La Jolla Recreation Center Community Group
La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect Street, La Jolla, CA 2037

MINUTES
March 24, 2021

Call to Order: Coakley Munk, 5:03 p.m.

Present: Jan Harris, Alan Dulgeroff, Don Goertz, Jill Peters, Gail Forbes, Mary Coakley Munk, Pat Miller, Alexis McCandless

Absent: Lizzet Fitz Cluster

Guests: Elisabeth Frausto, John Wiggins, Karen Wiggins, Ralph Temple, Peter Maynard, Terri Bourne, Trace Wilson, Steve Hadley

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve January 27 minutes: moved Peters; 2nd Forbes. Unanimously approved.

Non-Agenda Public Comment:

- Forbes: In the March 5, 2021 LA JOLLA LIGHT, it was noted that Katherine Johnston was appointed as the first Executive Director of the San Diego Parks Foundation. She hopes to focus on neighborhood parks that have been overlooked in the past, so that everyone has high-quality parks. Munk suggested that the LJRCF secretary send her a welcoming letter.

- Peter Maynard and Terri Bourne are here today representing the La Jolla Tennis Club, to ask that we help them with a problem concerning their fund-raising of $65,000 for new lights at the tennis courts. The LJTC is not a 501(c)3 organization, so they cannot accept tax-deductable donations. They are asking if the Friends of La Jolla Recreation Center (which is a 501(c)3 organization) could collect/shepherd the $65,000 they raise, and deposit it in an account belonging to FRIENDS. We told them that the FRIENDS are not meeting today, and that they should contact Dan McCandless (FRIENDS President) to determine when the next meeting will be, and get on the agenda.

    Information about the lights: The lights will be the exactly the same as the ones at LJ Beach & Tennis Club. They will have more a narrow cast, so they will create less
disturbance to the neighbors, and they will also direct more light onto the tennis courts. LJTC is committed to turning off the current lights starting on May 13. They hope to have the new lights installed by early Fall 2021.

If the LJTC is formally a part of the recreation center and playground renovation project (which they hope will be the case), this is even more justification for using the FRIENDS to shepherd the money for the lights.

**Request for Items to be Placed on the Consent Agenda:** None.

**Request for Continuance:** None

**Committee Reports:**

- Council District 1 Report: Hadley reported that work is continuing on the restroom and personal care pavilion at Scripps Park. They are getting a waiver (to the “no summer work” rule) so they can continue their work through the summer. They hope to be done by October or November 2021. The cost is $5 million.

- Chair’s Report: Coakley had no other items beyond what is on the agenda.

- Group Member Comment:
  - Forbes expressed concerns about pruning and watering on the recreation center grounds. We may need to have a clean-up day sometime soon. There is a drought situation (again) in California, and Forbes hopes the City can be proactive with deep watering of trees on the grounds before possible summer restrictions are put in place. Castruita said that in the past she remembers that the City has been protective of trees (at the expense of turf) during low-water periods. DeLille said that everything is on automatic irrigation, so it will be watered whether or not it rains. He will pay attention to the trees and attend to any that look dry.

- Area Manager’s Report (Rosalia Castruita):
  - No date has been set yet for re-opening City recreation centers (after COVID shut-downs). Hopefully that will happen before the beginning of summer.
  - Bocce Ball: The specs are at the Planning Department. Once the Planning Department approves, the City will meet with Coakley Munk and the contractor to sign the contract for the work. Hadley said that he will follow up with Castruita’s contact at the Planning Department. Notice of the plan for the bocce
ball court was posted March 19, and the public has until April 6 to submit appeals.

- Rec Center Director’s Report (Jesse DeLille):
  - Financial report: Since the last meeting, the rec center has made $2884 and spent $1363 for a net gain of $1521. The current funds available for the rec center are $30,708.96. Over the last 2 years, rec center expenditures have averaged $26,534, and this number was used as the bottom line to develop the budget for FY 2022.

  MOTION: It was moved to place the FY 2022 budget approval on the LJRCCG agenda for April 2021. Moved Forbes, 2nd Peters. Unanimously approved.

  - Program update: There has been a virtual egg dying event, and there will be a “trick or treat” event with the Spring Bunny this Saturday at the rec center; DeLille is hoping to have about 3 classes a week operating sometime soon (one virtual, and two outdoors).

  - Playground Repairs: Tiny tots area—the damaged bridge and stairs are being removed from the sandbox; there will be more room for sand play. Forbes suggested getting pails and shovels to offer from the office, for sand play. Play area for bigger kids—DeLille has gotten approval for purchase of new parts to repair various pieces of equipment, and these repairs have been done, so the orange “off limits” fencing has come down.

  - Trace Wilson gave DeLille a big “thumbs up” (twice) for the awesome job he has been doing with activities and participation at the rec center during the difficult COVID year.

**Information Items:** None.

**Action Items:** None.

**Workshops:**

Visioning Committee: Renovation Update

  - Vacation of Cuvier Street: The Cuvier Street space is important for expanding the programming at the rec center. Wilson said that the formal posting from the City is up
for the vacation of Cuvier Street. We are asking for vacation as well as a lot line readjustment. The lot line readjustment is requested to make the space more usable for both Bishop’s and the rec center. The request is to divide the street space between Bishop’s and the rec center in an east/west manner proportionate to their respective north/south frontages on the street. It may take 1-2 years for the approvals to be finalized.

Hadley offered to facilitate from the District 1 office procurement of a very large sign with the City vacation notice and a graphic of what we intend to do, in an attempt to insure that everyone is properly notified.

Peters said that Bulletin 510 has been submitted to the City—an initial assessment required for a public project.

Peters said that the Visioning Committee is still looking into which materials would be best for the various new structures and play equipment, given the salt and sun issues in La Jolla.

Peters said that the visioning committee is looking forward to LJ Tennis Club involvement in this renovation project.

Wilson thanked everyone on the visioning committee for their many hours of work over about two years.

Motion to adjourn: (Goertz/Forbes). 6:20 p.m.

Next Meeting: April 28, 2021, 5:00 p.m.