr. Diehl encouraged the use of solar lights for security in future projects.

For the record the Chair pointed out that this 5,000 square foot mini park will cost \$700,000. This works out to \$5.8 million dollars per acre. The Chair asked the Consultant why such a high cost? Mr. Molentin responded that it was due to below ground structures, walls and drain inlets. Mr. Stepner pointed out that even though the cost is high we should be looking at the cost benefit. Most parks have basic turf and irrigation.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Granowitz/Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Ms. Granowitz to approve the proposed North Park City Heights Square Mini Park General Development Plan and it was seconded by Mr. Greene. (9/0)

102. Memorial Pool Replacement – Approval of General Development Plan

Mr. Ritter, Park Designer, Engineering and Capital Projects Department Architectural Engineering and Parks Division and Mr. Randy Mendioroz, Principal, Aquatic Design Group provided a comprehensive presentation.

Ms. Barnes recommended a second gate be added to access the future concession and the picnic area, and additional towel hooks be installed.

The Park and Recreation Board Members asked clarifying questions regarding the following: the need for a lifeguard, fence, splash pad, how to prevent slips and falls, on-going maintenance, should spare parts be kept on hand, umbrellas, and the lack of landscaping.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Ms. King

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell to approve the Memorial Pool replacement General Development Plan and was seconded by Ms. King (9/0)

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Maple Street Canyon Project: An Integrated Approach to Address Storm Water Runoff and Habitat Restoration

Mr. Matter, Senior Civil Engineer, Storm Water Department and Anthony Cotts, Design Engineer, Weston Solutions, Inc. provided a PowerPoint presentation on Maple Street Canyon Project.

This project is considered to be a self mitigating project with an approximate cost of \$5 million. Estimated start date is within the next three or four years, with an approximate time of completion in one year. Ms. Granowitz would like language placed in the construction documents limiting the size of the equipment to be used in the canyon in order to preserve the canyon.

Ms. Granowitz requested a copy of the digital presentation and have this presented to the Open Space Advisory Board Committee. Ms. Barnes would like a statement on the presentation stating it is a preliminary project. Mr. Greene is concerned about the visibility of cement steps and recommends that vegetation cover these cement steps.

202. On-Line Registration

Mr. Reese, Assistant Park and Recreation Director provided an overview of the On-Line Registration and included a detail On-Line Activity Registration Program Implementation time-line with his report.

Board Members asked various questions regarding the vendor and system requirements. Ms. Barnes requested when the public signs on to ActiveNetwork they should not have to view their pop-up advertisements (Mr. Reese to research this item). She also requested that fees charged to recreation councils are comparable.

203. Balboa Park Task Force Final Report

Ms. Granowitz, Park and Recreation Board Member, has been updating the Board on a monthly basis of the process of the Balboa Park Task Force's final report. The final report is expected to be approved at the Balboa Task Force meeting on Monday, April 19, 2010. Once approved it is expected to go before the Natural Resources and Culture (NR&C) Committee in May. If approved at NR&C then it will go onto the full City Council for their approval.

The Task Force recommended that the Mayor and Council Member Gloria make appointments for a nine member organizing committee who will start the implementation of this new plan. The next step will be for stakeholders and active individuals to create a Memorandum of Understanding or agreement to continue a partnership with the City of San Diego for the next 100 years for the park's success.

WORKSHOP – None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, May 20, 2010**

**City Administration Building
Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico,
Park and Recreation Director