

**MINUTES**  
**MISSION BAY PARK COMMITTEE**

March 2, 2010

**Meeting Location:**

Santa Clara Point Recreation Center  
1008 Santa Clara Place  
San Diego, CA 92109

**Mailing address is:**

Park and Recreation Department  
Developed Regional Parks  
2125 Park Blvd.  
Attn: Mission Bay Park Manager  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Members Present**

Katy Bendel  
Rick Bussell  
James Greene  
Cynthia Hedgecock  
Kevin Konopasek  
Lani Lutar  
Mort McCarthy  
David Potter  
Paul Robinson  
Judy Swink

**Members Absent**

Gregg Peterson, Excused

**Staff Present**

Thyme Curtis  
Mary Ann Kempczenski  
Sharon Knutson  
Stacy McKenzie

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Paul Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES**

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2, 2010 MEETING WITH THE FOLLOWING CORRECTIONS;**

Page 1, Non-Agenda Public Comment/Communications: Committee Members would like the minutes to show "Julie Hamilton of San Diego Cyclo-Vets stated that she does not agree with the current draft of the General Development Plan for Fiesta Island."

**(PORTER/BUSSELL 11-0-0)**

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE**

None

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS**

Dennis St. Onge spoke on the closure of and the failure to maintain restrooms and the elimination of the fire rings in Mission Bay Park. Mr. St. Onge stated the City staff he has seen pulling or weed-whacking weeds could be cleaning the rest rooms and keeping them open. Mr. St. Onge believes the City closed the comfort stations just to show the public the City needs money. Mr. St. Onge feels the closed comforts stations distracts from the enjoyment of being in San Diego.

## **CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

Chairperson Paul Robinson had no report.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **Thyme Curtis, Council Representative 2**

Ms. Curtis reported on the following:

- Council District 2 has been receiving calls regarding the closure of restrooms in Mission Bay Park.
- Main areas of concern seem to be on the East Shore and around Ventura restroom by the Rollercoaster in Mission Beach.
- Ms. Curtis reported that Council President Pro Tem Kevin Faulconer came out in support of committing to a public vote for any new City Hall or Civic Center.
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### **Mary Ann Kempczenski, Council Representative 6**

Ms. Kempczenski reported on the following:

- Council District 2 has concerns about the restroom closures, especially the Playa 1 closure.

### **Stacy McKenzie, District Manager, Mission Bay Park**

Ms. McKenzie had no report.

### **Sergeant Rick Strobel, San Diego Life Services**

Sergeant Rick Strobel reported on the following:

- Sergeant Strobel stated the Lifeguards just finished changing all the moorings out. Sergeant Strobel spoke of how the Lifeguard Services and Park and Recreation Permit Center are working well together with the moorings.
- This past weekend there was a lot of rough surf which was responsible for the closing of the Mission Bay Channel.
- There was a Tsunami Advisory this past Saturday, February 27, 2010 at 2:30 PM. Sergeant Strobel pointed out that even though it was a small one, the water did move about four to five feet in 10 – 15 minutes.
- Weather is changing and the Bay is getting busier.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

**Consent** (These items are adopted without discussion; they can be moved to adoption by any Committee member.)

101. None

**Adoption** (Each adoption item requires individual action; they can be moved to consent by action of the Committee.)

202. San Diego Cyclo-Vets – Kathy Keehan, Gordy Shields

Ms. Kathy Keehan and Mr. Gordy Shields spoke to the Committee to request approval to increase the time of their use of Fiesta Island from 7:00AM - 9:00AM (standard race permit time frame) to 6:00 AM - 9:30 AM for the time trail races to be held Friday, April 9, 2010. Ms. Keehan and Mr. Shields presented information to the Committee to corroborate their request for the increase in the amount of time their

group is allowed to have the Island. Ms. Keehan stated they need the additional time in order to allow three hundred (300) race registrants to complete the race course.

Mr. Shields spoke of the need for the time extension so they are able to have more people sign up. Mr. Shields feels this will be an advantage to the City as there will be teams from all over to do the time series and if they are pleased with what they see, they will come back.

- Cyclo-Vets have been doing time trials for twenty (20) years.
- Cycling event will be on a Friday.
- Out of town members equals added revenue to the City.

Ms. Keehan stated that while Cyclo-Vets accommodates all cyclists, the time schedule requested is mainly due to the fact that there are many riders over fifty years of age and the later time accommodates them. She said that they still have to turn people away. Ms. Keehan explained they start the older riders first, and then in thirty second spurts, the other riders join the time trial. Ms. Hamilton stated that this is a one-time event and is requesting 6:00 AM to 10:00 AM closure of Fiesta Island. Ms. Keehan stated that the dog walkers and the runners could still be on the island while they were having their time trial. It was explained to Ms. Keehan that this would pose a liability to the City of San Diego if others were allowed to use the Island at the same time, citing examples of dogs running into traffic lanes at other bike time trials, etc.

#### Committee Comments / Concerns

- Mission Bay Park Committee Agenda states 6:00 AM to 9:30 AM and the Committee has to stay with what the agenda specifies.
- Committee members are afraid this will be setting a precedent and that there will be requests for other bike clubs to request the same time frame.
- Committee member wanted clarification on the user groups at Fiesta Island.
  - Kayakers / Lifeguard Canoe Groups
  - Dog / Horse Owners / Walkers
  - Walkers / Runners
  - Groups for Boy Scout Camp Grounds / Sea Camp
- Committee member stated that user groups on the Island would need to be notified two (2) weeks prior to the event that the Island was going to be closed for the time period stated.
- Committee members would like to know specific reasons why the bike group wants to use Fiesta Island.

#### Ms. Keehan's response.

- Ms. Keehan agreed to the time of 6:00 AM to 9:30 AM.
- Ms. Keehan agreed to this being a one-time event.
- Fiesta Island is the only venue in San Diego where vehicles can be eliminated.
- Ms. Keehan will notify user groups if she is presented with a mailing list.
- Have tried other parks like El Monte, Buckman Springs and there were problems with vehicles.
- The bikes are in the loop the whole time, no stopping and starting.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MODIFICATIONS OF THE TIME PERIOD FOR THE ONE TIME ONLY BICYCLE TIME TRIAL EVENT ON FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010 FROM 6:00 AM TO 9:30 AM. PROVIDED AFOREMENTIONED CONDITIONS ARE MET. (BUSSELL/HEDGECK) 11-0-0)**

**SPECIAL EVENT PERMIT REVIEW**

**Special Events** (Special Events that require road or plaza closures, or will potentially impact park and/or commercial operation, are brought to the Committee for a formal recommendation. They can be moved to Consent by action of the Committee.)

301. None

**WORKSHOP ITEMS** (No actions taken; discussed by the Committee and staff.)

401. None

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

501. Elizabeth Horpedahl, Development & Communications Officer, Ocean Discovery Institute

Ms. Horpedahl, the Development and Communications Officer with Ocean Discovery Institute provided information via a slideshow and a handout about the institute and what it does. The Ocean Discovery Institute mission is to engage, educate and inspire urban youth through science exploration to connect at-risk young people through education, scientific research and environmental stewardship with nature. The program, which is based at Campland on the Bay, and is tuition free, has summer and after-school programs. Ms. Horpedahl commented that nine out of every ten of their students continue their education at a four year university.

**SUB-COMMITTEE**

601. None

**COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS** - The reports are non-debatable.

None

**ADJOURNMENT** - Chairperson Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM

**Notice of Next Regular Meeting:** Tuesday, April 6, 2010, 6:00 PM  
Santa Clara Recreation Center  
1008 Santa Clara Place, San Diego, CA 92109

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy McKenzie  
District Manager, Mission Bay Park