

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board

April 19, 2012

**Minutes**

***“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”***

**Meeting Held at:**

City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
202 C Street  
San Diego, California 92101

**Mailing Address is:**

City of San Diego  
202 C Street, MS 37C  
San Diego, California 92101

**Members Present**

Wilbur Smith, Chair  
Bruce Brown  
Rick Bussell  
William Diehl  
Amy Denhart  
Claudia Dunaway  
Bobby Hughes  
Vicki Granowitz  
David Kinney  
Michael Stepner  
Kathryn Warburton

**Members Absent**

**City Staff Present**

Rumi Doherty  
Kyle Elser  
Patty Jencks  
Danielle Knighten  
Stacey LoMedico  
Bonnie Pearson  
Shannon Thomas  
Debbie Van Martin  
Ken Whitfield

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chair, Smith, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m and welcomed all in attendance.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 15, 2012**

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Ms. Granowitz**

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell and seconded by Ms. Granowitz to approve the March 15, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved (11-0).

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Ms. Granowitz**

A motion was made by Mr. Brown to move Item 101 - Mountain View Neighborhood Park-Play Area Upgrades General Development Plan to the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Ms. Granowitz. (11-0)

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Ms. Granowitz/Mr. Brown**

A motion was made by Ms. Granowitz to move Item 201 - Park and Recreation Department Fiscal Year 2012 Customer Satisfaction Survey Results to the Consent Agenda and was seconded by Mr. Brown. (11-0).

A motion was made by Ms. Granowitz and seconded by Mr. Bussell to approve the Consent Agenda. Vote was unanimously approved (11-0).

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Report

Community Parks II Area Committee

The Director, Ms. LoMedico came and presented information on the SUP/SOP for recreation councils as well as the changes to SDMC 63.010.

Balboa Park Committee – No Report

Design Review Committee – No Report

Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Mr. Diehl reported there was discussion regarding the reclaimed water line. When the City put the line through the canyon, they had to re-vegetate the area along the trail. There is concern about using the water off the fire hydrant to that as well as other specific concerns. It appears that a sensitive habitat is being created where there wasn't one there before. Additionally, Ranger Washington requested input as to what type of events the park should be used for. The Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens' Advisory Committee members stated they did not want to see any type of events being held in the park. Mr. Diehl stated it should be the discretion of the committee as to what type of event that would be held.
- Ms. LoMedico asked if this is the adopted re-vegetated plan for the Public Utilities/Water Department's water line? She also asked if staff is working with them to address some of the issues? Mr. Diehl states "yes".

Mission Bay Park Committee – No Report

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Tecolote Canyon Citizens' Advisory Committee – No Report

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee – No Report

COMMUNICATIONS - None

(Limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to three minutes and is not debatable.)

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Mr. Smith commented that City revenues seem to be increasing as reflected in the budget presentation, which Board members will be hearing today. It appears this coming fiscal year there may be funds available for park activities.

- Mr. Smith commented on the many retirements in the City, as reflected in the memo Board members received from Director Stacey LoMedico. One retirement he did not mention at the last meeting was Deborah Sharpe of the Park Planning Section in Development Services Department. She was the keeper of the General Plan standards and she was the person who negotiated with all developers to ensure that park requirements are met. She will be sorely missed.
- The summer season is fast approaching and it will be a test for the Department with new personnel.
- Mr. Smith has been touring a few of the parks and wanted to comment on the well-kept appearance of Balboa Park, Mission Bay Park as well as Mission Trails Regional Park. He expressed his appreciation to the staff for the work they have been doing.

## DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- At the April 17, 2012 Council Meeting, the Mayor and Councilmember Todd Gloria presented the Library, Police and Park and Recreation with a Proclamation declaring April as "National Volunteer Month". We were fortunate to have volunteers who were recommended by their supervisors, including Board member Mr. Bill Diehl who represented the Peñasquitos area. Ms. LoMedico will be sending the Proclamation to the various Divisions and other areas so staff can present it to their advisory groups.
- Ms. LoMedico presented Certificates of Appreciation to the Board members to say "thank you" for volunteering their time.
- Ms. LoMedico commented on the "thank you" letter she sent to the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership Administrator. Many volunteers expressed their appreciation for the passes.
- April is National Volunteer Month – Board members should have received the memo Ms. LoMedico distributed to Mayor and Council, which outlined the number of volunteers we are fortunate to have. We have amazing volunteers. This park would not look the way it looks without our volunteers. Ms. LoMedico encouraged members to pass on to our Volunteer Coordinator possible volunteer's information.
- A memo from Assistant Park and Recreation Department Director Scott Reese, was distributed to Board members as an update on the Department's online project.
- May 17<sup>th</sup> – Plaza de Panama Project will come before the Board for an action vote; and will be the only item on the agenda.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup> – Information Item on Plaza de Panama being presented at the Planning Commission and the same day at the Balboa Park Committee. It will go to other advisory committees as well.
- It appears that that the Board will be dark in August. As it gets closer, Ms. Pearson will contact Board members for their vacation schedules in the event a Board meeting needs to be scheduled.
- In the Board members packets is a memo from the Director regarding an overview of the Park and Recreation budget. There will be a more detailed discussion regarding the budget later in the meeting.
- Ms. LoMedico shared other items pertaining to our golf courses.
- Park and Recreation is gearing up for summer. Ms. LoMedico stated that maintenance staff can be seen revegging shrub beds, piles of mulch in various areas.
- Additionally, summer brings back the summer lunch program and we will once again participate with the South Bay and San Diego Unified School Districts in various parks.
- Once again we will host Movies in the Park.

- Upcoming Events – This Saturday and next Saturday, Park and Recreation will be participating in National April Pool’s Day. There will be two sites both Saturdays for water safety, swim for the children and several fun activities. The Soccer Expo in City Heights will be this Saturday as well.
- Friends of Balboa Park is celebrating Arbor Day and new trees will be planted at the Organ Pavilion.
- Past Events of Note: Jefferson Elementary Joint Use Park Grand Opening; Mayor Sanders, Councilmember Gloria and Board member Denhart attended.
- At the mid-year budget process, the Department received an additional five hours of operation programmed for the balance of this fiscal year. Those five hours will be implemented at all 56 sites effective next pay period beginning April 28<sup>th</sup>. Sometime during that week all centers will have their additional five hours programmed. Some sites have begun programming for Sunday hours and others just for the week. This information will be posted on our website.
- Possible Photo Opportunity - Council Districts 1, 2 and 3 assisted Park and Recreation with funding of the disabled beach wheelchair program. We have beach wheelchairs along the various sites that will assist persons with various disabilities in maneuvering in the sand. The donation from the Council Offices provided three new portable wheelchairs and will be in service by Memorial Day.
- Mike Gotch Memorial Bridge Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will be Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. This will complete the path around the bay for pedestrians and bicycles.
- On April 28<sup>th</sup> Mission Trails Regional Park will have the Kumeyaay Nations Flag Raising Ceremony.

## ACTION ITEMS

### **102. Park and Recreation Board – Establishing Standing Committees**

Chair Smith requested that Board member Stepner continue as Vice Chair.

- Park and Recreation Board Chair – Wilbur Smith
- Park and Recreation Vice Chair – Michael Stepner
- Community Parks I Area Committee Chair – Rick Bussell; Vice Chair Claudia Dunaway
- Community Parks II Area Committee Chair – Amy Denhart; Vice Chair – Bobby Hughes
- Balboa Park Committee Chair – David Kinney
- Design Review Committee (Interim) Chair – Wilbur Smith
- Los Peñasquitos Canyon Preserve Citizens’ Advisory Committee – Recommendation to delete as a standing committee
- Mission Bay Park Committee – Recommendation to delete as a standing committee. (*For the record*) Ms. LoMedico explained that the Oversight Committee is per the Charter and Mission Bay is a committee in the Municipal Code. However, it is no longer listed as an actual sub-committee of the Board like Balboa Park Committee. The Chair of the Balboa Park Committee within the Municipal Code makes which makes the individual a representative of the Board, but that appointment no longer exists with the Mission Bay Committee. Ms. Warburton asked if the Board will continue to receive reports on Mission Bay Park? Mr. Bussell stated he has been asked to stay on the committee during its vetting process. He stated as long as he is a part of the committee, the Board will receive reports. Ms. LoMedico stated that this is the time frame when the Mayor appoints

standing committees and the discussion today would help to decide if Board members want to have representatives on one of the these committees

- Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens Advisory Committee Board Representative – Kathryn Warburton
- Tecolote Canyon Citizens’ Advisory Committee – Recommendation to delete as a standing committee
- Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee Chair – Michael Stepner

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Kinney/Mr. Bussell**

A motion was made by Mr. Kinney and seconded by Mr. Bussell to approve the Standing Committee assignments. The motion was unanimously approved (11-0).

Discussion - Mr. Diehl inquired if under the Community Parks I & II, does Community Parks include the Regional Parks in those areas or can it? Ms. LoMedico stated they are welcome to attend as part of the group. However, the only Regional Parks in Community Parks I that we have entertained are those that don’t technically have their own advisory committee per the Municipal Code i.e., Balboa and Mission Bay which would be Sunset Cliffs and La Jolla. They have been attending the Community Parks I Area Committee.

Mr. Bussell asked for a volunteer to Vice Chair Community Parks I Area Committee. Ms. Dunaway agreed to be Vice Chair.

INFORMATION ITEMS

**202. Mayor’s Proposed Fiscal Year 2013 Park and Recreation Budget**

Chair Smith introduced Ms. Patty Jencks, Supervising Management Analyst, Park and Recreation Department who provided the presentation on the proposed budget. Prior to the presentation, Ms. LoMedico gave opening comments. She stated this is the first year as Director of the Department that there have not been any reductions.

Ms. Patty Jencks, Supervising Management Analyst and Rumi Doherty, Sr. Management Analyst for Park and Recreation Administrative Services provided highlights of the Proposed FY 2013 Park and Recreation Budget via Powerpoint presentation. Ms. Jencks stated that the Mayor has released a structurally balanced budget with several service restorations, which is all good news for Park and Recreation. After an overview of the Department’s budget including significant General Fund changes, she went through non General Fund changes.

Details of the Park and Recreation Budget may be found on the Park and Recreation Department Website: <http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/budget.shtml>

If Board members have questions regarding CIP Ms. Jenks will answer to the best of her knowledge. Those questions she is unable to answer will be referred to Engineering and Capital Projects Department and Development Services Department.

Fees will be discussed on April 25, 2012, but Park and Recreation will not be included in that presentation. Park and Recreation will be conducting a comprehensive fee study during FY 2013, which will be the first fee study ever conducted. After the study is completed, Park and

Recreation will propose changes. Ms. LoMedico added that the department is receiving money to hire an outside consultant to assist with the fees.

#### Questions from Board Members:

Mr. Diehl – Are the MAD’s salaries paid for from the General Fund? Ms. Jencks advised that no, it’s assessments collected from property owners which is used to fund the MAD’s.

Mr. Diehl – When we contract the park maintenance, where is that shown in the pie? Ms. Jencks stated it is within the Powerpoint presentation and is seen in the contracts slice – that’s contracts that include various contracting services.

Ms. Granowitz – When you have a MAD that is found to be illegal after they were fronted money i.e., Golden Hill, does that come out of the General Fund? Attorney Thomas stated there was a final ruling on that case and determination on this particular assessment district and found that boundaries were not formed and assessments not properly determined in terms of refunding of monies. Attorney Thomas does not think determination has been made on that particular assessment district as yet.

Mr. Diehl - Did we increase anything on open space/brush management this year to clear up areas that were not done in the past? Per Ms. LoMedico, brush management funding was not increased this year. It was fully funded for the acres we are to do on a bi-annual basis.

Ms. Warburton – Regarding Workers’ Compensation is it a percentage of the department to the whole or a reflection of a lot of usage? Ms. Jencks stated that’s difficult to answer and would have to request Financial Management staff to look at that. They set the fringe rates for the entire City.

Ms. Denhart – Have percentages for expenditures changed from 2012 to 2013? Per Ms. Jenks there are no major changes from 2013; although some categories changed slightly. Ms. Jencks can provide a chart that will show the exact changes.

Ms. Dunaway – Can you explain the process for closing the Children’s Pool and why it costs so much? Ms. LoMedico explained there are two permit processes moving forward. One is based on a City Council Resolution from Council in 2010 for a year-round rope; that is separate and being handled and no additional funds being request by the Department. In 2010, that same Council action requested to pursue closing the beach during pupping season. The permit requirement potentially could require a change to the Local Coastal Program. There is also the potential draft environmental concerns that need to be looked at. Bottom line, the estimate that was adopted provided that fully funds this is provided by Development Services Department for their charges. Attorney Thomas added that Council has to approve the proposed amendment to the Land Use Plan before it goes to the Coastal Commission. There will also be other public hearings on this item.

Mr. Brown – What is the status on CIP Projects pending? Are we falling behind; finishing projects? Ms. Jencks stated there is a process that’s being worked on to streamline the Capital Improvement Project. The presentation at Council regarding the budget will cover the CIP process. She suggested Board members attend and/or listen to Council. Ms. LoMedico added

that Public Works manages all of our Capital Improvement Program projects. Council has put an increased emphasis on wanting to know specifics on projects; expediting CIP.

Mr. Diehl – Who puts projects on the CIP list? Ms. LoMedico replied that projects must have some type of fund source. For Park and Recreation to request that be added at Council at a mid-year action or during the current fiscal year, we work with the Planning Section of Development Services Department.

Ms. Granowitz – Has two questions: How much money is the fee study going to be? Per Ms. LoMedico, based on questioning of other municipalities who have done a comprehensive fee analysis we estimate it to be close to \$200,000. Second question has to do with grants. Where are grants identified? Ms. LoMedico stated grants are in the CIP budget. Ms. Granowitz requested a list of the those grants for the fiscal year. Ms. Jenks stated we will provide a list of the CIP by those fund sources.

Ms LoMedico added that our facilities are in need of maintenance and, we have heard that from our customers. At the Mayor’s press conference he talked about Council approving the Deferred Maintenance Bond. Another aspect of facilities is the assistance we receive from Facilities Maintenance for painting, roofing etc. In the Mayor’s proposal there is \$900,000 allocated for facilities maintenance for Park and Recreation and Library assets only. It’s not reflected in this presentation, but is in the Mayor’s overall FY13 Proposed Budget.

Mr. Diehl – Last year we had several copper thefts, did that come out of the Mayor’s budget? Ms. LoMedico explained that the repairs for these thefts in the north part of the county came from Facilities Maintenance and/or Streets Division budget.

Ms. Denhart – Asked when will the budget will go before Council for the final vote? Ms. LoMedico did not have the final date available, but advised she would send the members the link to Park and Recreation’s budget web page.

Ms. Granowitz ?- When is Plaza de Panama going to Design Review Committee? Ms. LoMedico stated the week of May 9<sup>th</sup>; week before the Board. Chair Smith added the meeting is usually 8:30am on Wednesday.

WORKSHOP - None

#### Announcements from Board Members

Mr. Diehl – Invited everyone to Flag Day at Hilltop Community Park on June 10<sup>th</sup> between 2pm – 3pm.

Mr. Brown – Mira Mesa Community will be painting the Mira Mesa Recreation Center on April 29<sup>th</sup>. At least 50 people scheduled to participate and it’s organized by the Heroe’s Organization.

Ms. Dunaway – She was advised when she was trying to get her recreation center painted, she was told that volunteers could not paint the center. Ms. LoMedico stated that per the union, we have approval in writing that painting is approved under certain circumstances. That includes complete supervision and assistance from painters or park supervisors, as well as clearance for lead based paint testing and if required removed prior to work.

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, April 19, 2012 2:00 p.m.**

**City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> Floor  
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico  
Park and Recreation Director