

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

MINUTES

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

July 19, 2007

Meeting Held at:

City Administration Building
Council Chambers and
Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street
San Diego, California 92101

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
Office of Park and Recreation Director
202 C Street, MS 37C
San Diego, California 92101

ATTENDANCE TO PARK AND RECREATION BOARD MEETING:

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Chair
Bruce Brown
Rick Bussell
Vicki Granowitz
Norman Greene
Roz King
Dan Mazzella
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Evonne Schulze
Wilbur Smith
Michael Stepner

Members Absent

None

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Andy Field
Kim Davies
Jo-Ann Novak

CALL TO ORDER – Ms. Barnes called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Ms. Barnes welcomed the new and reappointed Park and Recreation Board Members. Ms. Barnes asked board members to update their personal contact information. She stressed the importance of board members notifying City staff regarding attendance to the Park and Recreation Board meetings to ensure each meeting has a quorum.

COMMUNICATIONS – Public Testimony was taken by six members of the public for items not on the agenda.

Paula Hurst – Concerned with children playing in streets due to the low number of parks in relationship to the population density in City Heights.

Holly Ritter – Concerned with maintenance and enforcement of rules at 39th Street Neighborhood Park.

Karen Wolfkiel – Circulated two photos depicting the design of 39th Street Neighborhood Park and the lack of police enforcement of park rules.

Linda Juhasz –The Tierrasanta Recreation Council is concerned that a senior citizen exercise program might be eliminated as a result of the non-renewal of the joint use agreement between the City of San Diego and the San Diego Community College District.

Jose Lopez – Representing the Fox Canyon Neighborhood Association, Mr. Lopez asked board members to review the Fox Canyon and Chollas Creek parks community report on their webpage. He also asked that the Park and Recreation Board hold a meeting in Colina Del Sol Community Park. A new park located at the intersection of University Avenue and 52nd Street (0.50 acres) will be on-line in October.

Michel Anderson – Thanked Park and Recreation Department grounds maintenance staff and the Park and Recreation Board Members for all the efforts and good work.

WORKSHOP – At the conclusion of public testimony, Ms. Barnes asked the individual Park and Recreation Board Members to introduce themselves and provide a brief background.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Ms. LoMedico introduced City staff assigned to Park and Recreation Board: Ms. Davies, Deputy City Attorney; Mr. Field, Assistant to the Park and Recreation Director, and Ms. Novak, Executive Secretary. Ms. LoMedico provided an overview of the Park and Recreation Board binder.

Ms. LoMedico encouraged Park and Recreation Board Members to contact her office if information in the binder changes or if needed information is missing from the binder.

Mr. Greene asked about the Wightman Street Neighborhood Park flyer distributed by the Park and Recreation Director indicating funding from the state has not been transferred; is the park still going ahead; and where is the money coming from?

Ms. LoMedico responded that the direction from the City Council was to transfer the grant scope from Fox Canyon Neighborhood Park to Wightman Street Neighborhood Park if the State of California approved. However, this transfer has not been accepted at this time by the State of California. It is not a new grant and the grant remains fully in compliance for Fox Canyon Neighborhood Park. Despite the State's decision, the Park and Recreation Department is moving forward on the design of Wightman Street Neighborhood Park, a much needed park space for the community.

Ms. LoMedico commended Park and Recreation staff and volunteers who picked up trash along beaches, shoreline parks and Mission Bay Park. Together, they collected approximately 250 tons of trash during and after the Fourth of July holiday.

On August 17, 2007, a Park and Recreation Department employee was clipped and injured by a woman driving on West Mission Bay Drive who entered the turf area. The employee sustained injuries and is recovering.

Ms. LoMedico advised that the Park and Recreation Department team has three vacant unclassified Deputy Director management positions. Recruitment is currently underway for these positions.

Mr. Smith asked if the Out of Class Assignments (OCA) for the vacant positions in the Department are on a rotation basis so all employees interested in the position have an opportunity to work in them. Ms. LoMedico stated that the Open Space Deputy Director position has been vacant for two years, and she has extended the OCA for the person currently filling that position for another 120 days. In Developed Regional Parks and Community Parks II, the acting Deputy Directors will continue until the end of August. If these positions have not been filled by the end of August, Ms. LoMedico will re-evaluate them.

Ms. LoMedico clarified that in order to enter into a joint use agreement, both the City of San Diego and the San Diego Community College District should receive a benefit. However, the City was not benefiting as much as San Diego Community College District, because the Park and Recreation Department doesn't use the facilities. As a result the agreement was not renewed. Due to the joint use agreement with San Diego Community College District, the City waived the fee that would have normally been charged for this use. The department is reviewing groups that do not pay. Staff will review all recreation center programs and will create a report regarding consistency in charging fees.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Ms. Barnes discussed quorum and Brown Act noticing requirements. A quorum of the Board cannot be present at community meetings that are not noticed as meetings of the Board. Members should not discuss and form opinions while in the audience of such meetings. In the coming months, the Park and Recreation Board will be focusing on the General Plan Recreation Element and will not be holding meetings in the community initially. Park and Recreation Board members were asked to notify Ms. LoMedico, Mr. Field and Ms. Novak if they contact any Park and Recreation Department or City staff. Ms. Barnes encouraged all Park and Recreation Board Members to sign up for a committee assignment. The meeting minutes for Park and Recreation Board meeting of May 17, 2007, will be considered by the re-appointed members at the August 16, 2007 meeting.

ADJORNMENT

The workshop was adjourned at 2:00 p.m. and the Park and Recreation Board reconvened at 2:10 p.m. for a joint meeting with the Planning Commission regarding park equivalencies in the General Plan.

Next Park and Recreation Board Meeting: **Thursday, August 16, 2007 2:00 p.m.**

City Administration Building
Committee Room, 12th Floor
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,



Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director