

**City of San Diego
DeAnza Natural Ad Hoc Committee
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 23, 2023**

Meeting Held by In Person and Teleconference:

This meeting was held at the Paradise Point Resort & Spa. The public was invited to join the in-person meeting, 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.

Members Present	Members Absent	City Staff Present
<p>PRB Members: Jon Becker Marcella Bothwell René Smith</p> <p>MBPC Members: Jim Gross Jeff Johnson Judith Munoz</p>		<p>Christina Chadwick Mike Rodrigues Michelle Abella-Shon Randy White Gabby Verendia Maricris Lomibao Elvi Ricafort</p>

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 6:05 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES - MAY 23, 2023

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Public Comment on non-agenda item:

Commenter:	Summary of Comments:
John Herrington	Mr. Herrington commented that all areas of De Anza should be designed to facilitate the public access and maximize the enjoyment of the Bay.

CONSENT AGENDA ACTION ITEMS: None

DISCUSSION ITEMS: None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

- 201. De Anza Natural Active Recreation Plan Refinements**
 Presenters: Kelly Stanco, Deputy Director, Planning Department
 Scott Sandel, Park Designer, Planning Department –

(Presentation on 5/23 attached/Not posted)

Public Comment on Item #201:

Commenter:	Summary of Comments:
Gwendolyn Dick	Ms. Dick commented to prioritize the wetlands and restorations. She would like to request the restoration of wetlands and to be accessible. Another area to discuss is the Rose creek path directly to the channel as opposed to the wetlands.
Mark Ruwedo	Mr. Ruwedo commented that that whole discussion is happening because of the wetlands. It is critical that rewild represents scientists and environmentalists. There is a need of where, how much wetlands on the plan. Ms. Bothwell made a shout out of the Rose Canyon speaker for tonight will be coming on the June 27 th instead. We will know more why Rose Canyon is not mitigated. It will be an exciting topic.
Mr. Scott	Mr. Scott commented that there should be a balance of uses of the park. This is our chance to remedy to balance all recreational groups, natural groups etc.

Board Member Comment on Item 201:

Board Member:	Summary of Comments:
Judith Munoz	<p>Ms. Munoz commented on her concerns about the proposal was the loss of some sport fields due the buffer.</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that the buffer has been reduced.</p>
Jon Becker	<p>Mr. Becker asked about the fence line along the line on existing ballfields will remain?</p> <p>Mr. Handell responded that the tight spot will be reduced mitigation, and to alleviate sea level rise in the future. That area will be filled out to avoid mitigation in that area.</p>
René Smith	<p>Mr. Smith commented about the plan amendments, specifically about the Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR). He noted that he did not find the documents on the website.</p> <p>Ms Stanco responded that the documents no longer on the website due to the expiration of the given review time.</p> <p>Ms. Smith also asked about the 616 pages /comments received when can the committee expect to see them on the website?</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that they are still going through the 700 public comments received.</p> <p>Mr. Smith also asked about the number of hotels listed on the plan.</p> <p>Mr. Handel is not clear about the question/comment.</p> <p>Ms. Bothwell shared the page number with Mr. Handel.</p>
Marcella Bothwell	<p>Ms. Bothwell asked about the writing of restoration, in the ballfields can the lights be added to the main plan?</p> <p>Ms. Stanko responded that in terms of added existing uses, if special lighting is needed then these will be addressed on the General Development Plan (GDP) level or stage of the project.</p> <p>Ms. Bothwell also asked about the 300 feet border area to the Rose creek area came from? She wanted to know the driver of these numbers.</p> <p>Mr. Handell responded that the numbers referred to the building setbacks.</p> <p>Ms. Bothwell asked if the building setbacks triggered those numbers.</p> <p>Mr. Sandel responded yes.</p>

<p>Jim Gross</p>	<p>Mr. Gross commented that he has clarification questions. He wanted to clarify that the plan will create no displacement of the areas and when the General Development Plan (GDP) comes later this would affect the use of the areas?</p> <p>Mr. Sandel responded that this planning document and plan amendment will reside as planning document. The current uses will remain the same until it becomes ready for implementation, which means fully approved and funding is in place.</p>
<p>Marcella Bothwell</p>	<p>Ms. Bothwell commented that the added language on the page means that no groups will be displaced. She reiterated that the added language was extremely important and made a big difference.</p>
<p>Judith Munoz</p>	<p>Ms. Munoz asked what improvements go there.</p>
<p>Jeff Johnson</p>	<p>Mr. Johnson commented on Fiesta Island to access wetlands, stuff like that. I do not see the consideration on those areas.</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that Fiesta Island is just a portion of the De Anza Plan to amend.</p> <p>Mr. Johnson commented that human stress can be recreation subjects. It can recreate by golf, recreate by bird, recreate by bicycle, etc.</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that final wetland restorations, recreational amenities on Mission Bay park would come at the GDP stage.</p>
<p>René Smith</p>	<p>Mr. Smith asked if there would be a Comprehensive Mission Bay Park master plan be looked at?</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that she was not aware of any general planning.</p>
<p>Marcella Bothwell</p>	<p>Ms. Bothwell shared below the upcoming meetings for June for this committee.</p> <p>June 13th Meeting:</p> <p>RECREATION, TENNIS, FIELDS, UCSD NATURAL RESERVE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heather Henter, UCSD • Jim Irwin, PB Tennis Club • Tom Norton, McEvoy Fields Association • Billy Bonelli, Youth Sports Recreation • Kevin Hellman Adult Sports Representative <p>June 20th Meeting:</p> <p>CAMPLAND + BOAT AND SKI CLUB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steele Young, San Diego Boat & Ski Club <u>Commodore</u>, Campland + Boat & Ski Club • Michael and Jacob Gelfand, Campland by the Bay Boat & Ski Club

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ahmed Ait-Lahcen, MB RV Park & Campland Campland + Boat & Ski Club <p>June 27th Meeting:</p> <p>COMMUNITY + MBLA + Culturally Important Communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Rebekah Loveless Charlie Neito, PB Town Council Felix Goodson,CRG Kurt Carlson, Municipal Council Committee Deborah Knight, Friends of Rose Canyon
Judith Munoz	<p>Ms. Munoz asked if the meeting was being recorded?</p> <p>Ms. Bothwell responded yes via audio recording. It was confirmed by Elvi Ricafort.</p>

202. San Diego Audubon Presentation
 Presenter: Andrew Meyer, San Diego Audubon

(Presentation on 5/23 attached/Not posted)

Public Comment on Item #202:

Commenter:	Summary of Comments:
Lesley Handy	<p>Ms. Handy commented that climate change poses immediate threat to the society and City of San Diego priority is to make decisions to plan for our future.</p> <p>We are running out of time to address climate change and meaningful action is needed by the City of San Diego to restore maximum wetlands as much as possible.</p>
Jim Qui	<p>Mr. Qui commented that City of Sn Diego staff did not research well their planning and researching for alternatives. He believes that natural wetlands are important.</p>
Mr. Barnes	<p>Mr. Barnes –agreed with Mr. Weber’s presentation. He is in favor of it.</p> <p>He also noted that the old map showing Bahia and the importance of looking at this region with this Mission Bay Area as one. Not to categorize as separate. We should look at how many are the uses are, how much habitat there is, how much environmental sensitive shoreline is there.</p> <p>He also thanked the newly formed ad hoc committee.</p>

Jacob Gelfand	<p>Mr. Gelfand commented that there was a mention of leasehold and commercial interest. He noted that only 25% were dedicated to the commercial</p> <p>Mr. Gelfand agreed with the presentation and, he believes that it would be nice that study came from independent experts versus the paid lobbyist of environmental. A third party of water quality study is needed since the last study was in 2004.</p>
Gloria Henson	<p>Ms. Henson commented about the original 66 acres now in use. Mr. Sandel responded that the existing facilities continue to be identified for active recreation in the new proposed land use map.</p>
Mr. Romero	<p>Mr. Romero is to ask Rose Creek to finally get their delta. Sewage filled completed the camp land and Kendall Frost Marsch. If we have connection to the De Anza Cove Natural will gradually rise the sea level.</p>

Board Member Comment on Item 202:

Board Member:	Summary of Comments:
René Smith	<p>Mr. Smith asked if we would find a lengthy response from Audubon to the De Anza Natural Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR)?</p> <p>Mr. Weber confirmed that they submitted about 25-page comment letters with a bunch of improvements and recommendations. The main thing that they concentrated on is the De Anza PEIR that the city needs to value recreational uses of the park.</p>
Jim Gross	<p>Mr. Gross commented as being part of the early 40's, 4th generation San Diegan and he bikes everyday. However, there are three places that he could not access namely, Mission Bay, SeaWorld and Kendall Frost Marsch. Kendall Frost March is currently fenced, and that fence can be removed to have public access.</p> <p>A public audience commented that the Kendall Frost Marsh was donated by the owner to the University of San Diego (UCSD).</p> <p>Mr. Gross commented that we live in a tourist town. We cannot afford to go to these areas. The average public recreates and enjoys the current accessible park areas. Some of these areas are threatened with this new plan. He believes that recreation comes in all forms.</p>

Judith Munoz	Ms. Munoz commented that she believes that that environment is getting better.
René Smith	<p>Mr. Smith commented that changing objective of this project over time. The Preliminary Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) will get us to the problems to be resolved. He requested the Planning staff to provide the link to where to find the Environmental Impact Report (EIR). A link to the comments made as well.</p> <p>Link to the CEQA documents is provided below: https://ceqanet.opr.ca.gov/2018061024/2</p> <p>He also pointed out that it would be useful to know the percentage of those are San Diegans. Let us have some facts. Mr. Meyer responded that Mission Bay subarea plan corner of the Kendall Frost Marsh reduce fragmentation and resource effects.</p>
Jon Becker	<p>Mr. Becker asked about the hydrology report. He believes that Climate change and sea level rise come into play. Salt flushing will occur. He believes that hydrology report is important because it is what created the Bay.</p> <p>Mt. Andrew agreed with Mr. Becker.</p> <p>Mr. Becker asked clarification on Hydrology modeling report come into play and where the 66% mentioned by Scott Handel from his report?</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that the level of hydrology report was not required. It was not part of their current plan, but they are adding it.</p>
René Smith	<p>Mr. Smith commented that SeaWorld came and presented to the Board the SeaWorld Master Plan and discussed the sea level rise. He would checked the report presented.</p> <p>Mr. Smith also asked if there no change to have the hydrology report be done sooner?</p> <p>Ms. Stanco responded that this will happen during the General Development Plan (GDP) stage of the project.</p>

WORKSHOP ITEMS: None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next Calendared Meeting: June 13, 2023

Respectfully Submitted by,

TBD