

CITY OF SAN DIEGO  
PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT  
University Heights Community Recreation Group  
MINUTES  
April 6, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.  
Alice Birney Elementary School Library  
4345 Campus Avenue, San Diego CA 92130

**Mailing Address:**

North Park Recreation Center  
4044 Idaho Street  
San Diego, CA 92104

**ATTENDANCE**

Marc Johnson, Chairperson  
Stu McGraw, Vice Chair  
Ernie Bonn, Corresponding Secretary  
Chris Milnes  
Sol Schumer  
Jane Bird -VOLO Sports

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Andy Cameron  
Jeffery Taylor

**CITY STAFF**

Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager II - Absent  
Council District 3 Representative - Ryan Darsey- Absent  
Justin Necaie, Presidio Recreation Center Director  
Tianna David, North Park Recreation Center Director - Absent  
Malik Thornton, Representative for City Councilmember Whitburn

**GUESTS**

Kristin Harms of UH Historical Society

**CALL TO ORDER** - Marc Johnson called the meeting to order at 5:37 pm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion: It was moved/seconded (Ernie Bonn / Sol Schumer) to approve March 2, 2023, minutes as presented, motion carried unanimously (6-0-0).

**COMMUNICATIONS** - No report.

**CHAIRPERSON REPORT** - Marc Johnson reported that he has received no update from the Education Board on clarification on the dog park. Marc Johnson also reported that the University Heights Community Recreation Group has been given approval to fix the kiosk at Old Trolley Barn park.

**REPORTS**

**Parks and Recreation** - Justin Necaie reported the beginning of the Spring sports season. Volleyball is fully enrolled, and soccer is partially enrolled. Recruitment is ongoing. New Opportunity Fund Budget proposal to be submitted for review later this month which may result in additional funding for our Recreation centers.

**Area Manager** - No report.

**Presidio Recreation Center** – Justin Necaie reported the Parks Foundation visited Presidio Recreation Center to survey new potential additions and upgrades to the park.

**City Council District 3 Representative** – Malik Thornton reported on a successful Community Clean-up event with good turnout. Malik Thornton also reported on Councilmember Whitburn’s proposal to adjust the municipal code regarding encampments on City property. The proposal is in committee on April 13<sup>th</sup>. Inspiration point is among the locations currently being considered as a potential homeless relocation center.

**San Diego Police Department** – No Report.

**Birney Elementary** – No Report

**University Heights Point** – Stu McGraw reported that graffiti artists were caught by police at University Heights. Community member set up cameras near high impact areas which aided police. Stu McGraw recommends a proposal to “I Love a Clean San Diego” be made for clean up of the high impact areas. Chair Marc Johnson reported that Rangers are typically unable or unavailable to assist.

**Old Trolley Barn Neighborhood Park** – No report.

**Parks and Recreation Community Parks II Area Committee** – Sol Schumer reported no meeting took place this month.

**Uptown Planners** – Stu McGraw reported new elections took place last month, newly elected officials were seated last week, and that no business pertaining to the UHCRG took place.

**North Park Public Facilities Subcommittee** – Ernie Bonn reported that no meeting took place this month per the subcommittee elections.

**Education Center Redevelopment** – Kristin Harms reported that she reached out to the Education Center for more information and has received no update.

**VOLO Sports** – Jane Bird reported that the Birney Ballfield has been left unlocked overnight. Chair Marc Johnson confirmed that this is typical procedure. Start dates have been set for the upcoming 6-week schedule starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. There has been interest in starting Pride Kickball and Grass Volleyball including discount for UHCA.

**ACTION ITEMS** – Adoption (Each item requires individual action).

1. UH Historical Society – Historical marker for Old Trolley Barn Park. Kristin Harms reported that the previously installed 3 historical markers are holding up well under the extremely wet weather conditions. Kristin proposed an additional historical marking at OTB Park with the historical significance on OTB. UH Historical Society would pay for the marker and the City would install. Chair recommends supporting the historical marker. The proposal received unanimous approval (6-0-0).

**WORKSHOP ITEMS** –

1. Update on the Ed Center Temporary Dog Park. No updates.

2. Unfunded Improvement List – Review for any updates.
  - 1- Reword entrance to future annex to the Ed Center to entry way to teachers training annex.
  - 2- Remove repair erosion and plant fire resistant landscaping under the bridge at OTB due to competition
  - 3- Justin Necaïse reported need for additional park lighting at Presidio Recreation Center. Chair Marc Johnson recommends supporting this addition. The proposal received unanimous approval (5-0-0).

**INFORMATION ITEM** –

1. Action Item to be added for next meeting regarding Concerts at OTB for the 4 Fridays in July 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT** – There being no further business, Marc Johnson adjourned the meeting at 6:27 p.m.

**NOTICE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING** – Thursday, May 4, 2022 at 5:30 p.m., at the Birney Elementary School Library room.

*Justin Necaïse*

Submitted by Justin Necaïse, Center Director I

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST, CONTACT MICHELE CHICARELLI, (619) 235-1161, or email [mchicarelli@sandiego.gov](mailto:mchicarelli@sandiego.gov).  
North Park Recreation Center Tianna David, [TDavid@sandiego.gov](mailto:TDavid@sandiego.gov)  
Presidio Recreation Center, Justin Necaïse, [JNecaïse@sandiego.gov](mailto:JNecaïse@sandiego.gov)