

**City of San Diego
Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board
October 15, 2009**

MINUTES

Meeting Held at:

Forum Hall – 2nd Fl. Wells Fargo
4545 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, CA 92122

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 5A
San Diego, CA 92101

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Chair
Douglas Williamson, University Community Planning Group
Edward Slater, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California
David Metzgar, Paragliding/San Diego Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association
Ronald Brown, Torrey Pines Gulls-Radio-Controlled Soaring Society
Ken Baier, Hang Gliding/Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club
Michael Stepner, Park & Recreation Board Member
Chris Schmidt, Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter
Ken King, Council District 1 Representative

Arrived Late

Mary Coakley, Park & Recreation Board's Community Parks 1 Area
Brian Thompson, Torrey Pines Association

Members Absent

City of San Diego Staff

Michelle Abella-Shon, Project Manager, City Planning & Community Investment
Deborah Sharpe, Project Officer II, City Planning & Community Investment
Jesse Mays, Council District 1 Representative
Scott Reese, Assistant Director, Park & Recreation

Other Agencies

Milton Phegley, Director, Community Planning, University of California, San Diego (UCSD)

Consultant

Laura Burnett, Wallace Roberts & Todd
Kristen Byrne, MJE Marketing Services Inc.

CALL TO ORDER - Chair, Ginny Barnes, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by David Metzgar and seconded by Edward to approve the August 20, 2009. The vote, of those present at the August meeting, was unanimous.

COMMUNICATION

- a. Bob Kuczewski recommended that the Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board address the management aspects of the Gliderport.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The Park and Recreation Department has been directed by the Mayor to reduce the 2010 budget by 17%.

CITY STAFF REPORT

Signage has been installed at the site to inform the public about the project.

All attendants are strongly encouraged to spread the word about this project, to provide ample opportunities for public participation.

The city's web site is being actively updated to publicize the agenda, information and links.

<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/parkplanning/tpcitypark.shtml>

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

None

OTHER AGENCY'S REPORT

None

INFORMATION ITEMS

101. Wallace Roberts, & Todd, Inc. as Design Consultants

1. The progress of the Draft Park Development Options was presented.

ACTION ITEMS:

201. Draft Park Development Options

1. General informal agreement that the progress of prerequisites, strategies and options in planning for an appropriate park program within the evaluation criteria. The board will provide further recommendations and action in the November meeting.

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

301. Potential Park Facilities

1. The board members and the public divided considered the 'menu' of options for park program facilities and provided comments including the following:
2. Additional comments - consider:
 - a. Consider parking alternatives on the adjacent city streets.
 - b. Is bus parking provided for transit access?
 - c. Other parks do not always maximize parking (i.e., Torrey Pines State Park). This can help manage the number of people using the site.
 - d. Include flight in all options of the education program.
 - e. Confirm and summarize issues with providing utilities.
 - f. Note solar power is currently used at the Gliderport.
 - g. Confirm any improvements meet code, and fire and emergency access requirements.
 - h. Removal of the current quantity of parking spaces may not be approved by community groups, such as University City Planning Group, Surfrider Foundation, etc.
 - i. Passive recreational trails in restored native habitat will be a good use of the site.
 - j. Costs should not be a limiting factor at this point in the planning process.

- k. Study beach access trails to determine if both should be 'official'.
- l. Concern expressed about "hard" structure providing beach access (i.e., stairway). Keep access close to the way it is.
- m. Consider the composition and design of structures as they may influence the management of the park.
- n. The Gliderport serves as an event space for large groups, e.g. 150 people.
- o. Consider the implications of fencing and gates re: park management, resource protection, park character, etc. Objectives are to define park boundaries, protect park resources.
- p. The 1981 plan was recalled to have been directed to provide restrooms on the beach.
- q. Consider the educational and interpretive museum, signage, programs provided (at a cost) by the Torrey Pines State Natural Reserve.
- r. Categorize all buildings together in "menu of options" to avoid confusion
- s. Observation decks should be scaled to place - better to have a number of smaller decks than one large one.
- t. Don't sacrifice habitat for additional parking
- u. How will we handle ADA? Will we look for a waiver for some elements?
- v. Does the city park have to provide parking for access to a State beach?
- w. Quantify the existing and proposed program, facilities and resources.
- x. Provide examples of the sizes of program elements illustrating the character and quantity of people that are accommodated.
- y. Concern expressed about size and character of recreation areas. Don't want large gathering areas (i.e., company picnics) - Mission Bay Park provides this already.
- z. Don't restrict flight operations.
- aa. More people in the area justify providing the existing quantity of parking spaces.
- bb. The options for a gondola or funicular appear to be costly both environmentally and financially.
- cc. Keep in mind that Torrey Pines City Park is a public place for people. While the State owns most of the beach below the park providing public access is important.
- dd. Plan for the best park we can.
- ee. Keep in mind the liability of improvements.
- ff. Don't cut off beach access.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **November 19, 2009**
Forum Hall (Westfield UTC) – 2nd Fl. Wells Fargo

Respectfully submitted,
Michelle Abella-Shon, Project Manager