

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE
February 2, 2017

Meeting Location:

Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing Address:

Balboa Park Administration
Building
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Amy Bernal
Kenneth Davenport – Vice
Chair
Luanne Kanzawa
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney – Chair
Dang Nguyen
Johanna S. Schiavoni
Rob Steppke

Members Absent

Don Liddell
Micah Parzen

Staff Present

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Michael Ruiz
Jeff Van Deerlin

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MS. SCHIAVONI/MR. KAHNG

A motion was made by Ms. Schiavoni and seconded by Mr. Kahng to approve the January 5, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved (8-0-0).

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniele Laman of the House of Pacific Relations provided an update from the Balboa Park safety and security meeting. Incidents of vandalism at the cottages have been being tracked for the last two years in which 70 incidents have occurred. She has also tracked visitor attendance at the House of Czech and Slovak.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report presented

STAFF REPORT

Assemblymember 78th District, Stephen Hill- District Director reported the following:

- Hosting first community coffee at the Pacific Beach Library on Saturday at 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.
- Assemblymember Gloria offers a newsletter and communications and encouraged all to sign –up to receive it.
- Assemblymember Gloria has introduced three pieces of legislation to date.

City Council Third District, Molly Chase – Chief of Staff reported the following:

- Distributed the newsletter from Councilmember Ward
- Homelessness and security are issues in the district and Balboa Park. She attended the park meeting where police and park institutions and staff came together to find innovative solutions.
- Councilmember Ward has been in office for six weeks and is serving on several committees

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, District Manager, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events, reported the following:

- December Nights was another success, with even higher attendance than previous years with no major incidents or injuries.
- Recreation staff were pleased to offer carnival games and costume contests at the Halloween Family Day in October and activities during the Holiday Food Truck Festival on December 29.
- Regarding the Everywon 5 and 15 K that the Committee approved for December 11, the organizer cancelled the 15 K portion of the race so Morley Field area and Golden Hill Park were not used.
- The Old Globe Theater elevator modernization project has been completed and the next project will begin shortly at the San Diego Museum of Art.
- Our San Diego Civic Dance Arts program has won its 3rd Bravo Award for Collage 2016. Collage 2017 – Entitled “Joy” will be in the Casa Del Prado Theater beginning February 3 – 19.
- Rains are causing a lot of roof leaks in the park – eight buildings have reported issues.

Michael Ruiz, Acting District Manager, Balboa Park Operations, reported the following:

- **Grounds Maintenance**

Central Mesa: Staff replanted 20 hanging baskets in the Plaza De Panama.

Central Mesa: With the help of 40 Rose Corp volunteers, staff pruned over 1600 rose bushes in the Inez Parker Grant Memorial Rose Garden this month.

Central Mesa: The Rose Garden has added 3 new Planter Beds and irrigation increasing our Rose bush count by 100 more plants. The new planter beds were made possible by the Liliyan B. Frank Memorial Rose Garden Endowment Fund at the San Diego Foundation in partnership with the Friends of Balboa Park and the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department.

Central Mesa: Staff completed a major brush trimming and clean-up of the Mini Railroad clean.

Central Mesa: The Botanical Building has a new Cymbidium orchid display.

West Mesa: Six new trees were planted next to the restored Gatehouses at Sefton Plaza. Three on each side: 1 – Crape Myrtle and 2 – Helen Borchers Peach trees.

- **Volunteer Projects**

On the West Mesa of Balboa Park, staff oversaw 350 volunteers' to help clean up brush and debris on the West Mesa of Balboa Park as part of the **Martin Luther King Interfaith Day of Service**. The area included everything from the Chess Club to the southern edge of the Park.

- **Winter Storm Damage and Clean-up**

42 trees total came down in the Central Mesa, West Mesa, and the East Mesa

Five vehicles were damaged in the Park during this last storm. Three on the south side of the Fleet Center Parking Lot by a downed light pole and two in the South Carousel Parking Lot by two eucalyptus trees.

Lily Pond – two filtration pumps were damaged to flooding of the pump valet. City crews replaced one of the pumps today and will be replacing the second pump in the coming weeks. It required the level of the Lily Pond to be lower to reduce water pressure during the repairs.

BALBOA PARK NON-PROFIT PARTNER UPDATES

Balboa Park Conservancy

Mr. Tomas Herrera-Mishler shared the following:

- Congratulated members of the Board for winning an award for exceptional governance
- Introduced Jackie Higgins – The Conservancy’s Director of Planning, Design and Programs
- Economic Impact Report has been commissioned
- 20 trees will be planted in the Morley Field area in collaboration with Park and Recreation and others
- Pre-proposal made to Cal Fire to plant 500 trees in the park
- Partnering with Park and Rec. to host Cultivate Balboa Park – a celebration of plants and gardens on May 27 which will include the wagon parade and The Friends butterfly release.

Balboa Park Cultural Partnership

Mr. Peter Comiskey shared the following:

- Thanks to Councilmember Ward for attending the Safety and Security meeting
- Two additional Green Building Certifications have been received at the Japanese Friendship Garden and the San Diego Museum of Man
- 47 Balboa Park employees and volunteers spent the morning together last month as part of the One Park-One Team approach
- Leadership courses are being offered online
- 21 Johns Hopkins students were in the park in January to develop an app for the San Diego Museum of Man
- Attending the American Alliance of Museums Advocacy Day in Washington D.C.
- Trustees Connected will be held February 16.

Friends of Balboa Park

Mr. John Bolthouse shared the following:

- The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the gate houses will be Wednesday, March 29 at 10:00 am
- Annual Arbor Day event confirmed for April 28 at 10:00 am at Marston Point; tree sponsorships still available
- Planning is underway for project to replace the fencing around the Moreton Bay Fig Tree
- Betty Peabody named recipient of California Parks & Recreation Society’s “Champions of the Community” Award

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

None

Adoption

None

Special Events

301. Sculpture and Cocktails. Presenter: Dieter Fenkart-Fröschl, Chief Operating Officer

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. PARZEN/MS. KANZAWA

A motion was made by Mr. Parzen and seconded by Ms. Kanzawa to approve the event as presented. The motion carried (7,0,1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

302. Honor Ride San Diego. Matt Davidson, Operation Hero (formerly Ride 2 Recovery)

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. KAHNG/MR. NGUYEN

A motion was made by Mr. Kahng and seconded by Mr. Nguyen to approve the event as presented. The motion carried (7,0,1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

303. Reader Burgers and Brew. Presenter Alyssa Prestige, Marketing Director

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MS. BERNAL/MR. DAVENPORT

A motion was made by Ms. Bernal and seconded by Mr. Davenport to approve the event as presented. The motion carried (7,0,1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. None

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Parkeology, Presenter: Kate Clark, Artist and Director

Ms. Clark thanked the Committee and park institutions for support. Parkeology has partnered with the San Diego Art Institute and collaborates with other museums to provide programs to the public and experiences in the lesser known areas of Balboa Park. She described a few of the upcoming programs; The Naked Truth- exploring the Zoro Garden nudist colony, Border Trolley Tours- exploring the historic connection of people traveling from the Park to Tijuana and Organ for the Senses – exploring the physical properties of the organ.

Committee Comments:

- Where can information be found and how is it marketed (primarily on the internet, Face Book, Instagram and some television episodes.
- Thanked Kate and all staff involved in providing these programs.

SUB-COMMMTTEE REPORTS

601. Land-Use and Policy – No Report

602. West Mesa Subcommittee – No Report

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORTS –

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, March 2, 2017
6:00 P.M.
Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road West
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager