

**City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, June 16, 2022**

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

**Meeting Held by Teleconference:**

This meeting was held remotely using the Zoom Webinar platform and was streamed online. The public was invited to join the meeting by phone or computer, as well as invited to submit “Public Comments” in writing via a webform. The form was made available on the Parks and Recreation website at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards>.

**NOTE:** Both verbal and written communication were used by Committee Members, City staff, and presenters during 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.

Before the meeting was called to order, City staff read instructions to the public regarding technical procedures for making live Public Comment during the Webinar.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>City Staff Present</b>
Marcella Bothwell – Chair Molly Chase Ron Cho Rick Gulley Dennis Otsuji – Vice Chair Evelyn Smith Pita Verdin	Nick Anastasopoulos David Baron Jon Becker Noli Zosa	Andy Field – Director Karen Dennison Tom Tomlinson Louis Merlin Ryan Barbrick Shannon Scoggins Elvi Ricafort

**CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 2:05 pm.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF May 19, 2022**

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

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Otsuji to approve the **June 16, 2022, Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**. The motion was approved 4-0-2 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, and Pita Verdin. Recused: None. Abstained: Molly Chase and Marcella Bothwell. Not Present: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, John Becker, and Noli Zosa.

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:**

<b>Commenter Name:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Kristy Shephard	Ms. Shephard asked for an update on when the Fault Line Park off leash dog run works will begin. Construction was meant to begin in 2019. There is an influx of dogs in the area and they need somewhere to exercise. There are no downtown off leash dog areas and this is creating a lot of community tensions.
Susan Patch	Ms. Patch uses bicycles for transportation along Park Boulevard and around San Diego daily. Making Park Boulevard friendly for bicycles, scooters, skateboards, etc. is critical for the future of the City bike network. Park Boulevard is currently unfriendly towards bicycles, with no dedicated bicycle facilities going through Balboa Park. Making connections between Uptown and Downtown would be beneficial for residents and tourists visiting the Zoo and Balboa Park. Ms. Patch does not ride on Park Boulevard south of Zoo Drive because she feels it is too dangerous. Park Boulevard currently is very car-centric, and even a bicycle taking the lane is endangered by out-of-towners trying to park, by doors opening, and by motorists speeding past. She urges the City to retrofit Park Blvd with a separated bike path (cycle track) and improvements for pedestrians and public transportation users.
Danielle Laman	Ms. Laman asked whether Council Policy 600-33 requires approvals of General Development Plans (GDPs) to be approved by the Area Committees before they are considered by the Park and Recreation Board. She asked the same question about the approval process for park naming requests. She requested that more information on the Area Committees be posted on the City webpage and asked who to contact to request items for future agendas.
Melvin Scott	Mr. Scott reported branches in Emerald Hills Park are hanging over the fence onto church property located at 1601 Kelton Street.

**CONSENT AGENDA: (two votes needed):**

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE:**

**COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

<b>Committee Name:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Area Committee CP-1	Mr. Otsuji reported that they had a meeting and shared two items of interest. The review of FY2023 budget proposal and recreation center fund budgets and recreation equity update; They had only one action item but could not be heard due to lack of quorum.
Area Committee CP-2	Same update as Area Committee CP-1.

<b>Committee Name:</b>	<b>Summary of Comment:</b>
Balboa Park Committee	Ms. Chase reported that there was mobility proposal to add dedicated bike lanes on Park Boulevard within Balboa Park.
Mission Trails CAC	Mr. Gulley reported that no update due to no meeting. However, a site visit was held at the San Diego River locations where a new bridge is planned to be constructed.

**SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION (SDPF) UPDATE:**

Chair Bothwell shared that the SDPF has a new site design and invite everyone to check out the new site design.

<b>Topic:</b>	<b>Update:</b>
Come Play Outside	No update.
Other	No update.

**CHAIR COMMENTS:** None

**BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:** None

**DIRECTORS REPORT:**

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

- **Appointments to the P&R Board** – no updates
  - Today is Ron Cho’s last official meeting, as he is resigning from the Board. Thank you, Mr. Cho, for your years of services to the Board!
- **Return to In-Person Meetings**
  - Still testing proposed solution to allow recording and remote meeting participation
- **Employees of the Quarter** – No update this month
- **Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Development**
  - The City Council adopted the Fiscal Year 2023 budget on June 13, 2022
- **Come Play Outside/Summer for All of Us**
  - Efforts continue to plan for summer activities, programs, and events in collaboration with partners such as San Diego Parks Foundation and Price Philanthropies

- **Job Opportunities in Parks and Recreation**
  - The Department created a new recruitment webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-and-recreation-employment>.
  - Job fair coming on June 24, 2022 at 11 a.m. at the Balboa Park Club
- **Vacancies**
  - The Department continues to have between 100 and 130 permanent, full-time vacant positions. These include grounds maintenance workers, mid-level supervisors, recreation staff, and a variety of office and administrative staff.
  - The Department continues to do what it can to fill all vacant positions and ensure each recreation center and pool has sufficient staff to allow for regular operations.
- **Parks Master Plan (Parks for All of Us):**
  - No major update this month other than staff plans to bring forward draft guidelines for the Opportunity Fund and Citywide Park Development Impact to the Board as soon as next month
  - Copy of the plan is available on City's webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-for-all-of-us>
- **Council Policy 700-42 and Community Recreation Group Update**
  - No major update this month
- **Play All Day/Joint Use:**
  - No major update this month
- **New Facilities/Groundbreaking and Grand Opening**
  - 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Therapeutic Recreation Services at the Park de la Cruz Community Center coming on June 18, 2022 at 2 p.m.
- **Sidewalk Vending Ordinance (SVO):**
  - Effective date of SVO enforcement is on June 22, 2022
  - Coastal parks enforcement begins once approved by California Coastal Commission
- **Pickleball**
  - Still working to develop space for pickleball and continue to work with both tennis and pickleball advocates
- **City Council Items:**
  - **Proposed Overnight Gated Closure of Certain Coastal and Bay Parking Areas packages** are being developed for Coastal Commission to receive in summer 2022 – each package covers a local coastal program (LCP)

- **Fern Street Circus**
  - At the May meeting, Mr. Baron inquired about Fern Street Circus and updates regarding their pending move to Polk Street.
  - Fern Street Circus is being relocated to Polk Avenue (specifically, Central and Polk in City Heights). Currently, a contractor is on-site (via a right of entry permit) and is winding down its construction staging.
  - Once completed, the site will be available for use by Fern Street Circus. Staff (Area Manager Raul Contreras) is in regular contact with both the permittee and Fern Street Circus.
- **Renaming effort for Colina del Sol**
  - At the May meeting, Daniele Laman asked for a status update on renaming Colina del Sol Park after it was approved by the Colina del Sol CRG during its May meeting. The renaming applies to the playground, as well as the recreation center.
  - Staff indicates that STAR/Pal will pay for the costs of renaming the park facilities if the naming is approved. During the May meeting, it was reported that STAR/Pal was able to find a vendor (a process that had begun in Fall 2021) to do the work.
  - This matter will come the Board as an action item later this year.
- **Upcoming Board Items:**
  - Policy for uses of the Opportunity Fund
  - Policy for uses of the Citywide Park DIF Fund
- **Board Member Questions of P&R Director**
  - Mr. Otsuji requested for update on Chollas Creek Regional Park, Fiesta Island, DeAnza Cove at an upcoming meeting. Mr. Field indicated he would request updates on these three items from the Planning Department as they are leading these three efforts.
  - Ms. Bothwell asked for the address of the Therapeutic Recreation Services (TRS) 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, requested information about the Local Coastal Program (LCP), how the Opportunity Fund will be used, and how the Citywide Park Development Impact Fee (DIF) will be used. The Park de la Cruz Community Center is located at 3901 Landis Street in City Heights. According to the California Coastal Commission webpage, LCPs are basic planning tools used by local governments to guide development in the coastal zone, in partnership with the Coastal Commission. Several LCPs exist within the City boundaries. More information can be found here: <https://www.coastal.ca.gov/lcps.html>. Updates to the Opportunity Fund and Citywide Park DIF will be presented to the Board at future meetings.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**101. - Ward Canyon Park Interim Dog Off Leash Area General Development Plan Amendment**

Presenters: Shannon Scoggins, Park Designer, Parks and Recreation Department

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Baron/Ms. Verdin

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Ms. Verdin to approve the Ward Canyon Park Interim Dog Off Leash Area General Development Plan Amendment. The motion approved, 7-0-3 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, David Baron, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, and Pita Verdin. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Nick Anastasopoulos, John Becker, Evelyn Smith, and Noli Zosa.

**Public Comment:** No public comment was received

**Board Member Comment:**

Mr. Baron expressed his full support and is glad to see this happen.

Mr. Otsuji asked if the proposal would be an interim and if there would be a permanent project coming. Ms. Scoggins responded yes to both questions. Mr. Otsuji also asked if there had been an increase demand for dog off leash areas. Mr. Scoggins responded yes due to dogs have been off leash at nearby joint use field, so this effort would help to address that concern.

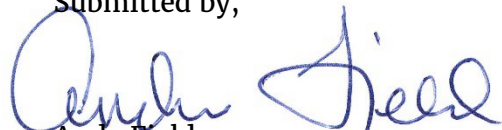
**INFORMATION ITEM:** None

**ADJOURNMENT** - The meeting was adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

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

**Next Calendared Meeting:** July 21, 2022

Submitted by,



Andy Field

Director

Parks and Recreation Department