

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
June 19, 2008

MINUTES

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Held at:

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

Mailing Address is:

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

Members Present

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

Members Absent

Dan Mazzella
Evonne Schulze

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Gary Stromberg
Gary Jones
Kim Davies
Jo-Ann Novak

CALL TO ORDER – Chair Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MARCH 20, 2008

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve the March 20, 2008 meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous, with Ms. King abstaining, and Mr. Mazzella and Ms. Schulze absent.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 17, 2008

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Stepner/ Mr. Greene

A motion was made by Mr. Stepner and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve the April 17, 2008 meeting minutes. Vote was unanimous, with Mr. Smith, Mr. Brown and Ms. King abstaining, and Mr. Mazzella and Ms. Schulze absent.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee Community Parks I

- Ms. Barnes served as acting chair and is concerned that Mr. Mazzella has missed several meetings.

- Recreation Council discussed ways to earn revenues to buy back recreation hours.
- As to using the Epi Pen for someone who is having allergic reactions, it is up to the independent contractor and their insurance. City of San Diego employees do not do the Epi Pen. Ms. LoMedico stated that the City of San Diego has an emergency procedure and staff are updated annually. Ms. LoMedico will send out a reminder to staff about this subject.
- Ms. Barnes encourages joint communication between Community Parks I and Community Parks II to discuss ways to increase revenues.

Area Committee Community Parks II

- Ms. King was encouraged about attendance and participation at meetings.
- Recreation Council groups are moving forward on 501C3 non-profit organization forms.
- Concerns were discussed regarding the cutting and re-seeding at some parks/joint-use areas.
- Committee discussed budget impacts, and are waiting to see what the final outcome.
- Ms. King is proud of this committee and they will be pleased to meet with Area Committee Community Parks I in the fall.
- Ms. LoMedico commented that she has heard many positive comments regarding the Committee.

Balboa Park Committee

- Ms. Barnes commended the sub-committee of the Balboa Park Committee for the outstanding job on the Twilight Concerts Series.
- Ms. Granowitz reported that the Balboa Park Committee continues to work on the Balboa Park Study. At the June 18, 2008 Balboa Park Committee meeting the committee heard from Gary Bess, Director of Parks, Recreation & Forestry, City of St. Louis and James Mann, Board Member Forest Park Forever, Rob Hetzel Executive Director of San Diego River Park Foundation and Mike Nelson Executive Director of the San Diego River Conservancy. All meetings are noticed and she encourages Board Members to attend. Next meeting is on July 24, 2008.

Design Review Committee

- Mr. Smith reported that the committee made minor recommendations to modify the Ward Canyon Neighborhood monument sign.
- General Development Plan of the Home Avenue Neighborhood Park received several recommendations.
- Wightman Street General Development Plan was approved with recommendations.
- Mission Bay Hilton lease received recommendations and will be heard at the Park and Recreation Board in the near future.
- Design Review Committee Meeting Minutes for January 9, February 13, and May 14, 2008 regarding Fiesta Island General Development Plan were distributed to the Park and Recreation Board, as requested.

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Mission Bay Park Committee

- Mr. Bussell requested that Pam Glover who resigned and Mike Duckor who missed the last six meetings be replaced.
- The committee receives regular reports from police and lifeguards on activities in the Bay and requested they come back on July 1, 2008 at the Santa Clara Recreation Center to outline plans for Fourth of July weekend.
- The committee has formed a subcommittee to look at request for the amplified music, and will identify additional locations that would be acceptable for such amplification.

- The committee was provided with an update on the installation of the underground pump station at De Anza Cove.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Greene reported that the Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee (CAC) gave conceptual approval to the history of the park and planning an implementing section as updates to the 1985 Master Development Plan. These updates are posted on their website. A proposal was made by Councilmember Madaffer to get support from the Park Planning staff which are no longer in the Park and Recreation Department. CAC plans on bringing the entire draft of the Mission Trails Master Development Plan to the September CAC meeting for acceptance to forward it to the Task Force and then give to Park Planning to process per Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) as proposed by Councilmember Madaffer.
- CAC recommended the Campground be open for Friday and Saturday night camping.
- Mr. Greene reported that Mission Trails Park CAC wanted to correct previous percentages of campground usage by visitors: 20 percent of the campers are from out of region and 80 percent are from the City and County. Dorothy Leonard, Chair of CAC, question to the Park and Recreation Board is: "Is it the position of the Park and Recreation Board that unless the majority of the users of a regional park facility are within City limits should not be a priority for City funding." Ms. Leonard would be interested to know if anyone is keeping track of the facilities at Balboa Park and Mission Bay Park. Mission Trails CAC would be interested in seeing these statistics. Ms. LoMedico stated that the percentage of users of campground was only one of the many factors that were looked at. Difficult decisions had to be made in the amount of reductions in the Department was facing in Fiscal Year 2009. (Statistics were given by Senior Ranger at Mission Trails Regional Park.)
- Ms. Barnes would like to consider charging a fee for City residents and non-residents fees for use of campground as well as other recreational programs.
- Ms. Barnes would like to ask the County for possible revenue resource to off-set the campground costs.

Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Bussell reported the committee meets every other month with the last meeting in May.
- Mesa College Tecolote Canyon Day is a nature education project sponsored by Mesa College. The committee plans on making this an annual event.
- Environment Sports Complex, USCD report will be complete in July.
- City staff will be trimming some of the invasive palm trees to access canyon, to install a sewer line, to work on this project outside of the breeding season. Project starting in September going through March.
- Among the wildlife spotted were an orange throated whiptail lizard, scorpions, and red tail hawks.
- Next meeting on Wednesday, July 16, 2008 at 7:00 p.m.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.) – Mr. Bob Kuczemski, President of the Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club requested that the ban be lifted for hang gliding at Torrey Pines. Ms. LoMedico asked that this request be put in writing and sent to her. Ms. LoMedico will work with the Real Estate Assets Department on the request.

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as "Consent" items. – None

ACTION ITEMS – None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Mr. Smith thanked Ms. Barnes for her knowledge and the many years of excellent volunteer service.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- U.S. Open Golf Championship was held last week at Torrey Pines Golf Course. The week long event included staff with 100 volunteer superintendents who flew in from all over the world to assist City Maintenance staff. Staff started at 4:00 a.m. and worked until 10:00 p.m. Preparation of the golf course was completed over six and half years with the cooperation of many other City Departments. Golf Manager, Mark Woodward was given the high honor of being invited to walk the last three holes with Tiger Woods and USGA. Mark Woodward's last day is today.
- USGA had several events for youth golfers and Ms. LoMedico will recommend that these youth events are published.
- City of San Diego continues to move forward on the court order to do the dredging. City of San Diego will go back to court later in the summer to report updates to the court. Ms. Davies reported that the Federal Court Case brought by Animal Protection Rescue League violated the Marine Mammal Protection Act. This was appealed to the Ninth Circuit Court who dismissed the case on June 19, 2008. Basically, they did not have the authority to rule in the case because the Marine Mammal Protection Act did not provide for private cause of action for citizens to sue. Ms. Davies reported that the State Court action of the O'Sullivan case is moving forward with dredging order, will be heard on motion to extend order will be heard on September 12, 2008.
- Ms. LoMedico reported staffing is ready for the Fourth of July weekend.
- Since the last Board meeting there were various park ribbon cutting/groundbreaking, including: South Shores Promenade; groundbreaking of Phase II of Naval Training Center (NTC); and grand opening of Children's Museum Park Downtown.
- On June 27, 2008 the following grand opening ceremonies will take place: Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park Comfort Station, Teralta History Lane and Cherokee Point Parks.
- The Recreation Councils are moving forward on receiving their required tax-exempt status and By-Laws.
- Ms. LoMedico distributed a schedule for Wightman Street Park, as provided by the Engineering and Capital Projects Department. The park is currently in the environmental review process and will be coming before the Park and Recreation Board for approval. Once approved re-submit a grant appeal to the State
- Since last year, staff has been reviewing Independent Contractor Agreements and staff will re-issue a revision within the next several months. This is the agreement that the Recreation Council enters in with independent contractors.
- The Proposed Fiscal Year 2009 budget is on Council, for Monday, July 15, 2008 for final approval. This is the final approval for consideration of the override of the Mayor's veto of the restitution was approved by the City Council several weeks ago.
- Girl Scouts expects to have the Richmond Street drive-way completed in the near future. Park and Recreation Department granted a temporary occupancy permit for two events due to the difficulty of completing the second drive-way. The Park and Recreation Department granted approval for only these two events.
- Mr. Stromberg, Assistant Park and Recreation Director will retire on August 30, 2008 and Ms. LoMedico hopes to have his replacement hired before he leaves the City.
- Environmental Services will be coming to each Recreation Council to talk about the changes to the City's recycling program.

- Ms. LoMedico will update the Park and Recreation Board on the Telecom Antenna Policy at a later date.
- Ms. Barnes has been appointed as chair to the Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board and Mr. Stepner will serve as a board member. Once a consultant is hired for the General Development Plan this committee will convene.
- Ms. LoMedico will consider allowing the Community Parks I and II Committees to review the new Field Department Instructions.

Public Comment - None

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Overview of Mission Bay Park Leases

Mr. Gary D. Jones, Asset Manager of Real Estate Assets Department, presented a comprehensive overview of Mission Bay Park Leases.

Park and Recreation Board Members questions and concerns are as follows:

- Requested definition of “intensified”: “Existing commercial leases should be intensified to greatest extent possible.”
- Requested an updated Mission Bay Lease Agreement spreadsheet to include a cross-reference column.
- Explanation of the difference for 622 City leases and the 28 Mission Bay leases?
- How many people manage the Mission Bay leases?
- Why is Mission Bay Park Golf Course concessions not part of the Golf Enterprise Fund?
- Have Dana Landing improvements been approved?
- Will the Park and Recreation Board have an opportunity to supply input on current policies?
- Will Real Estate Assets Department attend Park and Recreation Committee meetings to go over policy - not the 100 leases?
- Is the Environmental Growth Fund different from leases?
- Concerned that lessees do not have incentive to maintain property and are out of compliance on safety issues.
- Concerned that six holdover leases for Mission Bay have not been finalized.
- Concerned of lost of revenue due to the bay being too shallow and safety issue of people diving off of boats and hitting the bottom of the bay.
- Are long term leases structured with a minimum rent?
- Is there a requirement for open membership to general public?
- Why don’t some lessees pay rent?
- What happens to money that goes into a separate account while litigation continues?
(Mr. Greene requested a report on this item.)
- What is the status on De Anza Park lease?
- May the Park and Recreation Board be included on the review and decision making of Council Policies and any areas that involve Park and Recreation areas?
- Are the current lease revenues sufficient to cover capital improvements expenses for Mission Bay Park and if not, how can leases be changed to resolve this issue?
- Requested this subject be addressed at a future meeting and may require an interdepartmental report.
- Have alumni discounts been removed from the lease Aquatic Center agreement?
- Is there a fee structure built into the lease for residents and non-residents at Aquatic Center?

- Who put in the landscaping and maintains the area by Dana Landing by the bridge?
- It was requested that a review be made of the Bahia Hotel lease and campground lease and determine why both bring in the same amount revenue.

202. Overview of CCDC Advance Planning Department and Update on Parks and Public Realm

Initiative

Mr. Dean Coker, Advance Planning Manager Centre City Development Corporation (CCDC) provided an overview of Advance Planning Department and introduced Mark Caro, Senior Planner/Landscape Architect and provided an update on parks and public realm.

- Mr. Stepner stated that he is working on a contract with CCDC.
- Mr. Coker shared that Mr. Caro will oversee the development of downtown parks and open space as it relates to implementing the Downtown Community Plan.
- Mr. Coker would like Mr. Caro to be the liaison between the City of San Diego and Center City Development Corporation.
- Mr. Coker invited the Park and Recreation Board to their CCDC Citizen's Advisory Committee and Board meetings.

Park and Recreation Board Members questions and concerns are as follows:

- Concerned on how the downtown area looks.
- Where will the children go to enjoy parks?
- What is the ballpark figure of the acreage available for developing parks?
- Are there guidelines on set-backs and keeping the City green with trees?
- Park and Recreation Board haven't received the figures on Downtown development.
- Centre City Development Corporation is making all the decision on the development of parks downtown that will eventually be maintained by Park and Recreation Department with no input from them.
- Need for green spaces throughout the Downtown area.
- Hope that notices of CCDC meetings are not only on CCDC website but on Park and Recreation website.
- Pershing Park is known as City Operation Yard at 20th and B.
- Balboa Park Committee Chair would like to work with CCDC on City Operation Yard at 20th and B.
- Concerned that parks on top of building structures do not qualify as a public park.
- Board would like information on what is available in resources and assets so that Park and Recreation Board Members who have 20 and 30 years experience in developing parks can help with the development of the Downtown area.
- Mr. Bussell recommended that the Park and Recreation Board take the free bus tour provided by CCDC on the first Saturday of the month or schedule a special tour.
- Park and Recreation Board would like to have regular updates from CCDC.
- It was recommended that one of the Park and Recreation Board Members attend CCDC meetings.

WORKSHOP – None

STANDING UPDATES

Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) Update – Gary Stromberg, Assistant Park and Recreation Department Director, provided an update on the Lake Recreation Reservoir BRP. The report will be available on the website once it goes before the City Council. This report will address the management issues between Park and Recreation and that recreation resource.

Ms. Barnes asked when Fiesta Island Plan would be coming to the Park and Recreation Board. Mr. Smith stated that it had to go through environmental study first and would not be coming before the Board anytime in the near future.

Real Estate Assets Department should discuss lease-holds and potential lease-holds with the Park and Recreation Department. Mr. Stromberg will discuss this issue with Ms. LoMedico.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, July 17, 2008, 2:00 p.m.**
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan America Road West
San Diego, CA 92101

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director