

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARK AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADAMS RECREATION COMMUNITY GROUP
MINUTES/PUBLIC MEETING
Virtually on Zoom
Tuesday, March 23, 2021
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Estevan Negrete, Chairperson
Elizabeth Chennamchetty, Vice Chairperson
Nancy Lawler, Member
Kim Emmerson, NHUA
Victoria Everich, Member
Julie Olson, Ward Canyon Waggers
Ally Welborn, NHCA

STAFF

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II
Ashley Balingit, Center Director I
Jose Villanueva, Center Director III
Jenny Hall, SD Police Department – Absent
Benjamin Cartwright – SD Council District 3
Normal Heights Public Library – Absent

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Hartley, Member
Jim Baross, NHCPG
Vavi Representative
Jojo Turner, Mid-City Little League Representative

COMMUNITY PARTICIPANTS

Gary Weber
Rei Takeda
Dennis Reiter
Lydia Marshall
Susan Baldwin – Presenter “Parks for All” by PARC

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 6:07 p.m. by Estevan Negrete, Chairperson.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval: It was moved/seconded (Kim Emmerson / Elizabeth Chennamchetty) to approve minutes from March 23, 2021 meeting. MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0).

COMMUNICATIONS (*limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to five (5) minutes and is not debatable*).

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – Estevan encouraged all members to check out the community planning training to be more familiar with Council Policy 600-24 Guidelines.

ORGANIZATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **San Diego Police/Community Relations Officer** – Absent.
2. **City Council District 3 Representative** – Benjamin reported Councilmember Whitburn’s op-ed on homelessness:
<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/opinion/commentary/story/2021-03-23/san-diego-stephen-whitburn-homeless> . Any question or concerns email Bcartwright@sandiego.gov or call/text 619-510-6883.
3. **San Diego Library** – Recreation staff will reach out to the new representative.
4. **Park & Neighborhood Safety Committee** – Absent.
5. **Mid-City Little League** – Absent.
6. **Vavi** – Absent.
7. **Normal Heights Community Association** – Ally reported still no in-person events planned.

8. **Normal Heights Urban Arts** – Kim reported she is still waiting for draft from the commission of arts and cultural regard the butterfly mosaic art project.
9. **Normal Heights Planning Group** – Gary reported the NHPG has been focusing on getting support and how to get the GDP completed.
10. **Ward Canyon Waggers** – Julie reported The Waggers submitted the results from the survey conducted on the new ground cover options for the existing Small Dog area. 80 people responded. Of the seven options presented, Small Deco Bark received the highest number of votes with 19 votes. 37.5% chose OTHER – with Grass as their preferred option, followed by DG, sand, turf. Julie reported they are looking forward seeing the city move forward with their proposed “Option C” to provide additional space for their dogs. This would satisfy those who favor grass and for that we are grateful.
11. **Adams Elementary** – Elizabeth reported Adams and Normal Heights school will be reopening April 12th and people will have the opportunity to opt into in-person learning or stay with remote learning for the remainder of the year. Both schools will be traditional calendar.
12. **Normal Heights Elementary** – (see report above)

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS

1. **Ashley Balingit, Center Director I** – Ashley reported Adams virtual youth ceramics program has been a success with 5-6 participants. Participants pick-up ceramics packages which includes bisque project, paint and paint brushes. Adams Recreation Spring Drive-Thru Event on Saturday, March 27th from 11:00 am – 12:00 pm. Will be handing out goodie bags with eggs, candy, toys and an activity. We are currently working on our facility reopening plan.
- **Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II** – Michele reported the Ward Canyon Phase III GDP Amendment was approved on January 17, 2013. It was reported the Preliminary Engineering was completed on August 4, 2020 and Project Charter approved on October 8, 2020. The scope design and construction of GDP Amendment to expand the current 5 ac park to approximately to 6 ac; Including an additional 0.25 ac of 40th Street to be relinquished by Caltrans to the City for park land. The GDP Amendment also includes relocated/new multi-purpose sports court, park course exercise station, new community building, turf installation, community garden, parking lot, dog park, freeway site walls, pathway security lighting, prefabricated accessible bridge, picnic tables, pergolas and associated site improvements. Current Phase I will tentatively be completed on December 2022. The Scope of the Caltrans relinquishment, redesign area to include a transportation component. Phase II – will tentatively be completed by June 2024. The Scope full construction design documents for all the proposed GDP improvements. FY 2024: Apply for Community Development Block Grant for funding for full construction it is all dependent on whether P&R can get full funding; Phased construction is an option. Construction would tentatively be with July 2024.

ACTION ITEMS Consent (Items are adopted without discussion) – None

ACTION ITEMS Adoption (Each item requires individual action)

1. **FY022 proposed budget for approval** - Motion for approval: It was moved/seconded (Elizabeth Chennamchetty / Kim Emmerson) to approve FY022 proposed budget. MOTION CARRIED (6-0-0).
2. **Vote for new secretary** – No Action.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

1. **Park Maintenance** – No Report.
2. **Dog Park Concerns/Issue** – No Report.
3. **GDP – Ward Canyon Park** – No Report.
4. **Adams Elementary Joint Use** – Michele reported school district has not finalized any joint use agreements at the moment.

5. **Interface with Normal Heights Community Organizations**– Kim reported she invited Scott Kessler from Adams Avenue Business Association and he is on the email list.
6. **Bylaws** – Elizabeth suggested to create a shared document and have a subcommittee to discuss further. Estevan, Kim and Vickie are open to join the committee.

INFORMATION ITEMS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **“Parks for All” Presentation by PARC (Parks and Recreation Coalition)** – Susan Baldwin is one of many volunteers from PARC. PARC is a work-in-progress made up of volunteers who signed a coalition letter and testified requesting improvements to the Plan and the process at the November 9 City Council hearing. PARC includes city planners, landscape architects, architects, and community planners, each volunteering to improve the Parks Master Plan. The city is proposing a new Parks Master Plan with significant changes to park standards and the way Development Impact Fees are calculated. PARC supports addressing inequities in the parks planning and allocation processes, including the Citywide Park fee. Email questions/comments and individual endorsements to:planning@iccontactweb.com.
2. **Introduction: Workshop Item Quick Fact Sheet** – Elizabeth presented a quick fact sheet draft and hope this information will help the group in interfacing with other NH community groups who can also contribute and comment on common interests. The goal is to share this information to encourage community support/enthusiasm/outreach and collaboration for common goals and advocacy within Normal Heights.

ADJOURNMENT

Estevan Negrete - Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next Adams Community Group meeting will be:
April 27, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM

Submitted by: *Ashley Balingit*
Ashley Balingit, Center Director I

Reviewed by: *M. Chicarelli*
Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.
CONTACT ASHLEY BALINGIT, CENTER DIRECTOR I AT (619) 235-1149.