

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department – Developed Regional  
Parks Division  
BALBOA PARK/MORLEY FIELD RECREATION ADVISORY GROUP  
2145 Park Blvd, San Diego, Ca 92101

**MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

**Attendance**

**Board Members:**

Karleen Driggs – Chairperson  
Bill Aaron – Vice Chair- **Absent**  
Ricky Franchi – Secretary-**Absent**  
**Vacant** – Treasurer

**Organization Members:**

Mark Hopkins – North Park Little League-**Absent**  
Bill Aaron – San Diego Track Club /BP Committee- **Absent**  
Glenn Elgin – Open Play Badminton-**Absent**  
Christine Khouri- Thursday Club Foundation  
Michael Bratton-San Diego Petanque-**Absent**  
Benham Kazemi – SDTTA-**Absent**  
Ricky Franchi-California Soccer League-**Absent**  
Niles Armstrong- North Park AYSO Soccer  
Karleen Driggs – Soccer Kids America  
Joe Young – San Diego Badminton Club-**Absent**  
Colleen Ferrell-Balboa Tennis Club-**Absent**  
Sean Wallace-Velodrome-**Absent**

**Members at Large:**

Patty Riddle- Open Play Badminton  
Arlette Bianconi- California Soccer League-**Absent**  
Greg Spielman-North Park Little League  
Chhem Young-Pen- Football Club (FC) Balboa Soccer  
Adam Gisteun-Balboa Tennis Club  
Roger Ainslie-Velodrome-**Absent**  
Terry Dutton- San Diego Badminton Club

**City Staff:**

Lane Harris-Pool Manager III-**Absent**  
Audrie Magdaleno- Assistant Center Director-**Absent**  
Oscar Eusebio – Recreation Center Director III  
Rosalinda Nguyen – Assistant Center Director  
Luis Ignacio-Recreation Center Director III  
Victor Johnson II-Area Manager II  
Kevin Vazquez – SDPD Community Relations Officer-**Absent**

**Call to Order:** Karleen Driggs (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:** **Motion:** It was moved/seconded (P. Riddle / C. Khouri) to approve minutes from November 1, 2023 meeting. Motion carried 8/0/0.

**Treasure's Report:** A Motion is no longer required.

**Note:** Current Financial Information is available for all Recreation Advisory Group members to view at: <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/reccouncilresources>

**Request for Continuances:** None

**Communication:** None

**Chairperson's Report:** No Report

**Organization Reports:**

**Balboa Park Committee:** No Report

**North Park Little League:** Greg Spielman reported that there are a record number of kids attending again. Next month we will be getting fields ready for the season. Would like to continue working with City Staff to develop a plan to address infield maintenance and gopher issues throughout the year. Want to Thank the Morley Field Ground Maintenance staff for their assistance. Mr. Spielman also mentioned the inadequacies of the comfort stations around the baseball fields.

**Note:** City staff informed him of the various Balboa Park Comfort Station remodeling plans presented at a recent Balboa Park Committee meeting.

**SD Table Tennis Association:** No Report

**SD Badminton Club:** No Report

**Open Play Badminton** Patty Riddle reported that Open Play Badminton players are looking forward to getting back into the Balboa Park Activity Center once it reopens. The Annual Dave Freeman Tournament is on the weekend of April 5<sup>th</sup>- April 7<sup>th</sup> for adults. A Juniors tournament will be hosted on another weekend in April (TBD).

**SD Track Club:** No Report

**Thursday Club:** Chris Khouri reported that due to the closure of the Balboa Park Activity Center the annual Rummage Sale event is anticipated to be moved to the Municipal Gymnasium. Historically the annual Rummage Sale event has been hosted in the Museum of Automobile, Federal Building, and the Municipal Gymnasium. Please check out the time laps video on the website to check out the setup and breakdown of the annual event.

**Petanque Club:** No Report

**Soccer Kids America:** Karleen Driggs reported and thanked Mr. Young-Pen for his ongoing support and coaching of girl's futsal since 2008. She announced that Melanie Barcenas (NWSL) grew up playing in the futsal league and has recently signed a contract with the San Diego Wave (FC) and has been selected to play on the National Women's Soccer League (17U). Colina del Sol Rec. Center will host an outdoor futsal league and Golden Hills Rec. Center will host spring break camp.

**California Soccer:** No Report

**AYSO:** Niles Armstrong reported that the regular season ended in November 2023 with over 750 participants and 100 volunteers. A lot of the teams made it to post season play. Gophers and ground squirrels were an issue this past season. This issue has been reported to the Center Director and the Morley Field Ground Maintenance staff. He is interested in working with Forever Balboa Park for maintenance assistance as well. Would like to continue to work with City staff to conduct year-round maintenance on the multipurpose field. Mr. Armstrong also mentioned the condition of the field lights.

**Note:** He was informed by City Staff that he can field lighting request can reported to the Streets Department through the Cities "Get It Done" application.

**Velodrome:** No Report

**Balboa Tennis Club:** Adam Gisteun reported that regular attendance is high and the waitlist for the club is at around 110 people. Currently 5-6 month waitlist to join the club. Tree issues have been submitted to the "Get It Done" application. The Balboa Park Arborist can help resolve and identify issues.

**Balboa Soccer (FC):** Chhem Young-Pen reported that the organization is a spinoff of the AYSO "Matrix". The intent is to keep the kids competing locally without having to travel outside of their community. The club was started in October of 2023 and its first meeting was in November of 2023. Current population is 250 participants, and they are looking to start a men's amateur semi-pro team. Balboa Soccer (FC) has already been accepted in UPSL (Tier 4).

### **Park and Recreation Facilities Reports:**

**BUD KEARNS SWIMMING POOL:** No Report

**BALBOA PARK ACTIVITY CENTER:** Luis Ignacio reported that the floors were resurfaced in December (1 week). The annual Martin Luther King Celebration event had the most attendance in the past 10 years. Mr. Ignacio also reported the recent closure of the Balboa Park Activity Center due to recent flooding and emergency shelter need. At this time no definitive timeline has been given on when to reopen the facility to normal operations. Mission Hills and Pioneer Park have now been reopened. They were previous closed for turf maintenance.

**MUNI GYM/MORLEY FIELD:** Oscar Eusebio reported that the multipurpose field looks great and green due to the amount of rain and field rest compared to this time last year. Turf patches filled in immediately after inspection thanks to the Morley Field Ground Maintenance staff. The Municipal Gymnasium was closed for two weeks in

December for the annual gymnasium floor resurfacing. Unfortunately, due to the flood the gymnasium was used as a temporary evacuation shelter for people affected by the flood. Currently 150 people are being housed. Once reopened it will resume normal operations. No definitive timeline has been given to when the facility will be reopened.

AREA MANAGER: Victor Johnson II reported. Currently the Balboa Park Activity Center is being utilized as an emergency shelter and occupied by the Alpha Project. The Municipal Gymnasium is being utilized as an emergency temporary shelter and is being managed by the Red Cross. At this time there is no definitive time of when the facilities will return to normal operations.

All Recreation Center are considered emergency shelters and each Council District has designated emergency shelters and plans. The criteria for each site is different based on occupancy size and emergency shelter needs.

**Action Items:** None

**Item #1:** Election of Officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and Treasure)

Chairperson: Patty Riddle (Unopposed)

**Motion:** Moved / Second (C. Khouri / T. Dutton) to vote Patty Riddle as Chair.  
The motion carried (7/0/1) \_ Abstention: P. Riddle

Vice Chairperson: Chhem Young-Pen (Unopposed)

**Motion:** Moved / Second (K. Driggs / P. Riddle) to vote Patty Riddle as Chair.  
The motion carried (7/0/1) \_ Abstention: C. Young-Pen

Secretary: None

Treasurer: None

**Workshop Items:** None

**Information Items/Announcements:** None

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

**Motion:** It was moved / seconded (K. Driggs/ P. Riddle) to adjourn the meeting.  
The motion carried 8/0/0 (Unanimously).

**Submitted By:** Luis Ignacio, Center Director III

**Approved By:** Victor Johnson II, Area Manager II

**Next Regular Meeting:** Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
Balboa Park Activity Center  
2145 Park Blvd., San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 235-5997

