

**City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 17, 2020**

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

**Meeting Held by Teleconference:**

This meeting was held remotely using the Microsoft Teams platform and livestreamed via the City of San Diego Public Meetings [YouTube channel](#):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-4gY2k1D1kzb25QM-O3eg>

**NOTE:** Both verbal and written communication were used by Board members, City staff, and presenters during the meeting. Board members and City staff utilized the chat function in Microsoft Teams to share comments and web links which were visible to those who viewed the meeting. City staff also used the screen-share function to allow viewers to view content shared by the speaker which included PowerPoint presentations and websites.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>City Staff Present</b>
Katherine Johnston, Chair Dennis Otsuji, Vice-Chair Nick Anastasopoulos David Baron Marcella Bothwell Jon Becker Ron Cho Rick Gulley	Bobby Hughes (not excused) Noli Zosa (excused)	Andrew Field, Director Karen Dennison, Assistant Director Marisol Aguilar Ryan Barbrick Rick Bollinger Kimberly Carroll Darren Genova Nancy Zamora-Hudson

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Johnston at 2:04 pm.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2020**

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

A motion was made by Mr. Becker and seconded by Mr. Gulley to approve the June 18, 2020 Park and Recreation Board Meeting minutes. The motion was approved 8-0-0 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Marcella Bothwell, Jon Becker, Ron Cho, Katherine Johnston and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: (None). Recused: (None). Abstained: (None) Not Present: Bobby Hughes and Noli Zosa.

**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 shared at the time the item is heard.)

**NOTE:** There was one (1) Non-Adoption Agenda Public Comment.

Comment #1 by Bruce Dammann:

*"Great parks need great design.*

*Balboa Park is the crown Jewel of the City of San Diego and has received the designation of a great park, yet there are mistakes being made to improvements in the park.*

*Construction has started on the Balboa Park West Mesa public restrooms after 6 years of planning and mismanagement by the Public Works Department. The design of the project was never approved by the Balboa Park Committee, Balboa Park Conservancy, any park organization or neighborhood group, yet the Public Works Department proceeded to process two new prefabricated restrooms that were not designed by experienced architects or landscape architects for San Diego's most important park.*

*The West Mesa restroom project is not a good project for Balboa Park, yet so much could have been done to build new important restrooms, solve some of the other West Mesa issues and enhance that area of the park.*

*I would like the Park and Recreation Board to consider and require that all projects proposed for Balboa Park need to receive design approval from the Balboa Park Committee and the Park and Recreation Board before the Public Works Department proceeds with construction documents."*

**REQUEST FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON CONSENT AGENDA** - None

The Chair may entertain a motion by any Board Member to approve any agenda item as consent when no public comments 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.

**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 – Mr. Otsuji reported no meeting was held.

Community Parks II Area Committee – Representative not present

Balboa Park Committee – Chair Johnston reported about the continuation of the Balboa Park Strategic Planning Process. They presented the results from the February meeting, facilitated a public polling process, and committed to coming back to the Balboa Park Committee in January with results and to discuss the next steps.

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens’ Advisory Committee – Representative not present

**CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT** – None

**BOARD MEMBER’S COMMENTS** – None

**DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

Director Andy Field greeted Board Members and meeting participants. He gave the following update on the Department’s status:

**Park Board Appointments Update**

- City Council action is pending to fill vacancy for District 8 seat and replace Mr. Hughes for District 4 seat
- Mr. Hughes is termed out and must leave the Board

**COVID-19 Update:**

- Four swimming pools (Carmel Valley, Tierrasanta, and Vista Terrace), three golf complexes, and Mt. Hope Cemetery are open for use
- Recreation centers, playgrounds, visitor centers, and campgrounds remain closed
- P&R staff are deployed to other roles including:
  - Park Monitors to assist with COVID-19 education of best practices (social distancing, face coverings, etc.) and to respond to park patron questions
  - Shelter to Home Operation at San Diego Convention Center
  - Virtual programming and social media
  - Summer lunch program

**COVID-19 Resources**

- County Public Health Order:  
[https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community\\_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/community_epidemiology/dc/2019-nCoV/health-order.html)
- County Triggers Dashboard:  
<https://sdcounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/30b5e0fa2a5f4404b1219d8cd16b2583>
- \*Case Rate 6.9 per 100,000 for 7-day average
- \*Community Outbreaks 22 in 7-day period (goal less than 7)

\*San Diego County in Tier 2 (Red/Widespread) for State's Blueprint for a Safer Economy – see <https://covid19.ca.gov/safer-economy/>

-Industry Guidance to reduce risk: <https://covid19.ca.gov/industry-guidance/> – includes campgrounds/outdoor recreation, fitness, houses of worship, youth sports, child care/day camps, etc.

-Safe Reopening Plan Template:  
[https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community\\_Sector\\_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf](https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/dam/sdc/hhsa/programs/phs/Epidemiology/covid19/Community_Sector_Support/BusinessesandEmployers/SafeReopeningPlanTemplate.pdf)

-**Virtual Park and Recreation Board** meetings will shift to Zoom starting in October

**-City Budget**

- Adopted Budget available at <https://www.sandiego.gov/finance/annual>.
- IBA released the budget calendar in Report 20-19 (see <https://www.sandiego.gov/sites/default/files/fy2021keydates.pdf>)
- Fiscal Year 2020 Year End Report in September
- Five-Year Financial Outlook and Mid-Year Capital Report in November

-**Parks Master Plan (PMP)** – PS&LN forwarded to City Council without recommendation; no City Council date set at this time

- **50 Parks in 5 Years and Play All Day Update** – 38 parks have opened since program inception in 2016.

**ACTION ITEMS** –

**101. General Development Plan for Beyer Park Development**

Presenters: Darren Genova, Park Designer, Engineering & Capital Projects  
Jeff Justus, Technical Principal, Schmidt Design Group  
Lindsay DeCeault, Project Manager, Schmidt Design Group

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Requested Action

**NOTE:** Nine (9) Public Comments were received for this item as follows:

**Comment #1 from Lisa Cuestas:**

*“Casa Familiar strongly support approval of the Beyer Park General plan and would like to add that this park and this community should be prioritized with any major infrastructure project that has the ability to address shortfalls in equity and specifically environmental and health enhancing*

opportunities. We support it but this plan should be better. The natural landscape of wetland and vernal pools are not being planned for a flourishing approach or adding the amount of trees that can actually help mitigate air quality. Where is the plan for solar and electric vehicle charging stations? They must be added. City of SD, do not fail to invest and design appropriately in San Ysidro again. There is much to make up for and this park can be the first example of parks designed to help mitigate carbon sequestration for San Diego. We will not hear too many trees will cause security issues—everything has a solution. If it needs additional lighting to help with security, there should be a solar plan to support that. We must include as many trees as possible.”

Comment #2 from Bertha Rodriguez:

“I am part of the San Ysidro Skater Kids club, and I support the project with the inclusion of the Skate Park. It is imperative to create a safe space for youth of San Ysidro to skate and have a recreational space that promotes unity and community.”

Attachments:

Comment #3 from Tiernan Seaver:

“I would like to comment in support of the General Development Plan for Beyer Community Park. The community has been waiting decades for this park to come to fruition and it would be a much needed green space in the community. The skate park in specific has been something that San Ysidro youth have been passionately advocating for, as there is currently no skate park in the community. I would suggest that in the actual development of the park any more trees are added. Especially around the walking trails and the skate park. The trees will add necessary shading during hot summer months. They will also help with carbon sequestration, which should be taken very seriously considering the poor air quality at that location due to long vehicular wait times at the US border crossing.

Comment #4 from David Martinez: (also comment #5)

“I would like to request that a bike park to be included in the Beyer Park design. I realize that that there are bike parks in the San Diego County including in Chula Vista but there are none in the San Ysidro/Otay Mesa area that are in close proximity for kids to ride their bikes to. Adding a bike park to Beyer park will add an area for kids to ride their bike but also add local revenue to the area from visitors.”

Attachments:

Comment #5 from David Martinez:

“I am reaching out to request a for Radio Control Truck and Crawler Course to be added to the General Development Plan for Beyer Park. If the board is not aware of what a Radio Control Truck and Crawler Course is, I am attaching a website link to an example:

[https://urldefense.com/v3/\\_https://markhampark.com/rc-truck-and-crawler-course/\\_;!!OBed2aHXvKmHymw!!UeD1\\_tizu68kiEhAnuh-yLlMDtyPPJhjlOxHjxNS5QjHwafY-Xc8z4U3jYPF1OB\\_LIS](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://markhampark.com/rc-truck-and-crawler-course/_;!!OBed2aHXvKmHymw!!UeD1_tizu68kiEhAnuh-yLlMDtyPPJhjlOxHjxNS5QjHwafY-Xc8z4U3jYPF1OB_LIS)

I am a local resident and in the last couple of years, I and other others have utilized a portion of the land that is adjacent to the proposed Beyer park to build a course/track for us to use our radio control (RC) cars. We built obstacles and trails within the small hills sides and erosions. On weekends many other RC enthusiasts from different parts of the city joined us. These were all family/friends hobby events. There is no such RC course/track in San Diego County and San Ysidro could be the first and only city to have a RC course/track. This would add an area for children and adults to play but also will bring tax revenue to the area. Many enthusiasts from Tijuana who a diehard off-road enthusiast and local San Diego residents could visit the course/track therefore bring local revenue. This could put San Ysidro on the map.”

Comment #6 from Yolanda Hernandez:

*“We would like to add some bike trails, more fitness machines that are outdoors and more markers.”*

Comment #7 from Andrew Sturm

*“1. Construction of this park should be at the top of the Parks Board list.*

*San Ysidro has too few parks for its population, especially given that many folks here live in multifamily apartment buildings.*

*2. Also, given the ongoing issue with air pollution created by the border crossing, the proposed design for this park does not do enough to strengthen / reinforce the vernal pool as a carbon sequestration amenity. In the current drawing the area shown near the top as "wetland" is a vernal (seasonal) pool. Vernal pools, and the vegetation that grows up around them, are known for having a very strong ability to sequester carbon (pull it out of the air) and mitigate air pollution exactly like the kind we have in San Ysidro that is causing all the extreme respiratory and health issues. Much more attention must be given to strengthening the vernal pool's carbon sequestration abilities. Every available inch of area not otherwise used by the fields and skate park should be maximized with drought tolerant trees that have high carbon sequestration rates. It would be a crime to not capitalize on this opportunity to somewhat alleviate the air pollution here in San Ysidro.”*

Comment #8 from Alejandro Amador:

*“We strongly support the prioritization of Beyer Park as a project for the community of San Ysidro. Given that the San Ysidro/Otway area consistently reports with the highest readings of black carbon and particulate matter (PM), the proposed design from 2017 should be reviewed once more. The increase the number of trees planned, and carbon sequestration strategies should be maximized. This will not only help mitigate the extremely poor air quality in the community, but to also help meet the 35% tree canopy coverage goal from Urban Forestry management plan. Additionally, Beyer Park should adequately represent the level of investment that the City of San Diego continues to promise for our community. This park should incorporate sustainable components that our community lacks and desperately needs; solar panels should be added on top of the parking lot to maximize the efficiency of the spaces that this park will offer.”*

Comment #9 from Sarina Vega:

*“I want to express the strong support for the prioritization of the Beyer Community Park. This park will be a great asset to the community but must be re-evaluated to meet the standards and necessities from the community. The park's design should really address the incorporation of the maximum number of trees that can be planted to help mitigate the long lasting air quality issue endured by our historically disfranchised community.”*

**MOTION:**

**MOVED/SECONDED**

**Mr. Gulley /Ms. Bothwell**

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Ms. Bothwell to approve Item 101 the Beyer Community Park – Approval of General Development Plan. The motion was approved 8-0-0 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Katherine Johnston and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: (None). Recused: (None). Abstained: (None). Not Present: Bobby Hughes and Noli Zosa.

**102. Park and Recreation Board Policy 1001 – Naming of Parks and Park Facilities**

Presenter: Andrew Field, Director, Parks and Recreation Department

The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion
- Requested Action

**NOTE:** No (0) Public Comments were received for this item.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Anastasopoulos and seconded by Mr. Gulley to approve Item 102 the Park and Recreation Board Policy 1001 – Naming of Parks and Park Facilities. The motion was approved 8-0-0 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Katherine Johnston and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: (None). Recused: (None). Abstained: (None). Not Present: Bobby Hughes and Noli Zosa.

**INFORMATION ITEMS** - None

**CONSENT ITEMS** - None

**INFORMATION ITEMS** - None

**WORKSHOP** – None

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 3:22 pm.


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

The meeting can be viewed via the City's Public Meetings [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-4gY2k1D1ikzb25QM-O3eg) (<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-4gY2k1D1ikzb25QM-O3eg>).

**Next Calendared Meeting:**

Thursday, October 15, 2020

Submitted by,



Andrew Field  
Director  
Parks and Recreation Department