

City of San Diego  
Parks and Recreation Department  
San Ysidro Community Recreation Group  
Meeting Minutes  
**Monday, February 12, 2024**

**“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”**

**Meeting Held at:**

San Ysidro Community Activity Center  
179 Diza Road  
San Ysidro, CA 92173

**Mailing Address is:**

179 Diza Road  
San Ysidro, CA 92173

**Members Present:**

Martin Ortega  
Consuelo Delgadillo  
Rosa Ruesga  
Juan Lopez  
Placido Villarreal

**City Staff:**

Francisco Castruita, Area Manager  
Robert Lara, Recreation Center Director  
Mari Jo Ricanor Recreation Center Director  
Carlos Lacarra, Community Relations, SDPD Placido  
Giancarlo Lopez-Duran, Representative, Council District 8

**Members Absent:**

David Guerrero  
Felipe Muro  
Ricky Duran

**Guests Present:**

Unknown (Community Organizer)

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairperson Martin Ortega called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. Introductions were made around the table for those in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2023, MINUTES:**

- **MOTION:** It was moved /seconded (C. Delgadillo/J. Lopez) to accept the minutes as presented with the following correction: At the Hearts and Hand’s December 8 event, ‘Barob’ group not ‘Barona’ donated 200-300 gift cards for the event. The motion carried with 3 ayes, 0 nays and 1 abstention.

**FORMAL REQUEST FOR MEMBERSHIP:**

None

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE:**

None

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

**CITY OF SAN DIEGO MAYOR’S REPORT:**

None

### **COUNCIL DISTRICT 8 REPORT:**

- City of San Diego Economic Development Department (EDD) will be providing emergency relief grants up to \$2500 per applicant located in the Promise Zone, Opportunity Zones, or Low-Moderate Income Census Tracts. Businesses located in under-resourced communities and high impact storm affected areas for these grants. Application period is February 12 – February 27.
- Lost or Damaged Trash Bins; After storms have passed, the City’s Environmental Services Department will deliver replacement black, blue, and green bins at no costs in the areas impacted by the storm, Residents can call 858-694-7000 or report it at sandiego.gov/get-it-done.
- A Community Dumpster event to offload unwanted items not including hazmat materials is tentatively scheduled Saturday, March 2 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Location is at 125 Cypress Drive.
- Sod Farm off Camino De La Plaza and Dairy Mart Road; CD8 office is aware of the issue and is working to connect with Federal representatives in cleanup efforts. Our staff is working closely with International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC), Senator Alex Padilla, and Congressman Juan Vargas to assist in releasing Federal funding for clean-up.

### **SAN DIEGO POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT:**

- Officers are investigating a suspicious van discovered on fire at the Southwest Little League fields on February 12.
- With rain and flooding in the Dairy Mart Road location, personnel are monitoring any possible incidents that may occur.

### **CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT:**

None

### **BUDGET TO ACTUALS REPORT:**

Robert Lara reported the most recent financial RCF Budget to Actuals report to everyone for SYCAC. Mari Jo Ricanor will report RCF Budget to Actuals at next month’s meeting.

### **BOARDMEMBER COMMENT:**

None

### **SPORTS ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:**

Placido Villarreal of Atlante F.C. reported the following:

- Teams who have advanced post season, are currently practicing for the upcoming State Cup games.
- Sign-ups are now being accepted for the upcoming Spring Season.

### **COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS REPORTS:**

Consuelo Delgadillo of ‘Helping Hands Working Together’ reported the following:

- In February, Hearts and Hand’s food distribution numbers increased to serving over 450 people at locations at Mount Carmel Church, Las Americas Outlets, and the Community Center on San Ysidro Boulevard.
- Volunteers gave away 736 small gifts for ‘Día de Los Reyes’ held on December 6. SDPD also assisted in the event.

- On December 16, a free event was held in the parking lot of Cesar Chavez Community Center. La Bodega Market, Hearts and Hands, and the San Ysidro Improvement Corporation distributed food, gift cards, and toys to those that attended the event. Entertainment and Santa were present at the event.

**PARKS & RECREATION STAFF REPORT:**

Area Manager Francisco Castruita reported the following:

- Thanked Park staff who assisted in the distribution of sandbags during the past storm. They did a great job in this task. During these storms, staff received over 1,500 sandbags and approximately 30 tons of sand. Most of these were given to community residents to protect their property.
- Commended staff in their efforts producing successful activities during winter break. All sites had great attendance.
- Construction timeline for SYCAC is tentatively scheduled for June 2024. There has been a discussion regarding Howard Lane Neighborhood Park upgrades. A presentation to the council is scheduled for May which will highlight items of this project.
- Staff is receiving calls regarding non-working security lights at some of our area park facilities. Please note, we as Parks and Recreation staff only submit the service requests for these repairs. We cannot complete the actual repairs.

Recreation Center Director Mari Jo Ricanor reported the following for Cesar Chavez Community Center:

- Due to the recent storms and oversaturated fields, the carnival which was scheduled to run February 19 to February 25 decided to cancel. They will reach out to staff later in October to have the carnival return.
- Youth Flag Football and Teen Volleyball season ended in December. 14u flag football team advanced to post season play and took first place at Citywide on December 9. Our pee wee teams also played in exhibition games against other recreation centers at Citywide.
- Toys for Tots toy distribution was held on December 21. Staff registered 240 kids for the program.
- Youth Basketball Season is underway. Staff is currently coaching Pee Wee, 10u, 12u, and 14u teams.
- Santa's Workshop took place inside the gym on December 21 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.
- It was a well-attended event with 300 participants. Activities included a magic show, cupcake walk, face painting, carnival games, canvas painting and a Santa photo booth.
- Staff is serving free dinner meals to youth ages 1 to 18 years old, Monday through Friday from 4:30-6:30 p.m. The program is sponsored by Heaven's Window, a recognized Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).

Recreation Center Director Robert Lara reported the following for San Ysidro Community Activity Center:

- SYCAC has a total of 7 youth basketball teams with a total of 56 participants ranging from 5 to 14 years old.
- We are hosting a 10u basketball league on Wednesdays with 6 teams and a pee wee league on Fridays with 7 teams.
- Staff will be hosting 11 days of Presidential Primary Polls. The ROV will be using the game room for polling stations from Saturday, February 24 to Tuesday, March 5.
- The Annual Spring Egg Hunt will be held Thursday, March 14 at La Mirada Elementary Joint Use Field. Requests have been submitted to have a face painter, DJ, and Chicken Shack as vendors at the event.
- The Recreation Center except for the gymnasium has been painted. The gymnasium will be painted at the conclusion of our youth basketball league.
- All City of San Diego facilities will be closed on Monday, February 19 in observance of President's Day Holiday.

- Staff is meeting with Heaven’s Window to start the dinner meal program at SYCAC.
- Free sandbags are available here at SYCAC in preparation for the upcoming storm. Limit is 10 per household.

**INFORMATION ITEMS:**

None

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None

**WORKSHOP ITEMS:**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Martin Ortega adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:**

Monday March 11, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.  
San Ysidro Community Activity Center  
179 Diza Road, San Ysidro, CA 92173  
(619) 424-0472

Submitted By:

Reviewed By:

Approved by:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mari Jo Ricanor  
Recreation Center Director

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Francisco Castruita  
Area Manager

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Martin Ortega  
Chairperson