

## **MINUTES**

City of San Diego  
Municipal Golf Committee (MGC)  
September 18, 2025

### **Meeting held at:**

Balboa Park Club – Balboa Room Building  
2150 Pan American Road West  
San Diego, CA 92101

### **Mailing address is:**

Torrey Pines Administration  
11480 N. Torrey Pines Road  
La Jolla, CA 92037

### **ATTENDANCE:**

#### **Members Present**

Larry Barron (Arrived late)  
Marty Block (Chair)  
Curtis B. Burkhead  
Hal Corbin  
Kay McElrath  
Britton Nelson  
Stephen M. Shushan (Vice Chair)  
Richard Wallace

#### **Members Absent**

Dr. R. Lee Brown

#### **Staff Present**

Tim Graham  
John Howard  
Gabriella Verendia  
Annie Zachau

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Marty Block, Chair.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved/seconded (S. Shushan / R. Wallace) to approve the July 17, 2025, Minutes. Motion passed (8 ayes, 0 abstention). The vote was unanimous to approve the minutes.

### **ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A motion was moved/seconded (S. Shushan / L. Barron) to adopt the agenda as presented.  
(8 ayes, 0 abstention). The vote was unanimous.

## **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Block thanked City staff for scheduling, document preparation, and quorum support. He led member self-introductions, requested contextual background in future staff reports, asked for an update on a potential new vendor at Torrey Pines, and raised concerns about tee-time brokerage/scamming. He read from a news article detailing federal charges against Southern California brothers accused of profiting by reselling public tee times (originally affecting Los Angeles courses) and asked staff to address whether similar issues impact San Diego facilities.

## **STAFF REPORT**

### **Tim Graham, Assistant Deputy Director**

Busy summer with rising rounds citywide. Torrey Pines hosted Junior World Championship, City Amateur, SCGA Men's & Women's Amateur Championships; fall aerification and overseeding underway for 2026 Farmers Insurance Open preparation. Balboa Park hosting ladies' high school golf season; 13th tee box expansion/reconstruction nearing completion, with new sod soon and tee box opening in coming months. Mission Bay restaurant lessee negotiations nearing final stage; construction on new restaurant building

Mr. Graham concluded the City's staff report and thanked the committee.

## **DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT**

### **John Howard, Deputy Director**

Mr. Howard discussed that the Advanced Booking fee proposal (previously reviewed by MGC) will be presented to Parks and Recreation Board next month as part of Golf Division Business Plan update, incorporating committee feedback. The upcoming Golf audit scope limited to the City's eight leased golf facilities (not the five City-operated courses); report expected in coming months. Praised Curtis Burkhead's management of Kalena Park. Revenue/budget updates will be covered as part of this meeting's 2025 Golf Division Business Plan Update presentation.

## **NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

### **101. Golf Division Business Plan Update John Howard, Golf Operations Deputy Director,**

John Howard presented the 2025 Golf Division update. Division operates Balboa Park, Mission Bay, and Torrey Pines (self-sustaining Golf Enterprise Fund; FY25 ending fund balance >\$55 million; pays 9.9% gross revenue to City general fund).

Highlights include:

- Record-breaking FY25: >427,000 rounds sold (highest ever); ~\$42.3 million revenue.
- Expenses rose >22% over three years (goods, wages, lower vacancies, utilities).
- Excess revenue (\$14 million this year) allocated to capital improvement fund.
- Proposed green fee increases (effective January 1, 2026): +3% for residents, +5% for non-residents to offset costs, improve experience, and fund capital projects.

### **Major Capital Projects**

1. **Mission Bay:** \$15 million invested since 2023; \$6.1 million irrigation/electrical replacement complete; \$8.9 million new clubhouse/food service building in active construction (target completion end of fiscal year).
2. **Torrey Pines:** \$59–60 million master plan to replace clubhouse, maintenance facility, and ancillary structures; architectural firm selected; 30% design drawings in progress; dedicated project website launched.
3. **Balboa Park:** \$6.4 million project to realign holes 4 and 9 and add short-game facility (coordinated with Golf Course Drive changes); currently in design phase; construction potentially starting July 2026.

**Business Plan Modernization** 2012 plan to be updated via RFP for consultant; new plan will include stakeholder/community engagement and be submitted to MGC and City Council for approval.

## **Committee Discussion Highlights**

- Extensive focus on **Balboa Park clubhouse deferred maintenance** (stained carpets from past leaks, unsafe windows, historical building constraints).
- Members (esp. Kay McElrath, Larry Barron, Richard Wallace) stressed urgency of cosmetic/priority repairs (carpet replacement, painting, window fixes) to prevent further deterioration, noting Balboa hosted more rounds than Torrey Pines last year and deserves attention despite larger renovation cost challenges (\$26 million bid in 2013 vs. \$13 million budget then).
- Staff response: Roof repaired using City forces; working with Facilities Department on immediate needs (carpet, old golf shop improvements); acknowledges historical constraints and multi-year City project timelines; committed to addressing deferred maintenance via upcoming fee increases and available capital; all major projects active (Mission Bay in construction; others in design).
- Additional notes: All three courses lack adequate community gathering spaces (priority for future); full staffing at Torrey Pines for first time in 20+ years has improved course conditions.

### **Public Comments:**

None.

### **Staff/Committee Comments:**

Mr. Block suggested a new and convenient meeting location and maybe an earlier time for the Committee instead of the current Balboa Park Club—Balboa Ballroom. The entire Committee was open to looking at available options. Mr. Reyes will investigate possible locations and what resources are accessible for the Committee to evaluate.

### **ACTION ITEM(S)**

#### **201. New Municipal Golf Committee Meeting Location and Time, Tim Graham, Asst. Deputy Director**

Tim Graham, Assistant Deputy Director of the City's Golf Division, presented potential new locations and meeting times for the Municipal Golf Committee.

Current location: Balboa Park Club – Ballroom, Thursdays 6:00–8:00 p.m.

Future location options:

1. Same location, Thursdays 9:00–11:00 a.m.
2. Aero Drive (9485 Arrow Drive), noon–2:00 p.m. (paid parking possible).
3. Mission Valley (Development Services HQ, 7650 Mission Valley Road), noon–2:00 p.m. (possible room fee).

Discussion considered staff availability, SCGA participation, parking, and potential use of Balboa Park Golf Course clubhouse main room (once golf shop relocates).

**Decision:** Committee voted to retain current location and time (Balboa Park Club – Ballroom, Thursdays 6:00 p.m.) (8-0). Staff to continue evaluating alternatives, including Balboa Park Golf Course clubhouse.

**APPROVAL OF ACTION ITEMS**

It was moved/seconded (M. Block / L. Barron) to approve and keep the current location and time of the Municipal Golf Committee meeting at the Balboa Park Club – Ballroom on Thursday evenings at 6:00 p.m.

Motion passed (8 ayes, 0 abstention).

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m. by Marty Block, Chair

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2025, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Balboa Park Club**  
**2150 Pan American Road West**  
**San Diego, CA 92101**