

**City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 21, 2022**

“TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL”

Meeting Held by Teleconference:

This meeting was held remotely using the Zoom Webinar platform and was streamed online. The public was invited to join the meeting by phone or computer, as well as invited to submit “Public Comments” in writing via a webform. The form was made available on the Parks and Recreation website at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards>.

NOTE: Both verbal and written communication were used by Committee Members, City staff, and presenters during the meeting. City staff also used the screen-share function to allow viewers to view content shared by the speaker which included PowerPoint presentations and websites.

Before the meeting was called to order, City staff read instructions to the public regarding technical procedures for making live public comment during the webinar.

Members Present	Members Absent/Excused	City Staff Present
David Baron Jon Becker Marcella Bothwell – Chair Molly Chase Shaina Gross Rick Gulley Dennis Otsuji – Vice Chair Evelyn Smith	Nick Anastasopoulos Pita Verdin	Andy Field – Director Tom Tomlinson Michael Ruiz Ryan Barbrick Sarah Erazo Scott Sandel Elvi Ricafort

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 2:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 16, 2022

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Gulley/Mr. Becker

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Becker to approve the **June 16, 2022, Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**. The motion was approved 6-0-2 and passed with the following vote: -Yea: Jon Becker, David Baron, Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, Rick Gulley, and Evelyn Smith. Recused: None. Abstained: Shaina Gross and Dennis Otsuji. Not Present: Nick Anastasopoulos and Pita Verdin.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Tom Ambla	Mr. Ambla is a cyclist who commutes daily on Park Boulevard. He does not support the bicycle track proposed here. Based on his experience, such tracks create additional hazards for cyclists such as debris and blockages that cannot be avoided, as well as the increased potential of being hooked by cars that cannot see bicycles.
Andrew Hilliard	Mr. Hilliard has concerns with the fees associated with the Opportunity Fund as it relates to the Moonlight Serenade Orchestra Foundation (MSO). His detailed concerns are provided in his written submission, which is attached to these minutes.
Daniele Laman	Ms. Laman shared that balloons have been prevalent during graduation events in Balboa Park and wondered whether a prohibition for balloons exists in Balboa Park given its proximity to the San Diego International Airport flight path.

CONSENT AGENDA: (*two votes needed*):

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE:

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Committee Name:	Summary of Comment:
Area Committee CP-1	Mr. Otsuji noted that there was no meeting due to lack of quorum.
Area Committee CP-2	Mr. Baron noted there was no meeting.
Balboa Park Committee	Ms. Chase indicated that tonight's Balboa Park Committee meeting will discuss the Park Boulevard mobility concerns including bicycle track.
Mission Trails CAC	Mr. Gulley stated the last meeting was on July 5, 2022 to discuss San Diego River Crossing bridge project, Old Mission Dam dredging, and the Stowe Trail connection in eastern Mission Trails Regional Park.

SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION (SDPF) UPDATE:

Ms. Bothwell shared the following updates:

Topic:	Update:
Newsletter	Ms. Bothwell asked Board members if they are receiving the SDPF newsletter and asked members to contact her if they are not receiving the newsletter via email.

Topic:	Update:
Come Play Outside	The activation of Parks after Dark began last week and will continue at three sites (City Heights, Linda Vista, Skyline Hills) on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for remainder of summer. City Heights will have concerts every Friday as well.
Other	The Park Ambassador program is going well with mentees learning about City programs and various City and Department employment opportunities.

CHAIR COMMENTS:

Topic:	Update:
Pacific Beach Concerts	Ms. Bothwell announced that free Pacific Beach Concerts in the Park at Kate Sessions Park (4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.) on certain Sundays in July and August.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS: None

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Director Andy Field gave the following update on the Department’s status:

- **Passing of Bill Overstreet**
 - It is with regret and sadness that we announce the passing of Bill Overstreet, Grounds Maintenance Manager for the Mission Bay Park area
 - Bill passed away this past weekend and was planning for his retirement in two years
 - He made a great impact in several positions in Developed Regional Parks Division, and many staff are heartbroken; services are pending
- **July Is Parks and Recreation Month**
 - On 7/12/22, the City Council declared July to be Parks and Recreation Month in the City of San Diego!
 - Resources on Parks and Recreation Month are available at the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) webpage at <https://www.nrpa.org/events/july/>
- **Appointments to the P&R Board**
 - With Council action on July 19, 2022, Noli Zosa left the Board, and Shaina Gross joined the Board effective with today’s meeting.
 - Thank you to Mr. Zosa for your years of park advocacy, especially in pickleball, and for your continued support of the Department. We appreciate you!

- We welcome Ms. Gross to the Board; she represents Council District 7.
- The Board position vacated by Ron Cho last month remains vacant with no update on filling the position.
- **Return to In-Person Meetings**
 - Still testing proposed solution to allow recording and remote meeting participation
- **Employees of the Quarter** – No update this month
- **Come Play Outside/Summer for All of Us**
 - Summer is upon us, and many activities are underway, including Summer Movies in the Park, day camps, fishing trips, nature camps, and a wide variety of sports activities such as volleyball clinics
 - Summer lunches (12 noon to 1 pm, Monday thru Friday) available at numerous sites; see <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/free-meals-program.pdf> for locations through 8/19/22
 - Board members are welcome to visit these activities and events as the summer progresses; most recreation centers have summer activities underway; details available at sandiego.gov/
 - Teen Nite
 - Started at 15 locations on 7/8/22 and will continue through 8/26/22, when San Diego Unified School District fall semester begins
 - Locations include:
 - Cesar Chavez
 - City Heights
 - Colina del Sol
 - Encanto
 - Golden Hill
 - Linda Vista
 - Montgomery Waller
 - Martin L. King, Jr.
 - Memorial/Dolores Magdaleno
 - Mountain View
 - Paradise Hills
 - San Ysidro Activity Center
 - Skyline Hills
 - South Bay/Robert Egger

- Southcrest
 - Parks After Dark
 - Press conference to launch program was on 7/12/22 at Officer Jeremy Henwood City Heights Community Park
 - Activities include movies, free food for youth, games/activities, game truck, foam, DJ/music, and much more
 - Successful launch this past weekend (7/14/22-7/16/22) at three locations – City Heights, Linda Vista, and Skyline Hills – with attendance around 150-200 people per site on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings last week
 - Program will continue every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at these three sites through the remainder of July and August
 - SD Access for All – Public Wireless Internet at Recreation Centers
 - Goal is to create digital equity by offering free internet at public facilities including parks and libraries
 - See <https://www.sandiego.gov/sdaccess> for a complete list of locations
- **Job Opportunities in Parks and Recreation**
 - The Department continues to offer a recruitment webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-and-recreation-employment>
 - The Parks and Recreation Job Fair on 6/24/22 at 11 a.m. at the Balboa Park Club brought over 200 participants and numerous submitted applications
 - Tomorrow (7/22/22) is the last day to apply for the unclassified Community Parks I Deputy Director position; details can be found here: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sandiego> or <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/sandiego/jobs/3588742/deputy-director-community-parks-i-division-parks-recreation-department-u225>.
 - Other positions currently open include:
 - Assistant Golf Course Superintendent (through 7/25/22)
 - Golf Course Greenskeeper (through 8/1/22)
 - Grounds Maintenance Worker (will reopen on 7/29/22)
 - Payroll Supervisor (through 8/1/22)
 - Pesticide Applicator (through 8/1/22)
 - Pool Guard (continuous recruitment)
 - Recreation Aide and Leader (continuous recruitment)
 - Senior Planner (through 7/26/22)
 - Swimming Pool Manager (continuous recruitment)

- Therapeutic Recreation Leader (through 8/22/22)
- **Vacancies**
 - The Department continues to have between 100 and 130 permanent, full-time vacant positions. These include grounds maintenance workers, mid-level supervisors, recreation staff, and a variety of office and administrative staff.
 - The Department continues to do what it can to fill all vacant positions and ensure each recreation center and pool has sufficient staff to allow for regular operations.
- **Parks Master Plan (Parks for All of Us):**
 - Today, Recreation Services Program Manager Sarah Erazo will present draft guiding principles for obtaining public input later this summer and fall related to the newly created Opportunity Fund, which began collecting funding as of 7/1/22
 - Leagues have reached out to Department staff about fee calculations as related to the Opportunity Fund; we are currently working to address those concerns to prevent large increases in fee costs for sports leagues year-over-year
 - In September, staff will present an update on the Citywide Park Development Impact Fee including a draft framework for use of those funds for various capital improvement projects
 - Copy of the plan is available on City's webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-for-all-of-us>
- **Council Policy 700-42 and Community Recreation Group Update**
 - No major update this month
- **Play All Day/Joint Use:**
 - No major update this month
- **New Facilities/Groundbreaking and Grand Opening**
 - 50th Anniversary of Therapeutic Recreation Services at the Park de la Cruz Community Center was on 6/18/22 with proclamation issued by Mayor Gloria and Council President Elo-Rivera
 - Island Avenue Mini Park reopened to the public with new play equipment on 6/20/22
 - San Ysidro Teen Center at the Old San Ysidro Library opened to the public on 7/11/22
 - Memorial Park Dog Off Leash Area Grand Opening coming this Friday 7/22/22 at 11:00 a.m.
 - National Carousel Day is coming 7/25/22 at Balboa Park in partnership with Forever Balboa Park

- Press Conference of Balboa Park Botanical Building with Mayor Todd Gloria and Senator Pro Tem Toni Atkins will be 7/29/22 at 10 a.m.
- **Sidewalk Vending Ordinance:**
 - The effective date of enforcement of sidewalk vending ordinance was on 6/22/22
 - With the summer moratorium in effect, most of Balboa Park no longer has sidewalk vendors, which has helped open areas for First Amendment/Free Speech practitioners as was common prior to the arrival of sidewalk vendors
 - While staff cannot enforce the sidewalk vending ordinance at coastal parks until the California Coastal Commission approves it, other existing SDMC sections are being enforced, including requirements not to leave vendor items overnight
 - Gratitude and thanks to Chief Park Ranger Michael Ruiz for his leadership and management of the implementation of the sidewalk vending ordinance
 - Today, you will hear more details from Chief Ruiz under Item 202
- **Pickleball**
 - Still working to develop space for pickleball and continue to work with both tennis and pickleball advocates
- **Questions from Last Meeting**
 - Fault Line Park – Proposed Dog Off Leash Area
 - Attendee Ms. Kristy Shephard requested an update on when a dog off leash area would be added at Fault Line Park
 - That project is still under discussion; in the meantime, two new dog off leash areas are under construction at both Children’s Park and East Village Green
 - Area Committees
 - Attendee Ms. Daniele Laman asked whether Council Policy 600-33 requires approvals of General Development Plans (GDPs) to be approved by the Area Committees before they are considered by the Park and Recreation Board
 - Currently, Council Policy 600-33 does not require Area Committees to consider GDPs
 - GDPs are required to be considered by Community Recreation Groups and the Park and Recreation Board
 - Ms. Laman also asked where agendas are posted for Area Committees and who to contact to request agenda items
 - Agendas are posted at these links:
<https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general->

[info/boards/cp1ac](#) and <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards/cp2ac>

- Recent topics include recreation equity, fee schedule, and budgets (general fund and recreation center funds)
- For requests for items for the Area Committee, please contact Elvi Ricafort (ericafort@sandiego.gov), Sarah Erazo (serazo@sandiego.gov), or me (afield@sandiego.gov)
- Emerald Hills Park – Tree Trimming
 - Attendee Mr. Melvin Scott requested trimming of trees along the edge of Emerald Hills Park
 - Park Arborist has connected with Mr. Scott to begin a trimming regimen for the trees that line the property line between the park and a neighboring church
- **City Council Items:**
 - Proposed Overnight Gated Closure of Certain Coastal and Bay Parking Areas
 - Staff is currently developing packages for Coastal Commission to receive later in 2022, starting with the Mission Beach area
 - Each package covers a local coastal program (LCP), which is explained at <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcps.html>
- **Future Board Items:**
 - Chollas Creek Regional Park Master Plan Update
 - Citywide Park Development Impact Fee Fund
 - DeAnza Natural Environmental Impact Report
 - Fiesta Island Master Plan Update (information can be found here: <https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/parkplanning/fiesta-island>)
- **Board Member Questions of P&R Director**
 - Attendee Sally Smull requested to meet the Park Arborist at Emerald Hills with Board Member Ms. Smith. Mr. Field agreed and will coordinate with Ms. Smull offline from the meeting.
 - Attendee David Moty asked about the prioritization policy for capital projects including how it would synthesize with Council Policy 800-14. Mr. Field reported that the Engineering and Capital Projects Department is developing an update to Council Policy 800-14, and a park capital project prioritization policy would need to follow after that effort is completed.

ACTION ITEMS: None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

201. Draft Recreation Element, Mira Mesa Community Plan Update

Presenters: Scott Sandel, Park Planner, Planning Department
 Alex Frost, Park Planner, Planning Department

PUBLIC COMMENT on Item #201

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Howard Greenstein	Mr. Greenstein recommended the draft recreation element should show the Recreation Value Point (RVP) calculations for parkland and show how much land would be provided. Mr. Greenstein feels the land component should be included in the calculation. He also asked how many points for land to be incorporated. The matrix should reflect this component to be transparent for the public.
Joe Frichtel	Mr. Frichtel expressed concerns with the size of Mira Mesa population and limited park acres and facilities available for the community. He pointed out that we are faced of shortage of facilities to provide recreation facilities to the growing population in Mira Mesa. Mr. Frost responded that despite of shortage they are adding more than 17 miles of trails and incorporated to the plan the expansion of park lands. Mr. Sandel pointed out that they add a column to list the acres for expansion. Ms. Bothwell also pointed out that the private land access should be incorporated to the report. Mr Sandel responded that they have the matrix per Council Policy 600-33.

Board Member Comment on Item #201

Jon Becker	Mr. Becker requested staff clarify how it plans to quantify the points for the trails system. Mr. Sandel responded that they would have this on the matrix table.
Dennis Otsuji	Mr. Otsuji asked Mr. Frichtel about Miramar College and whether the City has a great working relationship with them. Mr. Frichtel responded that he's also an active board member for Miramar College and knows that the college has a great working relationship with the City given the existing joint use at Hourglass Field and Ned Baumer Swimming Pool. Mr. Otsuji also asked whether the City and San Diego Unified School District have a joint use arrangement at Mira Mesa High School. Mr. Sandel responded that no joint use at the high school currently.

202. Sidewalk Vending Regulations in Parks & Beaches

Presenter: Michael Ruiz, Chief Park Ranger, Parks and Recreation Department

Public Comment on Item #202

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Daniele Laman	Ms. Laman asked if roaming vendors are allowed in the international cottages area in Balboa Park. Chief Ruiz responded that sidewalk vending is prohibited. She also asked what would be done for December Nights as related to the sidewalk vendors. Chief Ruiz responded that vendors that have vendors permits are authorized to operate and will be allowed for December Nights.

Board Member Comment on Item #202

Board Member Name:	Summary of Comment:
David Baron	Mr. Baron pointed out the need for adequate health permits for sidewalk vendors and asked if County Health Department is also involved with this SVO. Chief Ruiz confirmed that we have partnership with the County of Health Department that helps us conduct health and safety training for the vendor to enforce the required health permits. Enforcement is effective on July 1, 2022.
Marcella Bothwell	Ms. Bothwell expressed that additional Ranger deployment are needed to help enforce Sidewalk Vending Ordinance (SVO). Chief Ruiz confirmed that we have been approved to hire additional rangers to help us with the enforcement of this new ordinance.

203. Opportunity Fund Policy Development Strategic Plan

Presenter: Sarah Erazo, Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department

Public Comment on Item #203

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
David Moty	Mr. Moty asked if a community of concern more likely to receive access to the fund. Ms. Erazo responded that yes, they have access to this fund.

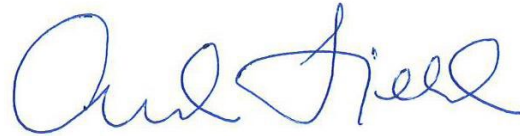
Board Member Comment on Item #203 - None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Copies of the reports, attachments, PowerPoint presentations, and audio-video recordings can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/reports>.

Next Calendared Meeting: September 15, 2022

Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Andy Field". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "A" and "F".

Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department