

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
Minutes
Thursday, July 20, 2017

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

Meeting Held at:

War Memorial Building Auditorium
3325 Zoo Drive
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
Bobby Hughes
Katherine Johnston
Dennis Otsuji

Members Absent

Jon Becker (Excused)
Robert Chavez (Excused)
Ron Cho (Excused)
Hazel Ocampo (Excused)

City Staff Present

Herman Parker, Director
Andy Field, Assistant
Director
Mike Armenta
Ryan Barbrick
Heather Ferbert
Brenda Jones
Georgette Manela
Shannon Scoggins
Robin Shifflet
Nancy Zamora-Hudson

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Kinney at 2:06 p.m.

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 June 15, 2017.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Baron /Mr. Anastasopoulos

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Anastasopoulos to approve the June 15, 2017 meeting minutes. The motion was approved (6-0).

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 three (3) minutes and is not debatable.

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 – Not present

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Meeting/No Report

Balboa Park Committee – No Report

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – Not present

De Anza Special Study Ad Hoc Committee

- Mr. Otsuji noted the final meeting of the subcommittee had been held on June 29th. He commented that the consultants had done a fine job on the two alternate concepts. The concepts had been very well balanced in regard to the list that they had received from the community and others who had provided feedback for De Anza Cove. He explained that a lot of the comments had come from throughout the U.S. Some of the items considered included the habitat area, which had been well addressed by the consultants. He expressed that they had done a fine job of balancing the needs of the area along with the other amenities that the community had wanted to see. He further noted that both alternative concepts provided a good starting point for the next step in the process which was now going to be turned over to the Mission Bay Committee. Mr. Otsuji recommended that a group from the Board also help oversee the next phase. He thanked Glen whom was in the audience and had been a part of the planning.
- Chair Kinney asked whether the June 29th meeting had been the final De Anza Special Study Ad Hoc Committee Meeting. Mr. Otsuji confirmed that it had been the final committee meeting. Chair Kinney also thanked Mr. Otsuji for all his work on the De Anza Special Study Ad Hoc Committee.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Chair Kinney had nothing to report. However, he and the Board Members graciously thanked Park and Recreation Staff for providing updated manuals to the Board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Parker recognized Board Member Robert Chavez who had previously submitted his resignation to the Board. Mr. Parker had a "Certificate of Appreciation" for Mr. Chavez which would be mailed to him at a later time. Mr. Parker publicly thanked Mr. Chavez for his dedication and hard work, as well as for his contributions to the Park and Recreation Board.
- Mr. Parker reported that the improvements to Larsen Field in the San Ysidro area were near completion. A new play structure and some ADA improvements had been added. He noted that a ribbon cutting ceremony was scheduled on August 26th at 10:30 a.m. He further noted that the project had been funded primarily by Federal and Community Grant Funds. He commented that he was very happy to have been able to bring the improvements to the community park.

ACTION ITEMS

- 101. Amendment to the Taft Middle Joint Use Facility General Development Plan**
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 - none

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Baron /Mr. Otsuji

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Otsuji to approve Item 101. The motion was approved (6-0).

- 102. Children's Park Improvements General Development Plan – Marina Neighborhood of the Downtown Community Plan Area**

Presenters: Kathleen Brand, Senior Planner/Landscape Architect, Civic San Diego
Glenn Schmidt, FASLA, Schmidt Design Group, Inc.

The presentation outlined the following:

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

Comments/questions from Board Members:

- Ms. Johnston highly recommended that restroom security be part of the park plans. She recommended that an attendant be present at all times when the restrooms were open for the safe enjoyment of the park. She acknowledged that this would be part of the maintenance and operations cost.
- Ms. Johnston asked whether a kitchen had been incorporated in the design of the food vendor stations. Mr. Schmidt responded that there were no commercial kitchens included. Ms. Brand noted that the addition of a kitchen would be a tenant improvement.
- Ms. Johnston asked how the proposed “on-site” alcohol sales would be distinguished from “open container” alcohol use at the park. Ms. Brand explained that “on-site” alcohol sales would be served in a restricted area by sectioning it off with a small railing. Alcohol would be prohibited outside the designated area. Mr. Schmidt added that alcohol sales would be restricted to a designated area much like it is done at North Embarcadero.

- Mr. Anastasopoulos asked whether the pond would have a wading area for children. Mr. Schmidt answered that it would not. He explained that the pond would retain its decorative nature. It would be a costly endeavor to make it interactive. However, he noted that the development plan did not preclude it from happening in the future, but it was not currently in the plan.

- Ms. Johnston asked whether the cost to make the pond interactive was associated to the capital improvement or to the ongoing maintenance. Mr. Schmidt responded that it would cost a few million dollars to construct and make the pond interactive. Mr. Parker added that making it interactive would also require the installation of showers with warm water per Environmental Health requirements.

- Mr. Anastasopoulos asked whether the construction of a foot bridge had been considered between the park and the museum. Ms. Brand explained that they had been in close contact with museum personnel and had spoken about children crossing the street. However, she noted that it was the museum's opinion that children needed to learn how to safely cross the street. She also noted that the museum was very enthusiastic about the idea of the park coming on line. Mr. Schmidt added that the plans included the installation of a small level fence around the children's play area.

- Mr. Baron asked whether a flashing walkway on the street had been included in the plans. Ms. Brand confirmed that there currently was a traffic signal with a pedestrian crossing light between the museum and the park.

- Mr. Otsuji had the following comments about the park design: he felt that it was a well-balanced design, although he preferred a curvilinear design; he hoped that Park and Recreation would work with the Children's Museum to develop a lot of programs for the kids and seniors; he felt that it was important for the successful activation of the park to work on programs that would be solid and could be spread throughout, not just weekend visitors; he recommended that water recreation type of programs be incorporated; he suggested having kid boat races in the existing water design; he noted that the biggest challenge with the water feature was maintenance; he liked the plans for the restrooms; he recommended that vendor selection be based on the population that would be using the park; he felt that the off leash dog park area should be bigger; he noted that the adult fitness area should be integrated as part of the park; he commended the kids tot lot; he liked the interactive play area that was more innovative than standard equipment; and he hoped that they would work with the Children's Museum.

- Chair Kinney liked the design in that it honored the original design by Peter Walker. He noted that the Children's Museum was a tremendous asset in the community, and the park would really enrich the area. Chair Kinney acknowledged that he had a speaker slip from John Nasse, whom requested that his name be read in favor of the plans.

- Mr. Anastasopoulos asked whether consideration could be given to changing the name of the park. He stated that since it was not only for children and there was a park across the street, which was also referred to as "Children's Park," perhaps it could be named the "Family Park." Ms. Brand explained that it had

been originally named “Children’s Park” in 1995, and that the other park was named the “Children’s Museum Park.”

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Baron /Mr. Anastopoulos

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Anastopoulos to approve Item 102. The motion was approved (6-0).

103. Park and Recreation Board Vice-Chair Appointment

Presenter: David Kinney, Park and Recreation Board Chair

- Chair Kinney announced that Mr. Otsuji would be serving as Park and Recreation Board Vice-Chair.

Comments/questions from Board members - none

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Chair Kinney/Mr. Hughes

A motion was made by Chair Kinney and seconded by Mr. Hughes to approve Item 103. The motion was approved (5-0) with Mr. Otsuji abstaining.

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

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 2:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, September 21, 2017
Balboa Park Club Ballroom
2150 Pan American Road West
San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Herman D. Parker
Director
Park and Recreation Department