

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board  
Minutes  
Thursday, June 15, 2017

*“TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL”*

**Meeting Held at:**

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

**Mailing Address is:**

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

**Members Present**

David Kinney, Chair

Nick Anastasopoulos  
David Baron  
Jon Becker  
Robert Chavez  
Bobby Hughes (arrived late)  
Katherine Johnston  
Dennis Otsuji

**Members Absent**

Ron Cho (Excused)  
Hazel Ocampo (Excused)

**City Staff Present**

Stacey LoMedico,  
Assistant Chief Operating  
Officer  
Herman Parker, Director  
Andrew Field, Assistant  
Director  
Mike Armenta  
Ryan Barbrick  
Heather Ferbert  
Jeff Harkness  
Brenda Jones  
Jesse Luke  
Samir Mahmalji  
Georgette Manela  
Jennifer Scott  
Shannon Scoggins  
Robin Shifflet  
Nancy Zamora-Hudson

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Kinney at 2:05 p.m.

Chair Kinney welcomed the new Board Members Nick Anastasopoulos and Katherine Johnston. He asked them to please introduce themselves.

Mr. Anastasopoulos has been involved with the Rancho Bernardo Community on various committees, recreation councils, foundations and groups. He has also been involved with the Poway Unified School District. He has a background in recreation and expressed that he was very happy to be on the Board. Ms. Johnston is a previous City employee. She has worked on many City park projects. She lives in La Jolla with her husband, and also expressed to be happy to serve on the Board. Chair Kinney noted that as the new Chair of the Balboa Park Committee, Ms. Johnston held a de facto position on the Park and Recreation Board.

Chair Kinney noted that the Board would meet as the San Diego Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee at the conclusion of the Park and Recreation Board Meeting.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 18, 2017.**

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Otsuji/Mr. Chavez**

A motion was made by Mr. Otsuji and seconded by Mr. Chavez to approve the May 18, 2017 meeting minutes. The motion was approved (6-0) with Mr. Anastasopoulos and Ms. Johnston abstaining.

#### NON-ADOPTION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board. (Comments relating to items on today's Agenda are to be taken at the time the item is heard.) Comments will be limited to (3) three minutes and is not debatable.)

Chair Kinney welcomed community speakers.

Beth Lunde noted that she had several letters from other community members, in support of Alan Schueler, Director of San Diego Civic Dance Association. She read her letter of support for Mr. Schueler, in response to an anonymous complaint against him.

Sue Elam read her letter in support of Mr. Schueler.

Mark S. Arner read his letter in support of Mr. Schueler.

Carolyn "Sydney" Arner de France read a letter from her daughter, Hailey, in support of Mr. Schueler.

Tom Hicke spoke in support of Mr. Schueler.

Claire Hathaway requested to have her name read for the record, in support of Mr. Schueler.

Kenny Elam requested to have his name read for the record, in support of Mr. Schueler.

Hailey Arner de France requested to have her name read for the record, in support of Mr. Schueler.

Chair Kinney thanked speakers for having attended to speak to the Board. With intent of full disclosure, Chair Kinney noted that he has known Mr. Schueler for many years. Furthermore, he noted that it was a non-agenda item and a personnel issue; and thus, it was not appropriate for discussion at the Board Meeting. Park and Recreation Staff were present, and had had the opportunity to hear what they had to say. Chair Kinney thanked them for coming to speak about something that they were passionate about.

#### REQUEST FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair may entertain a motion by any Board member to approve any agenda item as consent when no speaker slips have been submitted in favor or in opposition to the item. Items approved on consent are approved in accordance with staff's recommendation as reflected on the agenda and described in the Staff Report to the Park and Recreation Board, unless otherwise noted in the motion. At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or more items on the adoption agenda as "Consent" items.

#### APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA - None

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE – None.

COMMUNICATIONS – None.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Meeting/No Report

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Meeting/No Report

Balboa Park Committee – No Meeting/No Report

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – Nothing to report

De Anza Special Study Ad Hoc Committee – Meeting scheduled for next week/No Report

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – Chair Kinney noted that this was his first meeting as Chair, and he had nothing to report at this time.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Parker extended a warm welcome to the new Board Members and thanked them for their service as volunteers. He announced the opening of two new park sites within the last 30 days. One at McKinley Elementary Joint Use Park and the other at Civita Community Park in the Mission Valley area. He invited everyone to visit the beautiful new facility at Civita Park. He also commented that the Department was gearing up for the summer. The Summer Lunch Program, at Skylark Park would be starting in the coming week. Also, there would be a variety of therapeutic programs and camps. The Teen Night program had been expanded to 15 sites, instead of 10 like last year. The program had grown quite a bit. The Department had a lot of exciting things taking place this summer.
- Chair Kinney asked Mr. Parker whether there was another park opening besides the ones mentioned. Mr. Parker responded that there were not.
- Mr. Parker asked Jeff Harkness, Park Designer from the Planning Department to come up to the podium. He also invited Stacy LoMedico, Assistant Chief Operating Officer for the City to speak and present Mr. Harkness with a plaque of appreciation, for his 28 years of service to the City and Park and Recreation.
- Mr. Harkness thanked everyone for their kind words, show of appreciation, and recognition.

ACTION ITEMS

**101. General Development Plan for Encanto Elementary School Joint Use Facility**

Presenters: Robin Shifflet, Development Project Manager III, Planning Dept.  
Shannon Scoggins, Park Designer, Planning Dept.

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Project Description
- Requested Action

Comments/questions from Board Members:

- Ms. Johnston thanked staff and commented that it had been a good report. She asked whose responsibility it would be to replace the hard courts and other capital improvements. Ms. Scoggins responded that with respect to the hard courts, the asphalt cost was shared 50/50 with the school district. The school district would resurface and later invoice the City for the expense. With respect to the play equipment, the school district would be fully responsible.
- Mr. Becker asked whether there was space for additional trees to be added in the southeast corner. Ms. Shifflet added that once construction drawings were available, they would look into space for more trees. At general development they could include a few.
- Chair Kinney added that more shade would be recommended. Especially in a Joint Use Field. It would be more welcoming for families. He noted that he realized that space was limited.

**MOTION:      MOVED/SECONDED   Mr. Baron /Mr. Becker**

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Becker to approve Item 101. The motion was approved (7-0) with Chair Kinney abstaining.

**102. La Paz Mini Park – General Development Plan**

Presenters: Jennifer Scott, Associate Engineer-Civil, Public Works Dept.  
Chris Langdon, Senior Associate, KTU+A  
Jill Chorak, Senior Designer, KTU+A

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Project Description
- Requested Action
- Consultant Presentation

Comments/questions from Board Members:

- Chair Kinney requested to hear the consultant's presentation.

- Chair Kinney noted that it was an excellent report and that the plans were very detailed. Consultants had managed to fit a lot into a mini park.
- Mr. Otsuji commented that the trees were not noted on the legend. He recommended that the types of trees and quantities be included in the legend. He commented that they had achieved a good balance of activities.
- Ms. Johnston inquired whether the project had been fully funded through its entirety. Ms. Scott explained that the project had been fully funded for design. However, the Park and Recreation Department was in the process of identifying 350 thousand dollars for the construction.
- Mr. Becker also commented that a great job had been done and he added that a lot of interesting amenities had been included in the space. He commented that some of the materials that went into the park, such as the cobble creek, should be really compressed and bound so that it would not become an active creek. Mr. Langdon explained it had been meant to be an interactive feature for kids to explore, and that it would be dry most of the year. He further noted that important consideration would be given in how it was put down.
- Mr. Becker asked if the space underneath the fitness area was decomposed granite. Mr. Langdon responded that it was not. It was wood fiber.
- Mr. Becker asked whether the slide had been built up due to the slope. Mr. Langdon explained that because of the slope, there was a great separation with the roller slide. He noted that the manufacturers had confirmed that it could be done on a shallow slope.

**MOTION:            MOVED/SECONDED   Mr. Otsuji /Mr. Hughes**

A motion was made by Mr. Otsuji and seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve Item 102. The motion was approved (7-0) with Chair Kinney abstaining.

**103.    General Development Plan for Dennery Ranch Neighborhood Park**

Presenters:    Jennifer Scott, Associate Engineer-Civil, Public Works Dept.  
                          Carlos Rodriguez, Landscape Designer, Project Design Consultants

Mr. Becker recused himself from Action Item 103, as his firm was involved with the design of the project to be presented in the item. He then proceeded to exit the building before discussion of the item. Chair Kinney confirmed that there was still a quorum in order to proceed.

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Project Description
- Requested Action
- Consultant Presentation

Comments/questions from Board members:

- Mr. Baron asked how large the bicycle project was. Mr. Rodriguez answered that it was about a one quarter acre.
- Mr. Baron asked whether there had been any consideration for a bench area by the skate park for parents to sit and supervise. Mr. Rodriguez noted that benches and tree shade had been provided by the bicycle playground and by a grassy knoll on the raised mound. Mr. Rodriguez confirmed that seating would be provided at both the skate park and the bike park.
- Mr. Otsuji commented that it had been designed as an action packed park and that they had done a good job in designing it. He particularly liked the big open space provided for the community.
- Mr. Otsuji asked what the programs were, in other existing parks in the neighborhood. Mr. Rodriguez answered that there were baseball fields, but not too many tot lots, skate parks or basketball courts. They had tried to pack-in activities that were lacking in other parks. Open space was kept for intramural sports and family games.
- Mr. Otsuji confirmed that the park was in the middle of a neighborhood. And as such, asked whether it was a walkable park. Mr. Rodriguez confirmed that it was.
- Mr. Otsuji commented that in general it was necessary to reduce the space allotted for parking lots, because space is very valuable.
- Mr. Otsuji also confirmed that the park was located above the Otay Regional Park area adjacent natural species. He asked whether attention had been given to the habitat. He further noted that it had been treated correctly by having provided ornamental plants.
- Mr. Otsuji asked for an update of the standard restroom design. He asked what the standard requirements currently were for restrooms from a security stand point. Ms. Scott responded that they had not worked on it yet, but would be working closely with the ADA coordinator regarding the design of comfort stations consistent with all current requirements.

**MOTION:            MOVED/SECONDED   Mr. Anastasopoulos/Mr. Chavez**

A motion was made by Mr. Anastasopoulos and seconded by Mr. Chavez to approve Item 103. The motion was approved (7-0) with Chair Kinney abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS

**201. Update on General Development Plans for Cubberley Elementary School Joint Use Facility**

Presenters: Robin Shifflet, Development Project Manager III, Planning Dept.  
Shannon Scoggins, Park Designer, Planning Dept.

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Updated Project Description

Comments/questions from Board Members:

- Mr. Otsuji commented that he would like staff to take the Climate Plan under consideration. He noted that the use of trees often came up in recommendations. Furthermore, he felt that trees and landscape were not usually in plans due to maintenance cost. He felt that it was important for the “Climate Action Plan” to play an important role in the planning of Joint Use Facilities.

**202. Park and Recreation Board Vice-Chair Appointment**

Presenter: David Kinney, Park and Recreation Board Chair

Comments/questions from Board Members:

- Chair Kinney noted that the Board had a vacancy in the Vice-Chair position. He requested that he be informed if anyone was interested in serving as Vice-Chair. He would like to take action on a selection in July’s Board Meeting.

Details of the reports and PowerPoint presentations can be found on the Park and Recreation Department website at: <http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/reports>

WORKSHOP – None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, July 20, 2017**  
**War Memorial Building Auditorium**  
**3325 Zoo Drive**  
**San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Herman D. Parker  
Director  
Park and Recreation Department