

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board **BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

August 7, 2008

Meeting held at:

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

Mailing address is:

Balboa Park Administration
2125 Park Boulevard MS39
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Laurie Burgett
Jerelyn Dilno
Mick Hager
Vicki Granowitz
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney
Mike McDowell (Arr 5:40)
Michael Singleton
Donald Steele (Arr 5:48)

Members Absent

Jennifer Ayala

Staff Present

Kathleen Hasenauer
Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Bruce Martinez

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Granowitz called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M. Vicki reordered the Agenda. Speakers presenting Information Items will follow Staff Reports.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 5, 2008 MEETING (KAHNG /KINNEY 7-0-1) ABSTENTION HAGER

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Derrick Cartwright Executive Director of the San Diego Museum of Art would like to present the at the September 4, 2008 Balboa Park Committee Meeting a plan for a temporary installation of a Bernar Venet sculpture to be place outside of the San Diego Museum of Art.

Karen Dietz, a resident near Grape Street Park, requested that the Balboa Park Committee make assessments to mitigate issues involved with the Grape Street Dog Off -Leash Area, as they review policies and procedures.

Laura Emory provided documents pertaining to dog off leash areas in Balboa Park. She proposed a regional dog off leash area which is large, centralized, and away from residential areas. She felt this would help to mitigate the use of neighborhood dog off leash areas. It could potentially provide the ability of the park to be used for additional activities.

Committee Member Comments

- It was stated that policies, procedures, Municipal Codes and the City Charter are being reviewed as they pertain to the Balboa Park Study. The Committee is not pursuing changes in policies, procedures, Municipal Codes or the City Charter.

Hannu Mikkonen, President of the House of Pacific Relations stated support for the proposed Taste of Asia event scheduled for September 27, 2008. The event is partially hosted by the House of China. The House of Pacific Relations hopes that the Committee will also support the event.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Vicki Granowitz reported that she met with City Councilmember Donna Frye, California State Assemblymember Lori Saldana, and Carl DeMaio to discuss Balboa Park and the Balboa Park Study. She has been asked by the Chairperson of the Park and Recreation Board to present an update on the Balboa Park Study.

Mike Stepner has been hired by CCDC as a consultant to work on Open Space for Downtown.

The Balboa Park West Advisory Group has suspended its meetings. With the rapid growth and success of the group, creative differences have posed challenges.

Andrew Kahng was asked to report on the process for placement of the Land Use documents online. Andrew reported that there are several technical aspects and they are working on the process.

STAFF REPORT

Jeffery Tom did not have a report.

Kathleen Hasenauer, Deputy Director reported that the OneSD program will be officially implemented April 1, 2009. OneSD is a SAP software program that integrates software systems into one program. The Committee will receive updates as the process moves forward.

Kathleen had an opportunity to speak to CCDC staff. They discussed the assessments of the recreational and open space needs for Downtown and the opportunities in other areas of the City.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Facilities and Special Events District Manager reported that on September 18-21, the Balboa Park Activity Center will be hosting the badminton and table tennis competitions for the Senior Olympics.

The Summer Organ Festival continues on Monday evenings through August 25. August 18 is Movie Night at the Spreckles Organ Pavilion featuring “The It Girl”, a silent movie with accompaniments by Dennis James.

The Twilight in the Park Concerts series continues through August 28. August 26 is Concert Appreciation Night.

Today was the first time the Carillon Bells in the California Tower have sounded since the ornamentation project was completed on the Tower. Equipment repairs should be completed within a month.

America’s Finest City half Marathon will be held on August 17. The run will finish at Balboa Park in front of the San Diego Hall of Champions.

Bruce Martinez, Operations District Manager reported that Engineering and Capital Projects is working with Caltrans to do a seismic assessment of the Cabrillo Bridge. The work is scheduled to begin in mid October. Park and Recreation Staff are working to assist with mitigating the project’s impacts to the park.

The Redwood Bridge Club concrete demolition project has been completed. Fine grading and mulching of the area will take place soon. The grading and mulching is temporary until the use of the area is determined.

The Trails Committee is close to completing the Sixth Avenue and Upas Street Gateway phase of the Trail System. The committee is finalizing the map and working on sign logistics for this section of the trails. KTU+A has been extremely helpful in creating the Gateway’s map and has volunteered about 80% of the work for it.

Committee Member Comments

- An inquiry was made regarding reforestation plans for the east facing slopes along the State Route 163 where City staff had cleaned up the slope.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. None.

Special Events

301. San Diego Science Festival, Science Expo – Allison Rynne discussed the proposal to use El Prado, Bea Evenson Fountain area, Botanical Building Lawns, California Quadrangle, North Plaza de Panama Parking Lot and the Federal Building Lawn on Saturday, April 4, 2009. The event includes music acts, comedians, science based demonstrations and nationally renowned speakers.

Committee Member Comments

- Members were excited about the event and appreciative of the presentation which was comprehensive and informative.
- Members expressed their gratitude to the event organizer for taking into considerations the impacts to the park and involving many of the institutions and stakeholders in the event.
- The Festival in conjunction with The Greater San Diego County Science Fair is a great idea.

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE EVENT AS PRESENTED WITH PARKING PLAN DETAILS TO BE WORKED OUT WITH PARK STAFF. (HAGER/ BURGETT 9-0)

302. Taste of Asia – Bin Li discussed the proposal to use the House of Pacific Relations Lawn area and stage to host a cultural fundraiser to benefit the House of China and the House of India on Saturday, September 27. The estimated attendance for the event is 2,500 people throughout the day.

Committee Member Comments

- Members applauded the efforts of the event organizers to take the proceeds of the event and donate them to worthy relief causes in Asia.
- The event organizer was thanked for a comprehensive and informative presentation.

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE EVENT AS PRESENTED WITH PARKING PLAN DETAILS TO BE WORKED OUT WITH PARK STAFF. (STEELE/ DILNO 9-0)

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Balboa Park Study
Vicki Granowitz reviewed specific sections of the City Charter, San Diego Municipal Codes, and City Ordinances which pertain to the management of the Park and Recreation System and Balboa Park.

Committee Member Comments

- City Charter Section 55 pertains to the Park and Recreation Department.
- An inquiry was made into the percentage of votes needed to make a

City Charter change.

- An inquiry was made about the differences in the types of Permits the Department issues.
- An inquiry was made about the Fees and Charges Schedule. It was mentioned that a full cost recovery fee should be based on all cost associated with an event or Permit.
- The use of additional fees such as environmental impact or historical fees should be taken into consideration. These creative fees would be used solely for Balboa Park.
- Chapter Six Article three of the Municipal Code is the cornerstone for the Park and Recreation Department.
- These issues discussed today can be tedious but they are very important in the endeavors of what the Committee can add as recommendations as this study moves forward.

INFORMATION ITEM

501. Zoological Society of San Diego Site Development Permit Extension- David Watson gave a brief overview of the Park Boulevard Promenade project. David informed the Committee about the status of the Site Development Permit and the request for an extension of the permit

Committee Member Comments

- An extension of a Site Development Permit can be obtained if some portion of the plan is implemented.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Briefing on the Proposed Mission Bay Park Ordinance- Vicki Granowitz provided a brief overview of the proposed ballot measure with the potential changes and impacts on Mission Bay Park and the regional parks. The process by which the ballot measure was created and the way it maybe implemented was discussed.

Committee Member Comments

- Concerns were raised about economic impacts of the measure and how it may ultimately result in a form of ballot box budgeting.
- Concerns of the limitations of what the funds can be used for were expressed.
- Inquires on the potential impacts to Balboa Park were asked.

502. Debriefing regarding parking and street closure issues related to the San Diego LGBT Pride Festival 7/18-7/20/08- City Staff reported the event was well attended and the event organizer considered it a successful event. The event did have some challenges regarding signage for road closures and duration of the closures. Vicki Granowitz reported that she and David Kinney met with Police Chief Lansdowne and Assistant Police Chief

Long. After discussing the challenges of the road closures and their impacts to the Park, it was agreed that next year's event needed to have a greater level of communication between the Police Department and the institutions. It was suggested that a point of contact be established to mitigate the issues. A Police designated Officer may be the best option.

Committee Member Comments

Road closures had a significant impact on institution events.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – None

602. Balboa Park West Advisory Group- None

COMMMTTEE MEMBER REPORT

Uptown Planners

Mike Singleton reported that Donald Liddell has been selected to replace him as the representative for the Uptown Planners.

Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council

Andrew Kahng announced that the Balboa Park /Morley Field Recreation Council adopted new bylaws, created a subcommittee for sports, and have seen an increase in the use of facilities.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Granowitz adjourned the meeting at 8:00 P.M.

Next Balboa Park Study Meeting:

Thursday, August 21, 2008
5:30 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, September 4, 2008
5:30 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen S. Hasenauer

