

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE April 6, 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
Victoria Curran
Kenneth Davenport – Vice
Chair
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney – Chair
James Lawson
Don Liddell
Micah Parzen (arr. 6:06 pm)
Rob Steppke

Members Absent

Luanne Kanzawa
Dang Nguyen
Johanna S. Schiavoni

Staff Present

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Mario Llanos
Jeff Van Deerlin

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 2, 2017

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

A motion was made by Mr. Kahng and seconded by Mr. Steppke to approve the March 2, 2017 meeting minutes as presented. The motion was unanimously approved (5-0-3) Mr. Davenport, Mr. Lawson and Mr. Liddell abstaining.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Daniele Laman of the House of Pacific Relations provided a description of the group of three persons responsible for the green slime incidents. There were major traffic issues in the park on March 11, 2017 and it would have been helpful to have traffic controllers at the intersections. The Ladies Auxiliary will host a luncheon on April 12.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Mr. Kinney welcomed Mr. James Lawson to the Committee representing the Downtown Community Planning Council. Mr. Kinney announced that this may be his last meeting as he is termed out. He stated it has been an honor to serve and chair the Committee.

STAFF REPORT

City Council Third District, Molly Chase – Chief of Staff: No report

Jeff Van Deerlin, Program Manager, Balboa Park

- Extended a welcome to Mr. Lawson and thanked Mr. Kinney for his service.
- Committed to posting design plans on the web page in advance of meetings for public involvement

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

- Pleased to report that the renovation to the Balboa Club located at 6th Ave. south of Juniper is complete and the San Diego Chess Club and the Horse Shoe Clubs have returned. The renovations were performed by the City's General Services – Facilities Division and included roof replacement, floors, cabinets, restrooms updated to meet ADA standards, window, doors and a HVAC system. The Chess Club is very excited and expects future growth in programs with the use of the new building.
- The San Diego City-wide Volunteer Office in partnership with the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership is once again recognizing the service of thousands of volunteers. She acknowledged the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership for providing Balboa Park museum passes throughout the month of April to our dedicated volunteers. She also thanked the Balboa Park Committee for their dedication to volunteering to assist the Department with important matters in the park.

Upcoming Events:

April 23 – Earth Fair

April 29 – March for Babies

Mario Llanos, District Manager, Balboa Park Operations, reported the following:

- Staff has been monitoring a Torrey Pine for the last several years that had a lean towards the Organ Pavilion. We noticed some movement and visual signs of uprooting (mounding) on the backside. Four different arborists determined that the tree is unstable and poses a threat to the Spreckels Organ Pavilion and park goers, so we acted swiftly to remove the tree. They are currently in the middle of the removal.
- Ranger staff continues to conduct sweeps on Thursdays with the Police Department in Florida Canyon, West and Central Mesa resulting in numerous contacts and several arrests.

BALBOA PARK NON-PROFIT PARTNER UPDATES

Balboa Park Conservancy

Mr. Tomas Herrera-Mishler shared the following:

- Delighted to hear from Cal Fire that their letter of intent was accepted to plant 500 trees in Balboa Park. Many trees have been lost due to drought, age and disease.
- Jackie Higgins is working with staff to inventory the trees so that the right species will be planted in the right location.
- A tree inventory will be undertaken in the coming month which will be a useful tool and will be presented to the Committee

- The Parks benefit study is underway by San Diego State University's Payne School of Hospitality and Tourism Department which will highlight all of the benefits of the park
- Their next stakeholder meeting will be held in June
- Support the proposed monument signs being presented tonight.

Balboa Park Cultural Partnership

Mr. Peter Comiskey shared the following:

- Thanked Mr. Kinney for his service and everything provided
- April is Earth Month. The Balboa Park Sustainability Program wants to make sure you are invited to join with Council Member Chris Ward and celebrate the achievement of 10 LEED rated buildings in Balboa Park on Wednesday, April 19. The event will run from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM in the Plaza de Panama
- The Sustainability Program continues to investigate methods to reduce waste and increase diversion. For example, earlier this month we completed a CalRecycle grant application to fund a park-wide composting project and will be looking into additional funding opportunities on an ongoing basis. The Sustainability Program has also been conducting waste audits for interested members and are wrapping up our fourth audit next week. Once completed, we will share key learnings that may help organizations meet California's mandate for 75% diversion by 2020.
- One Park – One Team hosted over 60 Park team members at our Morning Coffee Get-Together with Daniel's Coffee. Over 100 meet ups were scheduled during the three month period this year. The team are also planning the 4th annual Summer Kickoff BBQ.
- The Learning Institute facilitated a day-long Cultural Competency workshop and over 30 people attended. We are currently seeking workshop facilitators for this program and will finalize the date soon.
- For our phenomenal outside-in events, The Vine Affair is upcoming on Friday evening, June 2nd. The event will feature delicious wines, great food, and entertainment.
- On October 7 and 8 the third annual Maker Faire San Diego will bring family fun, technological wonders and interactive activities for children and adults.

Committee of 100

No report

Friends of Balboa Park

Mr. John Bolthouse shared the following:

- Thanked Mr. Kinney for his service to the park
- Celebrated the completion of the Gate House restoration project
- The annual Arbor Day event will be held on Friday, April 28 at Marston Point
- Upgrading two of the kiosks with new technology and creation of a new map
- A new project will be replacing the speakers in the California Tower

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

None

Adoption

201. None

Special Events

301. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. None

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. 2017 Rock'n'Roll Marathon/Half Marathon and 5K Update, Kara Kong, Community Relations

Ms. Kong noted that this year is their 20th year in San Diego. The 5K will be held on June 3 and the Marathon and Half Marathon will be held on June 4, starting in Balboa Park and finishing at Waterfront Park. Northbound 163 will be closed and the start time and courses remain nearly the same. They are happy to be involved with several volunteer projects and will help at a clean-up effort on the West Mesa with the Friends of Balboa Park.

Committee Comments:

- Thanks for communicating to the Uptown Planners

502. Balboa Park Monument Signs – Susan Lowery-Mendoza, District Manager

Susan Lowery-Mendoza reviewed a plan and provided a report for two monuments signs that the Department received funding for, one at Morley Field Sports Complex to be located at Upas St. and Texas St. and another for the Golden Hill Recreation Center and Balboa Golf Course near the intersection of 26th St. and Russ Blvd. Both signs will help visitors identify the major park facilities and are designed in keeping with the East Mesa aesthetics.

Committee Comments:

- Really like design of signs
- If possible, suggest adding Balboa Park to the Morley Field sign without making the text too small
- Asked for the precise location at Morley Field (in the island) and how far from the street (near the tip of the island)

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

601. Land-Use and Policy – No Report

602. West Mesa Subcommittee – No Report

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORTS –

West Mesa Subcommittee – Don Liddell noted that there will be a letter presented at the next meeting regarding amplification.

Balboa Park Committee

April 6, 2017

Page 5 of 7

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, May 4, 2017
 6:00 P.M.
 Balboa Park Club
 2150 Pan American Road West
 San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager