

City of San Diego
MINUTES PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC NOTICE
BALBOA PARK/MORLEY FIELD RECREATION COMMUNITY GROUP
2145 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA 92101
Wednesday November 12, 2025
6:00 pm

Attendance

Board Members: Patty Riddle – Chairperson
Chem Young-Pen – Vice Chair
Secretary – **Vacant**

Organization Members:

Balboa Park Committee – Patty Riddle
North Park Little League – Mark Hopkins
SD Table Tennis Association – Behnam Kazemi
SD Badminton Club – Patty Riddle
SD Track Club – Jamie Fryrear-**Absent**
The Thursday Club – Chris Kouri
Balboa Park Petanque – Arturo Santamaria - **Absent**
Soccer Kids America – Karleen Driggs
North Park AYSO – Niles Armstrong
Balboa Tennis Club – Colleen Ferrell
FC Balboa – Chem Young-Penn - **Absent**

City Staff:

Lane Harris	Pool Manager III- Absent
Luis Ignacio	Recreation Center Director III, Balboa Park Activity Center
Rosalinda Nguyen	Assist. Recreation Center Director, Balboa Park Activity Center
Adriana Magdaleno	Recreation Center Director III, Municipal Gym / Morley Field Sports Complex
Brian Carroll	Assist. Recreation Center Director, Municipal Gym / Morley Field Sports Complex
Victor Johnson	Area Manager, Balboa Park Recreation & Facilities
Anthony Harrington	District Manager, Balboa Park Recreation & Facilities

Call to Order:

Patty Riddle (Chair) called the meeting to order at 6:07 pm

Approval of Minutes:

Motion: It was moved/Seconded (K. Driggs/C. Kouri) to approve minutes from November 12, 2025 meeting. Motion carried 6/0/0

Financial Report Note: Budget to Actuals report is available at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/reccouncilresources>

Request for Continuances: None

Communications: None

Chairperson's Report: P. Riddle combine her chairperson report with Balboa Park Committee report. P. Riddle reports that last they met, they voted against paid parking in Balboa Park. P. Riddle mentioned the Velodrome event will get postponed for the following Sunday due to the weather. The Balboa Park meeting lasted 3 hours long because there were so many speakers. Each speaker got 1 minute to talk and were irate about the paid parking. On September 15, 2025, there was a City Council meeting and Balboa Park paid parking was on the agenda. The City Council approved it but there was a suggestion about the fee for City and Non-City San Diego residents. P. Riddle reports that in the Balboa Park meeting on November 6, 2025, they were told that the Mayor's suggestion for the annual pass was going to be \$300 for city residents and 2% more for Non City residents. The Balboa Park committee voted to be less than \$100, 50% discounts to low income and seniors, buses bringing kids (K-12) for educational should be allowed to park for free. This proposal will be heard from City Council the following meeting on November 17, 18 2025. P. Riddle reports that fee implementation will begin on January 6, 2026.

Organization Reports:**Balboa Park Committee:**

North Park Little League: M. Hopkins -**Absent**

SD Table Tennis Association: R. Guilloty, treasurer for San Diego Table Tennis Association, reports that members are concerned about the paid parking in Balboa Park. R. Guilloty mentions that members come to Balboa Park specifically to play Table tennis as the Balboa Park Activity Center. P. Riddle suggests that he can speak at the City Council meeting, and she will send information on how to do that. R. Guilloty reports that when he shares the Parking fees to members, he feels that attendance will decrease.

SD Badminton Club: P. Riddle reported that there have been several organized tournaments on the weekends. Open Badminton started years ago, free for everyone and for kids to come and do homework and socialize. P. Riddle has mentioned this when writing to City Council and now with paid parking, Municipal Gym and Balboa Park Activity Center will be the only 2 Recreation Centers in the City that will be required to pay for parking.

Thursday Club: C. Khouri reports that the Rummage Sale will be March 2026. The move in date will be March 1, 2026, during that week will be organizing all items. The sale days for the Rummage Sale are March 7th and 8th 2026. C. Khouri reports that last year's Rummage Sale was very successful and will have extra money to give away. The Rummage Sale supports arts, schools, Catholic Charities and Balboa Park entities.

SD Pétanque: T. Allport reports that there was a big October Tournament, very successful. They had teams from Nevada, California and Mexico coming to participate. T. Allport reports that there is a squirrel issue and unfortunately there is a Homeless man outside the building, and he is feeding the squirrels. T. Allport asks how that should be handled. A. Magdaleno suggests contacting the Park Rangers. A. Harrington also suggests the non-emergency number and contact the Homeless Outreach team (HOT), use the Get It Done app and that goes directly to the HOT team.

Soccer Kids of America: K. Driggs reports that her leagues are all year long. Her current season will end December 12, 2025, and next season will start January 9, 2026, at Municipal gym. Saturdays will be at Colina del sol Recreation Center. K. Driggs reports that camps will be at Birney Elementary called conference Camps.

AYSO Soccer: N. Armstrong reported that it is his last meeting, and his 4 years is up in February. At the start of permit, there was an issue with the grass, and it wasn't right but now it has been good, and he wanted to say thank you. N. Armstrong states that the fields are on awful shape. AYSO is going to have their last in-house tournament where they honor volunteers but due to the weather it might have to be moved to the following weekend. N. Armstrong reports that AYSO teams are having their postseason play into January most likely in February and looking for lighted fields. N. Armstrong reports that there is a gopher issue and received an email from a City Employee that they were being trained to use the gopher machine but now it looks like that employee is on medical leave. N. Armstrong reports that lights were not coming on at Morley Field Sports Complex and 3 out of 6 light towers were not coming on. AYSO donated the previous year to replace light bulbs, and it was done. This current season, there was citizens, community members reach out to Get It Done and some of the responses were dismissive. While he was at Morley Field, N. Armstrong noticed the electric box was open and he flipped 3 of the breakers to "on". That made the difference and the lights came on. N. Armstrong is upset that the solution was simple and understands that there are budget issues but he wants to make his community a better place. N. Armstrong reported that the bathrooms by Field #1, were filthy and there are kids and family members trying to use these restrooms. The porta potty was also filthy, and no one could use them. Luckily, the restrooms were open on the other side of the fields and a Park Ranger was helpful. Later, the day, N. Armstrong saw a couple of City Employees and approached them about the bathrooms, but the employees were getting high. N. Armstrong can't prove it but can smell when he approached them.

Balboa Tennis Club: A. Gastrine reported that there will be ongoing maintenance. The graffiti has decreased, and they have their own paint to use. A. Gastrine reports that they have resurfaced 4 courts. Beautiful and playable. They will be adding 4 more surveillance cameras, 16 cameras in total. There is new signage in the clubhouse and some landscaping around the clubhouse. The Board elected to raise membership about 5 % for next year to cover some costs. A. Gastrine reports that there will be a Turkey Shoot, about 50 people come and some already on the waitlist.

FC Balboa: B. Tullis representing FC Balboa reports that season is over and will be running some fall camps and open to all kids. There will be a 3-day weekend camp focused on goalkeepers. Although it might be raining, they are not going to postpone it but are looking for turf fields. B. Tullis reports that there will be another clinic in December and February. K. Driggs asks to send her the flyer to post on her social media.

Bud Kearns Pool: **Absent.**

Balboa Park Activity Center: L. Ignacio reported that there will be a Teen Night in August, about 60 kids re registered and will be from 5pm-8pm on Saturday. Balboa Park Activity Center added 2 new employees and were able to add some Badminton classes on Sundays. Winter sign-ups are Saturday and include a run club, walking club, badminton lessons and hoping to start a Book Club. The gym floor refinishing at the end of December and facility will close December 30, 2025-January 6, 2026. L. Ignacio reports that the only other closure will be on Martin Luther King Day for the MLK breakfast. L. Ignacio reports that the Rummage sale will come in 1 week earlier and come in end of February and sale will be in March. The Science Fair will come in after the Rummage Sale and move in Sunday March 15, 2026, and Balboa Park Activity Center will reopen March 23, 2026.

Municipal Gym/Morley Field: A. Magdaleno reports that she is thankful for the staff at Municipal Gym. She thanks Brian Carroll-Assistant Center Director, Quentin Ivy- Recreation Leader and Raymond Morales- Intern, for all the hard work in keeping the classes and camps running. A. Magdaleno reports that the Fundamental classes that ran Monday-Thursday from ages 5yrs to 15yrs old was successful. A. Magdaleno states that Muni Gym also hired 2 more staff and that she's hoping to add more staff to open on Sundays. Winter registrations will open for Basketball season and that goes from January-March 2026. A. Magdaleno reports that Municipal Gym will host a Toys for Tots Breakfast with Santa on December 20th from 10am-12pm. The Municipal gym will be closed December 22, 2025-January 2, 2026, for the gym floor refinishing. A. Magdaleno reports Municipal Gym will be closed December 1-December 8, 2025, for December Nights. Morley Field Sports Complex baseball fields will be closed December 22, 2025-February 17, 2026, for maintenance. T. Allport asks if the Guadalupe Race will be happening at Morley Field Sports Complex. A. Magdaleno replies that she is waiting to hear from them, but it will be December 7, 2025, starting at pool parking lot and there is a procession through the neighborhood.

Area Manager Report: Absent

District Manager Report: A. Harrington reports that December Nights Family Zone will be inside Municipal Gym and Palisades area. There is going to be a Ferris wheel and a half pipe skateboard demo. December Nights hours are 3pm-11pm as well as the Tree Ceremony at 6pm on Friday and Saturday 11am-11pm. A. Harrington reports that they just hired 4 new Custodians, and 2 Custodians were promoted to a higher-level position. On the Recreation side, 2 staff were hired at the Balboa Park Activity Center leaving 1 spot open to hire and Municipal Gym hired 2 staff leaving 6 spots open to hire. A. Harrington reports that Recreation Leader I interviews will be happening the week before Thanksgiving. A. Harrington states the major issue happening at Morley Field Sports Complex is not having enough personnel to oversee it. He has been working with the Grounds Maintenance Supervisor to have more of a comprehensive plan to get the quality up. B. Tullis asks if Morley Field has a social media account, but A. Harrington replies that we do not, but something interested in doing in the future

Action Items:

Consent (Items are adopted without discussion): No consent items.

Action Items:

Adoption (Each item requires individual action)

1. Approval of Budget FY 2026/2027: A. Harrington reports that this Budget is for the Recreation Center Fund which is money made from programs at Morley Field, Balboa Park Activity Center and Municipal Gym. A Budget needs to be created to show how we are spending the money. The Community Group will look at it, ask questions and we can explain it. T. Allport asks about the Pétanque Club \$2000 funds and if it gets spent but A. Harrington explains that it is a rolling budget. A. Magdaleno states that the number was different last year, and the court maintenance and paint expenses were taken off.

Motion: Moved/seconded/abstain(P Riddle/T. Allport/R. Guilloty) to approve Municipal Gym/Balboa Park Activity Center budget 2026/2027 Motion carried 6/0/1

2. Elect BP/MF Executive Board Election Terms (2026-2028)

Motion: Moved/seconded (K. Driggs/C. Khouri) to keep Patty Riddle as President and Chhem Young-Pen as Vice Chair Motion carried 6/0/0

Workshop Items: None

Information Items/Announcements:

1. Parking Fees at Balboa Park. A. Harrington shares the approved rates the City Council approved on September 15, 2025. Level 1 parking lots are more central parking lots close to Museums and institutions. Level 2 parking lots are Upper Inspiration Point, Federal lot, Marsden Point, which is over at the border of 6th Avenue. Level 3 lot is Lower Inspiration Point. Street parking are just park roads, everything down 6th avenue or

Balboa Drive, Village Place and Presidents Way. A. Harrington states that funds collected in street parking and lot parking will remain in Balboa Park. The installation of meters will happen January 2026. Originally paid parking was going to start October 2025, but residency came up in question. Residence verification will be verified through a portal, a vendor that was selected through RFP process. They will manage the verification and that is how to differentiate resident and not resident. That portal won't be live until January 2026. A. Harrington reports that City Council will have a hearing on pricing for Annual Passes and pricing for Special Events. K. Driggs asks if you will have to enter your driver's license. A. Harrington replies that it will be a pay by plate, a kiosk that takes credit card and coin. You will also be able to pay via an app, Park Smarter. A. Harrington point outs that Level 3, Lower Inspiration Point parking lot, will have first 3 hours free. B. Tullis asks if that is where the San Diego High School students will park. A. Harrington states that negotiations between the Mayor's office and San Diego Unified are ongoing. A. Harrington reports that parking will be enforced 8am-8pm and if you exceed 3 hours free, you will be open to a citation. K. Driggs asks about volunteer parking, or do they also pay? A. Harrington replies that all Park employees and park volunteers will park for free while on duty and will have to park on Level 2 or Level 3. A list of volunteers will be collected and send to A. Harrington. A. Harrington reports that the Tram service will run from 8am-8pm. R. Guilloty has concerns about lower inspiration point lot and how that can fill up quick when everyone knows its 3 hours free. K. Driggs shares what her programs will look like when parent that register kids might not want to join her league. A. Harrington shares that the San Diego Zoo has a lease with the City of San Diego, and they will manage their parking lots. The Zoo will be charging but not sure of the fees just yet.

2. Community Recreation Needs Assessment Survey: A. Harrington reports that there is a survey and is encouraging CRG and share with your organizations. P. Riddle states that there are focus groups for this Needs Assessment to know what the communities needs.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:13pm

Motion: It was moved/seconded (T. Allport/K. Driggs) to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried 7/0/0 (Unanimously).

Submitted by: Adriana Magdaleno, Center Director III

Approved by: Victor Johnson, Area Manager II

Next Regular Meeting: **Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 6:00 pm.**
Balboa Park Activity Center
2145 Park Blvd, San Diego, CA 92101 (619) 235-5997