

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board

Meeting Minutes  
September 15, 2011

***“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”***

**Meeting Held at:**

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

**Mailing Address is:**

City of San Diego  
202 C Street, MS 37C  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Members Present**

Wilbur Smith, Chair  
Bruce Brown  
Rick Bussell  
William Diehl  
Claudia Dunaway  
Vicki Granowitz  
Norman Greene  
Roz King  
David Kinney  
Olivia Puentes-Reynolds

**Members Absent**

Michael Stepner

**City Staff Present**

Stacey LoMedico  
Alex Bragado  
Kathleen Hasenauer  
Christy Haupt  
Betsy Miller  
David Monroe  
Jo-Ann Novak  
Scott Reese  
Casey Smith  
Shannon Thomas  
Chris Zirkle

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

APPROVAL OF THE AUGUST 18, 2011 MINUTES – Should be reviewed at the October 20, 2011 Park and Recreation Board meeting.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as “Consent” items.

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Ms. Granowitz**

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell to move Action Items 101. Horton Plaza 102. Black Mountain/Del Mar Mesa Natural Resources Management Plan and 104. Jerry Schad Memorial Trail to the Consent Agenda. Mr. Greene requested that Item 102. Black Mountain/Del Mar Mesa Natural Resources Management Plan be removed from the Consent Agenda. Mr. Bussell accepted the amendment to the Consent Agenda.

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Ms. Dunaway**

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell to accept the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Ms. Dunaway. Consent Agenda unanimously approved. 9-0.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Report

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Report

Balboa Park Committee

- Mr. Kinney reported the Balboa Park Conservancy received their 501c3 from the Federal Government, and are currently working on Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of San Diego.
- The Balboa Park Community Park 2015 Centennial Committee has hired a Chief Operating Office, Mark Germyn.
- Ms. LoMedico announced that the Balboa Park Conservancy and the Balboa Park 2015 Centennial will be coming to the Park and Recreation Board meeting in the near future to provide information on their respective projects.
- Ms. Granowitz wanted to clarify that Mr. Germyn's contract is only for 90-days.

Design Review Committee

- Mr. Smith reported the Committee discussed Horton Plaza Improvement Project and made several recommendations. For a detail list of the Design Review Committee recommendations on the Horton Plaza Improvement Project General Development Plan (GDP), please refer to the Committee's September 2011 minutes.

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

- Mr. Bussell invited all to attend the Tecolote Nature Center Baskets and Botany Event on Saturday, October 8, 2011.

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee – No Report

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

Ken Hunrichs concerned about waste from seals at Children's Pool. He presented the Board Members with a brief video (2010) the day after a citizen beach clean-up at Children's Pool. Mr. Hunrichs request an inquiry be made to the Park and Recreation Department staff as to why the public and City employees are subject to the animal waste and smells that would not be tolerated at any other beach along our coast.

Ms. LoMedico stated she would be happy to respond to the Board on these policies as she has to Mr. Hunrichs and others previously. Ms. LoMedico requested Mr. Hunrichs to give his issues to her to be included in a memorandum to bring back to the Board.

Mr. Greene asked who is responsible for the condition of the walk-way from the parking lot to the Old Globe Theatre. (Ms. LoMedico will evaluate to determine if there is a safety issue.)

## CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

- In interest of time Mr. Smith skipped the Chairperson's Report.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico stated that there are several vacancies on the Board and thanked Board Members for attending Board meetings where their membership has lapse. Currently, the City has several candidates who are going through the nomination process. Ms. LoMedico will continue to update the Board Members.
- Ms. LoMedico apologized for not having the August 18<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes to the Board so they may review for this meeting. Meeting minutes should be ready for the October meeting.
- Ms. LoMedico is extremely proud of the more than 1,000 Department employees who provided programs and maintenance for parks and beaches during the busy summer season. Some highlights of programs: increased teen programs through the CalGRIP grant. (Last program will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>); Summer Lunch Program; last year there were 5 movie events in the park and this year there were 13 movie events; Fourth of July had 1.1 million visitors to the beaches from Friday to Sunday. All went well according to Police and Lifeguard staff. Staff picked-up 234 tons of trash over the three day period.
- Large number of vacancies within the Department almost 10% of our supervisors vacant during the summer months. The Department is currently filling these vacancies.
- Gearing up for the Toys for Tots Program with the U.S. Marine Corps.
- Ms. LoMedico distributed a memorandum from Scott Reese, Assistant Director, regarding a brief update of the status of implementation of on-line (electronic) registration.

## ACTION ITEMS

101. Horton Plaza (Moved to Consent Agenda)  
Presenter – Mark Caro, Senior Planner, Centre City Development Corporation
102. Black Mountain/Del Mar Mesa Natural Resources Management Plan –  
Recommendation for Adoption of Plan  
Chris Zirkle, Deputy Director, and Betsy Miller, Biologist III of Park and Recreation Department provided the Board Members with a brief presentation.

## Board Members Questions:

- Why are trails being phased out on the map upper left hand corner in box? (Property belongs to Public Utilities who opt out)
- What is the cost? (Various activities \$150,000)
- What was Public Utilities reason for not participating? (Public Utilities have a different mission statement to acquire land for water primary and recreational secondary)

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

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Greene to approve presentation. Vote was unanimously approved. 9-0.

103. Veteran's Memorial Monument at Chicano Park  
Christy Haupt, District Manager, Park and Recreation Department requested approval to install a Veteran's memorial monument in Chicano Park to honor United States Veterans from the Logan Heights Community.

In 2008, the Logan Heights Veterans Memorial Committee approached the Park and Recreation Department requesting permission to place a Veteran's memorial in Chicano Park to recognize and honor service men and women of the Logan Heights community who have honorably served their country in peace and war time. There had been inquiries prior to 2006 but until 2008 the project had been in preliminary planning. The Committee was advised to meet with the Chicano Park Steering Committee as the first step in the proposal. While not the recognized City park advisory for the park, the group has and is actively involved in the daily operations and programming and their support would be a good starting point in the process.

On November 11, 2008, a groundbreaking ceremony was held at the proposed site. Over 300 supporters were in attendance including local and national government dignitaries, representation from the United States military and representatives from the Chicano Park Steering Committee. This event was held to honor our military and to bring attention to the fundraising efforts for the construction of a memorial at the park.

After nearly two years, in 2010 the two organizations had not come to an agreement as to the monument's design. The Logan Heights Veterans Memorial Committee wanted a traditional "military" design of granite depicted in the report attachment, while the steering committee preferred a design reflecting the Aztlan culture they believed would compliment existing murals and spirit of Chicano Park. The memorial committee and steering committee were at impasse.

In late 2010, representatives of the Logan Heights Veterans Committee reported to staff they had not received the support of the Chicano Park Steering Committee regarding the design. At that time they requested permission to take the project forward to Department recognized park advisory groups. Following the direction the Committee presented the project to the recognized Department advisory.

At the Dolores Magdalena Memorial Recreation Council meeting on June 14, 2011 and the Community Parks II Area Committee meeting held on July 13, 2011, Christy Haupt made it clear to the advisory groups the project design was not supported by, nor had it been voted on by the Chicano Park Steering Committee. Both advisory groups reviewed the design and location of the project and unanimously approved it, respectively.

Ms. LoMedico went on record stating she e-mailed the Board Members a few letters from constituents regarding Item 103.

**In Opposition**

Ramon Chunky Sanchez  
Carlos Pelayo  
Angie Avila  
Isabel Sanchez  
Felicia Castillo

Tommie Camarillo  
Juan Castellanos  
Rosa Navarro (Did not speak, but requested name to be read in support of the project.)  
Annie Ress  
Victor Ochon (Wish to be part of an organized presentation)  
Ben Rivera  
Carlos Martell  
Benjamin Prado  
Rosa Olga Navarro (Did not speak, but requested name to be read in support of the project.)  
Dr. John Vaccarino  
Vivian Vaccarino

**Neutral**

Rick Trujillo

**In Favor** – Did not speak, but requested name to be read in support of the project.

Esther Rodriguez	Mark Martinez Jr.	Paola Robles
Pena Alfred	Ruben A. Rivera	Phillip Gomes
Ofelia Palomino	Anna M. Chertkow	Edward Peralta
Luz Barboza	Sara Sandoval	Blanca E. Robles Sr.
Manuel Sanchez	Javier Heras	John Barend
Harry Chertlcor	Melina Tautimer	Ronnie Counts
Marlow Martinez Jr.	Norma Muñoz	Catalina L. Redman

**In Favor**

Hector Cázares  
Cleo Thompson  
Adam Gastelum  
Frank Peralta  
Oscar C. Munoz  
Wolfrang Rodriguez (Wish to be part of an organized presentation)  
Robert J. Castillo, Sr. (Wish to be part of an organized presentation)

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. King/Mr. Bussell**

A motion was made by Ms. King to delay voting and have a process by which there can be a meeting and have unanimous or combined presentation. Mr. Bussell seconded the motion with the recommendation the community should come together, have same goal just need to work on the implementation of it.

Ms. Granowitz will be voting against the motion and believes these two groups cannot come to a consensus. She believes this where their cultural values are so different. Her preference is to either vote it up or down on this item.

Mr. Greene is in favor of motion. He feels it is very important to pay attention to the people who most use this park, who created this park, are stewards of the park and who children are also being memorialized. Give the two groups one more chance for them to have a meeting of the minds.

Ms. Puentes-Reynolds inquired what the location of the monunement would be. (Ms. Camarillo stated it is in the same location where the groundbreaking took place north side of Logan Avenue east of the basketball courts in Barrio Logan.) Ms. Puentes-Reynolds is in agreement with the motion on the floor and would like an amendment. Request members of the Park Recreation Department be present to provide clarification on guidelines, City ordinance and take notes of the action.

Mr. Smith asked what is the timeline. Ms. King stated 60 days (December 2011 Park and Recreation Board Meeting)

Mr. Bussell second the amended motion.

Motion past with Ms. Granowitz, Ms. Dunaway and Mr. Kinney opposed (6-3).

Ms. Puentes-Reynolds went on the record stating she has worked with Christy Haupt for some time and she has performed in an outstanding profesional manner and with the up most integrity.

Ms. Puentes-Reynolds heard that the Chicano Steering Committee does not feel they are being recognized as a legitimate organization in overseeing Chicano Park.

Ms. LoMedico stated the Chicano Park Steering Committee is recognized as an enormous active committee in their role as advisory committee for Chicano Park. We have dedicated staff to that park and others. We work hand and hand in programming that park almost daily. They are excellent stewards of this park.

We have to adhere to Council Policy 700-42. Dolores Magdalena Memorial Recreation Council is the sanctioned Recreation Council for the area. Ms. LoMedico or David Monroe, Deputy Director of Community Parks II, will explore this matter further.

104. Jerry Schad Memorial Trail (Moved to Consent Agenda) Moved to consent agenda.  
Presenter – Casey Smith, District Manager Park and Recreation Department

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

201. Community Gardens (Continued - to be presented at the October 20, 2011 meeting)  
Presenter – Scott Reese, Assistant Director, Park and Recreation Department

Ms. LoMedico reported Ms. Ginny Barnes is the Chairperson for a newly Department created Ad-hoc Committee for the Golf Division's renewal of the Five Year Golf Business Plan. The Municipal Golf Course Customer Satisfaction Survey information will be heard at their first meeting on September 22, 2011.

202. Municipal Golf Course Customer Satisfaction Survey  
Alex Bragado, Supervising Management Analyst, Park and Recreation Department provided a brief PowerPoint presentation.

Board Members comments and questions:

Ms. King asked what are the dominate areas of dissatisfaction? (Mr. Bragado stated for Balboa Golf Courses areas that can be improve included availability/condition of the driving range, quality of the pro shop and conditions of restrooms. At Mission Bay areas of improvements included restrooms, food and beverage service, and sand bunker conditions and cart paths replacement. Torrey Pines areas for improvements are in the availability of tee-times by telephone and walk-up. There was a difference in residents and non- residents comments.)

Mr. Brown asked if the Torrey Pines was surveyed by North and South courses. (Mr. Bragado stated no). Mr. Brown recommended on future surveys these two courses be polled separately where one is a world class course and the other one is “okay.”

Mr. Greene asked if improvements will be made to Mission Bay and Balboa Park restrooms. (Mr. Bragado has a Capital Improvements Program and are making improvements now. The one consideration to take is that Balboa Park is a historical designated building.)

Mr. Greene asked if the dissatisfaction was with the physical facilities or the cleanliness of the facilities at Mission Bay and Balboa Park restrooms. (Mr. Bragado stated it was with the facility itself.)

Ms. LoMedico added that the Balboa and Mission Bay restrooms are a top priority for Division Deputy Director Mark Marney.

In addition, Mission Bay Golf Course restroom has major electrical problems. Golf staff had to place trailers to replace the temporary porta-potties.

WORKSHOP – None

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, October 20, 2011, 2:00 P.M.**

**City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico  
Park and Recreation Director