

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board

August 21, 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
Rick Bussell
Vicki Granowitz
Norman Greene
Michael Stepner

Members Absent

Bruce Brown
Dan Mazzella
Roz King
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds
Evonne Schulze

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Gary Stromberg
David Sandoval
Chris Zirkle
Andy Field
Kim Davies
Kim Kaelin
Terre Lien
Monica Orton
Carol Young
Margaret May
Jo-Ann Novak

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JULY 17, 2008 – Meeting minutes not available at this time.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Area Committee Community Parks I – No report

Area Committee Community Parks II – No report

Balboa Park Committee

- Ms. Granowitz reported the Atlas Rocket Missile proposal came as a non-agenda public comment item and the Board members were unable to ask questions or provide feedback on this item.
- Committee continues to work on the Balboa Park Study and Ms. Granowitz will give a formal presentation next month to the Park and Recreation Board.
- At tonight’s meeting the Balboa Park Committee will be discussing Philanthropy in San Diego and options for Governance and fund-raisers for the park.
- Committee is in the process of reviewing pertinent parts of the City Charter, Municipal Code and Council Policy.

Design Review Committee – No report

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens’ Advisory Committee – No report

Mission Bay Park Committee – No report

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens’ Advisory Committee – No report

Tecolote Canyon Citizens’ Advisory Committee – No report

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

COMMUNICATIONS (Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.)

Bob Kuczewski would like a response regarding the President and Vice President of Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club being banned from flying at the Torrey Pines Gliderport. Mr. Smith referred Mr. Kuczewski concerned to City staff for a response.

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 asked Ms. Barnes if she would chair the Area Committee Community Parks I, and she accepted the chair position.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Greene, Ms. Barnes, and Ms. Granowitz for attending Monday, July 28, 2008 City Council meeting in which the Mission Bay Ordinance Ballot Measure was heard.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico, Park and Recreation Director, reported on two ballot measures: Prohibition of Alcohol on Beaches and in Shoreline Parks and Ballot Proposition Amending the City Charter to Designate the Use of Lease Revenues from Mission Bay Park. Ms. LoMedico will have staff send out a PDF of the Fiscal Analysis to the department’s park advisory committees and the Park and Recreation Board Members. If any groups would like a presentation on these two ballot measures please contact Ms. LoMedico.
- State of California has not adopted a budget since current budget year of July 1, 2008. The City of San Diego is currently under a hiring and purchasing freeze until the State of California approves their budget. Park and Recreation Divisions are only purchasing items to ensure continuing operations. Each Deputy Director will sign-off on these purchasing requests. Currently, the Park and Recreation Department has 67 vacancies and will move forward with very limited filling of those vacancies until the freeze is lifted.
- Ms. LoMedico distributed pictures of blue trash cans located at Mission Beach Boardwalk. These blue trash cans are part of Environmental Services Department pilot recycling program. We will continue to receive updates on how the program is working.
- Ms. LoMedico distributed a memo from Stacey Fulhorst, Executive Director of the Ethics Commission, regarding clarification of Assuming Office Statement of Economic Interests dated August 11, 2008. All Park and Recreation Board members are required to complete the California

Form 700 Statement of Economic Interests (SEI).

- The Mayor is kicking off the Balboa Park 2015 Celebration with an initial “Visioning” meeting with civic leaders on September 3, 2008. Mr. Smith will be representing the Park and Recreation Board at the meeting. Board Members can expect bi-monthly updates from Ms. LoMedico.
- There have been questions regarding the Department’s reductions of two supervisors and several pool managers. The Fiscal Year 2009 adopted budget reduced the positions from full-time to ¾ time. That reduction is subject to “Meet and Confer” per our Civil Service Commission Rules. The Department has completed the “Meet and Confer” process with the union and will continue to hold those positions at full-time benefited through the Fiscal Year. Supervisors will continue to work year round. The Department will absorb the \$150,000. The supplemental positions will have to be addressed in the Fiscal Year 2010 budget.
- San Diego River Conservancy Senate Bill 1428 that extends the San Diego Conservancy formation will be submitted to the Governor for signature. Governor will not sign any bills until the budget has been resolved.
- Ms. LoMedico responded to Ms. Barnes question regarding Golf Course revenues from a previous Board meeting. She stated that all revenues go into the Golf Course Enterprise Fund.
- Ms. Barnes will coordinate on calendaring with Ms. LoMedico for citizens to speak for or against the two City Charter Amendments. Ms. LoMedico stated that as a City Department staff can’t advocate one way or the other on ballot measurers. We can only provide information and facts. Ms. Barnes has five Recreation Counsels that would like a presentation. Ms. LoMedico stated that we have 60 days to respond and will be limited to unclassified management staff to provide these presentations.
- Mr. Bussell asked if a permanent Mission Bay Park District Manager will be hired. The answer is no due to the hiring freeze but, will continue with the interview process. Currently, the Mission Bay Park District Manager is nearing the end of the 30 day Out of Class Assignment (OCA) and a new OCA person will be in place.

Public Comment – Ms. Barnes is starting the meeting schedule beginning in September on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. for the Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee. This committee will be selecting a consultant and will come up with the general development plan for the Gliderport and surrounding areas.

INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Streamlined Telecommunication Approval Process

David Sandoval, CCIM, Deputy Director of Real Estate Assets, introduced Carol Young, Property Agent of Real Estate Assets, and provided a summary of the telecommunication business with the City. Mr. Sandoval stated that the Mayor's mandate to improve business relationships with the telecommunications carriers has resulted in increased revenue to the City. Each telecom antenna site results in over \$350,000 in revenue to the City over the 10-year term of its lease. Currently, the annual rent from pending telecom sites is \$1,492,000 or a total of over \$17 million in rent to the City during the next ten years – an increase of 61%. Fifty percent of the revenue for each park telecom site goes into the Park and Recreation Department fund.

The Mayor's mandate also required the City to streamline its approval process in order to encourage telecom carriers to conduct business with the City. Real Estate Assets Department anticipates additional progress towards a more streamlined approval process in the future. The approval process for telecom sites in City parks is being governed by the Development Services Department (DSD) to ensure compliance with City rules and regulations. DSD will also provide information and maps covering each proposed site to the Park and Recreation Department.

In closing, Mr. Sandoval reiterated that it is in the best interest of the City to have good business relationships with telecom carriers.

There were many questions and comments from the Board members, including but not limited to:

- Ms. Barnes requested a copy of Mr. Sandoval report and would like to see a report on park land instead of a global report of the City. She would like to see specifically the details and relationship between Park and Recreation and Real Estate Assets Departments.
- Concerned about community planning groups are not being involved.
- Real Estate Assets Department should remember that telecom antennas are going into residential neighborhoods and should not be placed on turfs and exercise power courses.
- Board members concerned that cell towers do not conform to aesthetics, height, and design specifications that were approved by the community.
- The goal is to be effective by balancing business and engineering needs with the quality of life in the community.
- Requesting details of the relationship between telecomm service providers and community whose park may be utilize for some component of an antenna.
- Has the original agreement changed for a one time consideration fee of \$40,000; a share in rent revenue fund 50% to General Fund 50% to Park and Recreation Department; and limiting the number of towers to individual sites? (Per staff, this has been eliminated.)
- Who will notify Recreation Councils that new telecom sites will not receive the one time consideration fee? (Per staff, Real Estate Assets Department will do that correspondence.)
- Recommend that Real Estates Assets Department work with communities and follow-up on all issues.

Ms. Young is currently working on Council Policy 700-10 regarding the elimination of the sight access fee. This item is schedule to go before City Council on September 9, 2008.

Ms. LoMedico acknowledged Mr. Zirkle and all the other members of the Open Space staff. In May of 2007 the Mayor indicated that he would fund enough funding to thin 210-acres of brush. This could not be done without the help of Fire-Rescue and Development Services Department staff partnership in the program.

- 202. Status Report on the Park and Recreation Department's Brush Management Program**
Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director of Open Space Park and Recreation Department provided a comprehensive update of the Brush Management Program. Fire Marshal Monica Orton of the Fire-Rescue and Terre Lien Assistant Planner from Development Services Department were present to respond to questions.

Public Comment:

Chris Redfern, Deborah Knight, Anne Fege, and Kay Stewart all spoke neutral to Item 202.

- Mr. Redfern is currently working on a list of recommendation to give to Mr. Zirkle in the next few weeks.
- Ms. Stewart provided a draft ten-point brush management quality control for Zone 2 Brush Management Work list dated August 20, 2008.

The Park and Recreation Board Members had the following questions and comments:

- Ms. Barnes requested that Mr. Stromberg have the PowerPoint provided to the Board members.
- Would it be possible for the community to provide their expertise on plants while the work is being done by City staff? (Mr. Zirkle welcome volunteers expertise on plant identification. However, due to the steep and slippery slopes, equipment used in the thinning of brush he is concerned for safety of our citizens being on the work site during the thinning of brush.)

- Recommend that the community provide input into the training and guidelines for the Brush Management Program.
- Recommend Open Space provide a conduit for individuals to e-mail or call in their comments and concerns.

203. Update on the Park and Recreation Department’s Maintenance Assessment Districts (MAD) Program

Andy Field, Assistant Deputy Director of MAD Park and Recreation Department Open Space Division presented a comprehensive update of the Maintenance Assessment Districts. Kim Kaelin, Deputy City Attorney and Margaret May, Supervising Management Analyst of MAD was present to respond to questions.

The Park and Recreation Board members had the following questions and comments:

- Concerned those individualists who are on the Maintenance Assessment Districts Board do not reside in the MAD area. (Community should review their Bylaws. If the boundaries are substantially the same for the community planning organization as the boundaries of the MAD they may create Bylaws for sub-committees. However, this is not true for all the districts due to the various boundaries between MAD and community planning organizations.)
- Requested clarification on the City of San Diego standing on Proposition 218. (The City is required to vote yes on every parcel it owns for any balloting measures which is part of the State obligation.)
- Ms. Barnes requested a decision on City-wide fee structure.

WORKSHOP

STANDING UPDATES

Business Process Re-Engineering (BPR) Update – Gary Stromberg, Assistant Director reported no change in Business Process Re-Engineering.

Ms. Barnes requested that Mr. Smith add under the Committee Reports for the October Park and Recreation Board meeting the Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board. Ms. Barnes requested that Mr. Stepner be the Park and Recreation Board representative for this committee and give the monthly Committee report. Mr. Stepher accepted.

Mr. Smith introduced Roosevelt Williams III of Council District 4 of Councilmember Tony Young’s Office.

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

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, September 18, 2008, 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