

SAN DIEGO PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ROBB FIELD COMMUNITY RECREATION GROUP
NOVEMBER 2, 2023 MINUTES

of the

Special Meeting held at:

Jim Howard Hall
2525 Bacon Street
San Diego, CA 92107

Attendance (Officers):

Jim Nickel (OB Rec. Center), Chairperson
Rasheed Hassan (X Flag Football), Vice President
Kellee Waters (Kiwanis Club of OB), Corresp. Secretary
Todd Sprague (Peninsula Tennis Club), Treasurer

Attendance (Members):

Cameron Fugundes (Volo San Diego)
Michelle Huber (Peninsula Little League)
Kim Latham (At-Large)
John McKaveney (Albion Soccer Club)
Annika Santos (SD Surfers Rugby)
Bruce Sherman (Handball Players)
Whitney Wilkinson (At-Large)
Jill Wyatt (PYSA)

Absent:

Connor Mariani (SD Old Aztecs Rugby)
Jackson Wyatt (High Tech High School)

Guests:

Juliana Grotzinger, Robb Field Project Manager
Jeff Justus, Schmidt Design Group
Other attendees, as per attached list

City Staff

Luke Kosta, Center Director III
Jerry Abbott, District Manager

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson, Jim Nickel, called the special meeting of the Robb Field Community Recreation Group (Robb Field CRG) to order at 7:01 pm on Thursday, November 2, 2023. A quorum was present.

INTRODUCTIONS:

The Robb Field CRG members, City Staff, and guests in attendance introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The proposed agenda for the November 2, 2023 special meeting of the Robb Field CRG was presented for approval.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Michelle Huber/Whitney Wilkinson) to approve the November 2, 2023 agenda, as presented. Motion passed unanimously [10|0|0].

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The proposed minutes of the September 7, 2023 regular meeting of the Robb Field CRG were presented for approval.

John McKaveney requested that a typographical error (the word “excused” next to his name) be corrected.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Rasheed Hassan/Kim Latham) to approve the September 7, 2023 minutes, as corrected. Motion passed [5|0|5]. Abstained: Kellee Waters, Cameron Fugundes, Michelle Huber, Annika Santos, and Jill Wyatt.

PUBLIC FORUM:

One speaker spoke about a recent security issue at Robb Field. Two other speakers spoke about the safety and environmental advantages of playing rugby on real turf playing fields instead of on synthetic turf playing fields.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT:

Chairperson, Jim Nickel, thanked the CRG members for their participation in the CRG meetings and in the City's three related informational meetings this past year. Jim emphasized that good attendance is important and that a quorum of more than 50% of the membership is required to transact business. Jim encouraged the members to recruit any additional CRG members from other organizations that regularly use the Robb Field facilities.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Corresponding Secretary, Kellee Waters, reported that as of October 31, 2023 all Robb Field CRG organizational members and at-large members have had a good attendance record. None are currently at risk of loss of membership due to three consecutive non-excused absences or four annual absences from Robb Field CRG meetings. Kellee reminded all Robb Field CRG members that if they have a medical reason or other valid reason for missing a meeting, they should notify the Robb Field office to request an excused absence. The entire January through October, 2023 Robb Field CRG attendance report is attached to these minutes.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Treasurer, Todd Sprague, reported the following unaudited financial information provided by the City of San Diego in the "Budget to Actuals Report" for the Robb Field account for Period 2 of Fiscal Year 2024. Period 2 encompassed the time period beginning August 1, 2023 and ending August 31, 2023. The total revenue through August 31, 2023 was \$8,326, and consisted of -\$220 of interest income, and \$8,546 of income from P&R usage fees. The expenses incurred but not yet paid (encumbrances) included \$6,575 for soil and conditioner and \$400 for miscellaneous professional/technical services. The expenses actually paid for supplies totaled \$355. The expenses actually paid for miscellaneous professional/technical services totaled \$927. As of August 31, 2023, the balance in the Robb Field Recreation Center fund was \$123,137.33. The City's unaudited Fiscal Year 2024 Budget to Actuals Report for Period 2 for the Robb Field Recreation Center is attached to these minutes. The Budget-to-Actuals reports for Periods 3 and 4 are not available at this time.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Whitney Wilkinson/Annika Santos) to approve the Budget-to-Actuals Report for Robb Field for Period 2 of Fiscal Year 2024 as presented, subject to audit. Motion passed unanimously [10|0|0].

SAN DIEGO CITY STAFF REPORTS:

Center Director III, Luke Kosta, reported that as of October 16, 2024 Robb Field now has two security guards who work from 6:00 am to 9:00 pm Monday through Friday and one security guard who works from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday.

District Manager, Jerry Abbott, reported that his responsibilities include the hiring of grounds maintenance staff and full-time recreation center staff. Jerry reported that he has recently hired two new Grounds Maintenance Workers (GMW's) to fill the two vacancies that currently exist. Jerry also reported that there is a shortage of trucks for the GMW's to use and he is working on trying to solve that problem.

FITNESS CLUB REPORT:

Luke Kosta reported that the Fitness Club is now open but the hours of operation are still somewhat limited. The Fitness Club is open from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm and from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm on Tuesday and Thursday and from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. As of the end of September, the Fitness Club has sold 316 day passes for use of the Fitness Club facilities.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Reinstatement of the Handball Players organizational membership in the Robb Field CRG.

Jim Nickel explained that he had recently learned that Gary Gilmore, the Handball Players longtime representative on the CRG, had passed away after a serious protracted illness. Jim reported that he had received a written request from the Robb Field Handball Association that their organizational membership be reinstated and that Bruce Sherman be approved as their representative on the CRG.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Rasheed Hassan/John McKaveney) that the Robb Field Handball Association's organizational membership in the Robb Field CRG be immediately reinstated and that Bruce Sherman be approved as their representative. Motion passed unanimously [10|0|0].

2. Approval of the Robb Field Community Park GDP Amendment.

Juliana Grotzinger presented a brief summary of the proposed changes to the GDP as they relate to Robb Field. She explained that these proposed changes represent the consensus of extensive input and feedback from the park users and the community. In the discussion that followed Juliana's presentation the OMBAC Rugby players and the San Diego Surfers Rugby players both emphasized that natural turf was preferable to synthetic turf for rugby and possibly for other sports as well. The Handball Players reiterated their continuing need for a place to play handball and similar sports during the entire time the demolition and construction activities take place. The community gardeners expressed appreciation that the proposed GDP amendment provides for a community garden at a location that would not interfere with sports activities. Juliana and her team members reassured the meeting attendees that the GDP amendment as proposed did address all of the issues and concerns that had been raised. The GDP amendment is crafted to enable the park users and the community to deal with future issues and continue to have a major role in the decision-making process.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Todd Sprague/Jill Wyatt) to approve the latest updated version of the Robb Field Community Park GDP Amendment, as presented. Motion passed unanimously [11|0|0].

3. Approval of the Fiscal Year '25 Robb Field budget proposal.

Luke Kosta presented the proposed Robb Field budget for Fiscal Year '25. Jerry Abbot addressed several issues that were raised in the ensuing discussion. Jerry pointed out that actual FY'24 Robb Field income was running well ahead of budget, so there will be a smaller than budgeted loss and less than the budgeted depletion of the Recreation Center Fund (RCF) in FY'24. A copy of the proposed FY'25 budget is attached to these minutes.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Todd Sprague/John McKaveney) to approve the proposed Fiscal Year '25 budget for Robb Field, as presented. Motion passed unanimously [11|0|0].

4. Election of Robb Field CRG officers for 2024.

Jim Nickel presented the nominating committee’s slate of Robb Field officers to serve for the calendar year 2024. The nominees are: Rasheed Hassan – Chairperson/President, John McKaveney – Vice Chairperson, Kellee Waters – Corresponding Secretary, and Todd Sprague – Treasurer. Jim requested additional nominations from the floor, but there were none.

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Michelle Huber/Kim Latham) to close the nominations and elect the entire slate of officers, as nominated by the nominating committee, namely Rasheed Hassan – Chairperson/President, John McKaveney – Vice Chairperson, Kellee Waters – Corresponding Secretary, and Todd Sprague – Treasurer. Motion passed [10|0|1]. Abstained: Rasheed Hassan.

COMMUNITY/ORGANIZATION REPORTS:

In view of the lateness of the hour, Chairperson Jim Nickel requested that the Organization and At-Large member reports be deferred until the next meeting. There were no objections.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: It was moved/seconded (Rasheed Hassan/Whitney Wilkinson) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously [11|0|0]. Meeting adjourned at 9:18 pm.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Robb Field CRG will be a regular meeting at Jim Howard Hall on Thursday, March 7, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

CRG MEMBERS: If you expect to miss the meeting, please email Cynthia Comacho at Ccomacho@sandiego.gov or call (619) 531-1563.

If there are any questions regarding these minutes, please contact Luke Kosta at KostaL@sandiego.gov or Jim Nickel at jimnickel@earthlink.net . This information will be made available in alternative formats upon request.

Submitted by:

Luke Kosta, Center Director III and Recording Secretary

Date

Reviewed by:

Angelina Black, Area Manager, Parks and Recreation Dept.

Date

Approved by:

James R. Nickel, Chairperson

Date

OTHER ROBB FIELD CRG MEETING GUEST ATTENDEES

Attachment to the Minutes of the Robb Field CRG Special Meeting held on November 2, 2023

The following list of guest attendees who were present at the Special Meeting of the Robb Field CRG held on November 2, 2023 was derived from the sign-in sheets generated at that meeting.

Robb Field CRG Meeting Guest Attendees (First & Last Names and Affiliation, if known)

1. Juliana Grotzinger – City of SD, Project Mgr.
2. Jeff Justus – Schmidt Design Group
3. Mike Saunders – OMBAC Rugby
4. Cameron Stevens – Armada Rugby
5. Jonathan Hackett – OMBAC Rugby
6. Nael Housa – OMBAC Rugby
7. Ashley Torrecillas – SD Surfers Rugby
8. Christie Xie – SD Surfers Rugby
9. Nina Johnson – SD Surfers Rugby
10. Amy Verdonik – SD Surfers Rugby
11. Tiffany Trew – SD Surfers Rugby
12. Shekee Collins – SD Surfers Rugby
13. Wing Ly – SD Surfers Rugby
14. Brandon Walden – OMBAC Rugby
15. Soren Ferrell – OMBAC Rugby
16. Alfonso Cormil – OMBAC Rugby
17. Howard Tulsomoa – OMBAC Rugby
18. Tai Tulsomoa – OMBAC Rugby
19. Cooper Nelson – OMBAC Rugby
20. Alexa Scott – SD Surfers Rugby
21. Deanna Chandra – Peninsula Garden
22. Tim H. – OMBAC Rugby
23. Celso Fernandez – OMBAC Rugby
24. James Sedillo – OMBAC Rugby
25. Raquel Goli – SD Surfers Rugby
26. Madison Arenchild – SD Surfers Rugby
27. Bryt, surfers d1 coordinator – SD Surfers Rugby
28. Kimruayy Tran – SD Surfers Rugby
29. Meyan Lloyd – SD Surfers Rugby
30. Emma Nelson – OBBAC Rugby
31. Dan Ponti – OMBAC Rugby
32. Carole Farr – Peninsula Tennis Club
33. John Broderick – SDDTA
34. Adam Rahrer – Cherry Pick Capital
35. Yaritza Cordova – SD Surfers & Armada Rugby
36. Pablo – Armada Rugby
37. Gabby Williams – SD Surfers Rugby
38. Nate Smith – PYSA
- 39.
- 40.