

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE
February 6, 2014

Meeting held at:

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

Mailing address is:

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

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Diana Clark
Luanne Kanzawa
David Kinney
Micah Parzen
Minnie Rzeslawski
Johanna S. Schiavoni
Rob Steppke
David Strickland

Members Absent

Jeri Dilno
Andrew Kahng
Don Liddell
Michael McDowell
Michael Singleton

Staff Present

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park
Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed three new members to the Balboa Park Committee. Ms. Diana Clark resides in downtown San Diego and is a member of the Downtown Community Planning Council; Dr. Micah Parzen, CEO of the San Diego Museum of Man, is replacing Dr. Mick Hager as the large institution representative; and Ms. Johanna S. Schiavoni is a local attorney, small business owner and a resident of North Park.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 5, 2013

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. STRICKLAND/MR. LIDDELL

A motion was made by Mr. David Strickland and seconded by Ms. Minnie Rzeslawski, to approve the December 5, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was approved (4-0-3), with the new members abstaining.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Kinney stated the Park and Recreation Board loved the Balboa Park Golf Course Project presentation, but there were concerns about the infrastructure. The Board tabled the project until they receive more information.

STAFF REPORT

City Council Third District – Mr. Steve Hill

- Interim Mayor Todd Gloria joined Balboa Park Trusts to unveil new bike racks in Balboa Park.
- The uptown regional Bike Tour Corridor Project meeting kick-off will take place tonight at 8:30 p.m. in the library at Roosevelt Middle School. The project is in the planning phase and will create connections for pedestrian bicycles. The goal is to design bikeways and pedestrian improvements that are safe and comfortable. Another meeting has been scheduled for February 19, 2014 in the mid-city area.
- In an effort to resolve San Diego's \$900 million backlog of deferred capital projects, last month the City Council unanimously approved a \$120 million dollar bond funding for neighborhood infrastructure projects.
- Interim Mayor Gloria's budget committee recently recommended that the City's reserve policy be strengthened to require a 14% financial reserve.
- Interim Mayor Gloria unveiled his strategy to better utilize the City's limited resources to help the homeless. He recommended allocating the same level of general funds for homeless services in the FY15 budget, but directing those funds toward outcomes focus services and critical program enhancements that result in the most effective use of the resources and a coordinated system.
- On Tuesday, February 11, 2014 San Diego will choose a new mayor. The mayor will be sworn in on March 4, 2014.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events District Manager

Susan Lowery-Mendoza provided the following report:

Upcoming Events for January include:

- The Municipal Gym roof and Casa del Prado HVAC projects should be completed by the end of February.
- The Casa de Balboa freight elevator modernization project is underway and should be completed by the end of March.
- The Committee is invited to the Park and Recreation Department's Civic Dance Arts' Collage Production taking place on the weekends through February 16, 2014, at the Casa del Prado Theater.
- Facilities Division is working with staff to improve some of the public restrooms in the Park, prior to the 2015 Celebration.

Bruce Martinez, Balboa Park Operations District Manager

Upcoming Events for January include:

- Lou Melendez will provide an update on the Cabrillo Bridge Project at next month's meeting.
- Caltrans has another improvement project which entails grading the slope underneath the buttress. The expected impacts of the project will be Southbound SR163 off ramp to Eastbound Washington Street. It will be closed for approximately five evenings from 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. The exact dates are unknown at this time and the project is not expected to begin for the next several months.
- The Balboa Park trams have great carrying capacity and are currently moving people efficiently with an 11 to 12 minute waiting time.

CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM UPDATES

Dr. Parzen reported sales of the Balboa Park Explorer passes were off to a great start with numbers slightly exceeding projections. A press event announcing the Explorer hard launch is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on March 17, 2014.

Balboa Park Learning Institute

Ms. Kanzawa reported they will be participating in InforMath, a four-year NSF grant collaborative, to explore ways for mathematics to enrich learning experiences in sciences and art museums. The Art of Science Learning San Diego Incubator Fellows' continue to meet and explore solutions to the region's water challenges around supply and demand.

Balboa Park Sustainability Program

The program is on its way to achieving the ten LEED building goal for the Centennial Celebration. We would like to thank the City of San Diego, SDG&E and the institutions' staff for their support in making this ambitious goal a legacy for 2015.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. None

Special Events

301. None

302. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. None

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. California Tower Seismic Retrofit Update – Mr. Ali Darvishi, Senior Project Manager, Public Works Department

Mr. Darvishi reported that when the structural analysis study was conducted, it was deemed necessary to protect the Tower from major earthquake damage. It was originally identified that the project would need to be completed in two phases. Phase I involves relocating the electrical equipment currently housed within the base floor electrical room. We expect to start this project within the next three months and it will be completed by November 2014. Phase II includes the seismic retrofit of the tower and will take about six to nine months to complete. It will commence after the 2015 Celebration due to insufficient funds.

Comments/Questions:

- Dr. Parzen thanked the City for all their hard work with the project. He advised Mr. Darvishi to continue to give as much notice as possible, so the stakeholders can keep their staff apprised of any operational changes. Dr. Parzen stated they hope to open the tower to the public for guided tours for the 2015 Celebration. He also asked when the funding would be allocated for Phase II of the project.
- Mr. Darvishi stated Mr. Freiha, Project Manager, would schedule a meeting with the contractor and stakeholders to discuss all concerns. The Regional Parks Fund was approved for additional funding for allocation and expenditure in two separate increments of \$750,000. The first part to be utilized in FY15 and the second part would be appropriated for FY16. There is also an opportunity to apply for a federal funding grant.
- Mr. Kinney asked if they anticipate any road closures during Phase II. Mr. Darvishi replied they do not anticipate any closures.

502. None

503. None

SUB-COMMMTTEE REPORTS

601. Land-Use and Policy – Mr. David Kinney
No report.

602. West Mesa Subcommittee – Mr. Don Liddell
No report.

COMMMTTEE MEMBERS REPORTS

No report.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Next Schedule Meeting: Thursday, March 6, 2014
 6:00 P.M.
 Balboa Park Club
 2150 Pan American Road West
 San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager