City of San Diego
Parks and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 16, 2026

"TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL"

Meeting Held In Person and by Teleconference:

This meeting was held at the Balboa Park Club – Santa Fe Room and 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.

Both verbal and written communication were used by Board 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	City Staff Present
Nick Anastasopoulos Jeremy Bloom Dr. Marcella Bothwell (Chair) Dr. Andrea Dooley Rick Gulley (Vice Chair) Daniele Laman Evelyn Smith Allison Soares Agatha Wein	Director Andy Field Dr. Judith Munoz	Dike Anyiwo Ryan Barbrick Laura Burnett Maria Carriedo Benjamin Cartwright Karen Dennison Lynn Edwards Robin Kaufman Sherry Kempin Kim Mathis Deputy Director Louis Merlin Justin Nguyen Danielle Nourie-Burns Andre Smith Sally Smull Gabriela Verendia

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. Public participation procedures for in-person, virtual, and written comments were reviewed.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 21, 2026

A motion was made by Ms. Laman and seconded by Mr. Gulley to approve the May 21, 2026, meeting minutes. The motion was approved and passed 8-0-0 with Ms. Soares abstaining. There were no recusals.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Ken Smith, resident of San Diego, addressed the Board regarding informal recreational use of the baseball field at Rancho Bernardo Community Park. Mr. Smith explained that a small group of primarily senior residents has informally used the unreserved baseball field for pickup baseball practice for approximately 20 years. He stated that the group does not operate as an organized league, does not schedule games, and does not reserve the field. Mr. Smith requested that the Department allow informal use of the field without requiring permits, insurance, or user fees, similar to informal use of basketball courts and other recreational facilities.

Kort Sapin, resident of San Diego, addressed the Board regarding the Department's application of its open field use policy at Rancho Bernardo Community Park. Mr. Sapin stated that his group makes informal recreational use of available, unreserved park space and believes the policy is being applied differently to baseball fields than to other public recreational facilities. He noted that he sought clarification from the Parks and Recreation Department regarding informal field use and subsequently submitted California Public Records Act requests concerning the Department's interpretation of the policy and its request for City Attorney guidance. Mr. Sapin requested clarification regarding how the Department applies its published policy governing informal recreational use of unreserved park facilities.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCE: None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Balboa Park Committee** – Ms. Soares reported that the Committee met the previous week and discussed the Japanese Friendship Garden project, including the Double Park Master Plan workshop. The Committee will not meet in August and will reconvene in September.
- **Mission Bay Park Committee** –Dr. Muñoz was not present for this meeting, thus there was no update this month.
- **Mission Trails Regional Park (MTRP) Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC)** – Vice Chair Gulley reported that the Committee met on July 7, 2026. The Committee approved reallocation of Antenna Fund monies to support the West Sycamore Staging Area project and received an update on the East County Advanced Water Purification Project, which is progressing ahead of schedule. The next meeting is scheduled for September 1, 2026.
- **San Diego Parks Foundation (SDPF)** – Program Director Kim Mathis provided an update on Foundation activities, including the Parks After Dark program currently operating at five recreation centers. Ms. Mathis reported that more than 20,000 participants have attended the program this summer. Additional updates included backpack giveaways in partnership with San Diego FC, Nature Camp programming at 14 recreation centers,

Movies in the Park events, youth softball and football programs, the launch of a girls basketball league, an upcoming World Cup watch party at Colina del Sol Recreation Center, a community appearance by Chucky Lozano at Skyline Recreation Center, and improvements underway at the Memorial Senior Center including a community garden, pickleball court, and outdoor exercise area.

CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS: None.

BOARD COMMENTS:

Ms. Laman updated the Board on topics from May's meeting:

- Received $10,000 from Price Charities at Colinas Pool, which also had a $5,000 grant earlier this year. Both of the grants are used for Learn to Swim for Free classes.
- The free speech zones she was asking about are in place for the House of Pacific Relations due to the protesters issues in March during a lawn program.

Ms. Laman also requested an update on the process of the GDP for Sunshine Berardini Field since the last update was in June 2025. She also requested an update on 742 and if the Chair has been reappointed by the Mayor and if there are any perspective Board members coming onboard.

Ms. Laman commented that the Black Family Statue unveiling event in Mountain View was wonderful. She also commented that there was flooding in the cottage that had the tree fall on it that was closed for a year due to a water heater busting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: None.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE: None.

REQUEST FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON THE CONSENT AGENDA: None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

101. San Diego Bike Share Feasibility Study

Presenters: Ian Hembree, Community Manager, San Diego Bike Coalition
Aria Grossman, San Diego Bike Coalition

Mr. Hembree and Ms. Grossman presented a feasibility study and request for Parks and Recreation Board support for a countywide docked e-bike share system.

The presentation included:

- Overview of docked bicycle share systems and their operation.
- Benefits of docked e-bike systems compared to previous dockless programs.
- Safety features including geofencing and speed restrictions.
- First-mile/last-mile transit connections.
- Affordable transportation opportunities for residents and visitors.
- Environmental benefits and greenhouse gas reduction.
- Reduced sidewalk clutter and bicycle abandonment.

- Comparison with bike share programs operating successfully throughout North America.
- Proposed phased implementation and funding opportunities.

Public Comments: None.

Board Comments:

Ms. Soares asked how the proposed bike share program would remain affordable for users and whether helmets would be available or provided as part of the program.

Ms. Wein commented on the successful bike share culture she observed in Washington, D.C., and noted the differences between docked and dockless systems, expressing support for a docked model.

Ms. Laman asked whether the proposed letter of support was included in the agenda materials and inquired about the process for Board approval under the San Diego Municipal Code.

Dr. Bothwell asked questions regarding youth safety, including minimum rider age requirements, liability considerations, and whether docking stations would require electrical infrastructure and how they would be powered.

MOTION/SECONDED:

Jeremy Bloom moved that the Board support a docked bike share program; Dr. Dooley seconded; passed 8-0-0.

A motion was made by Ms. Laman and seconded by Mr. Gulley to authorize the Chair to submit a letter supporting the San Diego Bike Share initiative, with additional language encouraging strong management, enforcement, and safety measures. The motion was approved unanimously, 8-0-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

201. Get It Done Program Implementation Update

Presenters: Conrad Wear, Get It Done Program Manager, Parks and Recreation Department

Mr. Ware presented an update on the Parks and Recreation Department's implementation of the Get It Done program.

The presentation included:

- Overview of program implementation since April 2022.
- Approximately 36,000 Parks and Recreation cases received.
- Overall case closure rate of approximately 93 percent.
- Median case closure time of approximately 10 days.

- Monthly case volume trends and seasonal fluctuations.
- Geographic distribution of service requests by Council District and park.
- Introduction of seven Parks-specific public reporting categories on the City's web portal.
- Planned expansion of Parks and Recreation reporting capabilities to the Get It Done mobile application later this year.
- Ongoing efforts to improve reporting categories and operational efficiencies.

Board Comments:

Ms. Soares complimented staff on the presentation and stated that the Get It Done program has become an invaluable resource for residents. She expressed appreciation for the improvements made to the system and the Department's responsiveness to community concerns.

Ms. Laman asked whether a second pressure washing machine could be incorporated

Mr. Bloom commended staff on the success of the Get It Done program and noted that it has become an effective tool for addressing park maintenance issues. He asked what additional outreach efforts could be undertaken to increase public awareness of the program and encourage more residents to utilize the service.

Public Comment:

Ms. Sally Smull commented on the organization of the Get It Done categories and asked questions regarding the "Other" category, including how requests are categorized and tracked.

Ms. Robin Kaufman commended staff on the presentation, stating that it was the most comprehensive Get It Done report she had seen and expressed appreciation for the detailed information provided.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 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 17, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Submitted by,

Andy Field

Director

Parks and Recreation Department

Attachments:

1.