

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
January 17, 2013

Minutes

“WE ENRICH LIVES THROUGH QUALITY PARKS AND PROGRAMS”

Meeting Location:

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

Mailing Address:

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

Members Present

William Diehl, Chair
Bruce Brown
Rick Bussell
Robert Chávez
Claudia Dunaway
Vicki Granowitz
Bobby Hughes (late)
David Kinney
Michael Stepner
Kathryn Warburton

Members Absent

Amy Denhart

City Staff Present

Alexandra Corsi
Stacey LoMedico
David Monroe
Bonnie Pearson
Shannon Thomas
Jim Winter
Becky Yzaguirre

CALL TO ORDER – Chair William Diehl, called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF OCTOBER 18, 2012

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Bussell/Mr. Brown

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the October 18, 2012 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved with one abstention (10-0-1).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Consent At this time the Board may consider adoption of one or mor items on the adoption agenda as “Consent” items.

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

A motion was made by Ms. Granowitz to move Action Item 102. Naming of the Turf Area at City Heights Urban Village in Memory of Officer Jeremy Henwood to the Consent Agenda. Additionally, Mr. Bussell made a motion to move the remaining three Action Items 101. Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park – General Development Plan Amendment, Action Item 103. Central Avenue Mini Park – General Development Plan and Action Item 104. Carmel Valley Community Park – General Development Plan Amendment to the Consent Agenda.

The motion was unanimously approved (11-0).

Two speakers in favor of Action Item 102, Councilmember Marti Emerald and Mr. Jim Varnadore, City Heights resident.

Councilmember Emerald thanked Board members for their support of Central Ave. Mini Park and she looks forward to moving ahead with that project in a timely manner. Councilmember Emerald prepared a memo that was presented to the Board outlining her support of the Naming of the Turf Area at City Heights Urban Village in Memory of Officer Jeremy Henwood. She highlighted his accomplishments as a U.S. Marine Corps veteran and hero, universally respected San Diego Police Department officer and his act of kindness to a young boy. Councilmember Emerald expressed her appreciation for the Board's support.

Mr. Jim Varnadore citizen of City Heights also requested on behalf of all City Heights residents that the Board approve naming a part of the City Heights Urban Village in honor of Officer Jeremy Henwood. Mr. Varnadore added that Officer Henwood's family supports this request to name a portion of the park as a permanent memorial to Jeremy. If this change is adopted, the community will work with the City Heights Recreation Council and the Park and Recreation Department to design suitable signage.

Chair Diehl noted that all Action Items have been adopted.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Report

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Report (Board Member Denhart Absent)

Balboa Park Committee

- Mr. Kinney reported there was no meeting for January. Mr. Kinney stated that the annual December Nights went very smoothly as it always does; with over 300,000 in the park. He also acknowledged that our Bonnie Pearson did a fantastic job performing the National Anthem at the Opening Ceremonies and made Park and Recreation proud.
- Work is being done on the Lily Pond, which is a huge undertaking. Mr. Kinney added that Balboa Park is “not your average” neighborhood park and is very complex. He also complimented and thanked Park and Recreation staff on how great the park looks.

Design Review Committee – No Report

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Ms. Warburton reported that the draft San Diego River Park Master Plan was presented to the committee along with design district and ordinance manual changes to coordinate with Mission Trails. It passed unanimously. The Plan will come to the Park and Recreation Board and is anticipated the Master Plan will go before Council sometime in April.
- Ms. Warburton noted she had received via email a listing of dedicated lands from the San Diego Canyonlands that City Council recently passed by community and acreage.

Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Committee

- Mr. Stepner acknowledged that the Torrey Pines City Park General Development Plan (GDP) won an award from the American Society of Landscape Architects.
- Ms. LoMedico added that the (GDP) was approved by this committee in June 2012 and the environmental document will be recorded and completed this month. Ms. LoMedico will be meeting with the Real Estate Assets Department at the end of the month to discuss an RFP for a long-term lease. She will ensure that the Board is kept abreast of the status.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

Mr. Kevin Swanson, District Four resident. Mr. Swanson inquired as to what is Balboa Park's 2015 Celebration mission? Mr. Swanson has been unable to get any details on the celebration, Articles of Incorporation, quarterly report, status etc.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – No Report

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico acknowledged our new Board Member Robert Chávez, who introduced himself to everyone. Mr. Chavez was appointed by the Mayor and Council in October, 2012 and this is his first meeting today. He is the Executive Director of the San Diego Urban Corps.
- Ms. LoMedico stated the Board will be receiving an invitation to the Silver Wing Grand Re-opening. An extensive ADA improvement was completed on the playground and park and the reopening will take place at the end of January.
- Ms. LoMedico had the pleasure of attending the Martin Luther King Jr. Family Reunion this past weekend. She acknowledged to Board Member Mr. Hughes for having the Recreation Council co-sponsoring the wonderful event. Mayor Bob Filner attended as well.
- Appointments have been made to the Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force, with Councilmembers Kersey and Sherman official appointment. Appointees for Los Peñasquitos are Council President Pro Tem Lightner and Councilmember Zapf.
- Ms. LoMedico provided the members a copy of a San Diego Metropolitan Magazine article written by Board member Stepner. The article is about the importance of our parks and public space in our neighborhoods. She thanked Mr. Stepner for sharing the article.
- Ms. LoMedico advised that CityTV prepared a PSA which profiles the value and how the parks are everyone's parks and if anyone sees vandalism occurring how to report it. She shared a copy of the poster and advised that the posters will be printed in English and Spanish. Kudos to Deputy Director Chris Zirkle for working with CityTV and the City Print Shop.
- The kick-off of our winter lunch program was held at Tierrasanta Recreation Center. Mayor Bob Filner attended the kick-off as well.

- Toys For Tots was a huge success again this year. Ms. LoMedico was very proud of staff as they coordinated and worked closely with the U.S. Marine Corps. We had additional sites this year and secured 7,500 toys and served more than 6,300 children.
- Update on the Lily Pond - Some of the work being done now is beyond the damage. It's wonderful to see the improvements.
- Ms. LoMedico advised that the Park and Recreation Department District Manager appointments have been finalized and we are fully staffed at the District Manager level. This information will also be provided to the Recreation Councils.
- Ms. LoMedico and newly appointed District Manager, Kim Mathis discussed an opportunity for the Teen Center children to attend the Poinsettia Bowl and have them watch San Diego State University Aztecs play in the bowl event. Ms. LoMedico outreached to a board member of the San Diego Games Commission and secured a generous donation of 115 tickets. We supplied the bus and the children had a wonderful time.
- The San Diego River Park Master Plan will be coming to the Board in February.
- Ms. LoMedico provided photos of a major clean-up of the undeveloped Beyer Park.
- Park and Recreation received an announcement that the Villa Montezuma CDBG grant application passed the first round of review, and will be moving forward to the Board next month.
- Assistant Police Chief Boyd Long, announced yesterday that he is leaving the City after 28 years to take a job at Valley View Casino. Chief Long has been an incredible partner to the Park and Recreation Department and we are sad to see him leave.
- Ms. LoMedico will be sending an agenda item to the Board regarding the Balboa Park 2015 Committee, which will be going before NR&C soon. She will ensure that Board members receive notice. Chair Diehl asked if the Mission Bay funds will be coming before the Board next month? Ms. LoMedico stated it depends upon the agenda and time sensitive items coming forward next month. The Board is due for an Oversight Committee meeting.
- Ms. Dunaway stated she appreciated how Ms. LoMedico handled the Earth Day issue and that she kept the Board members apprised.

Comments from Board members:

- Mr. Diehl asked who manages the Mid-City Special Park Funds and where do they come from? Ms. LoMedico stated that these fees were done via special ordinance by the City Council. She would be happy to find the date of that ordinance. The funds are only eligible for the area within mid-city. Formerly, it was Council District parks within mid-city crossing Districts 3, 4 and 7. It is managed by Facilities Finance Section of Development Services Department. They are specific for mid-city parks. Mr. Diehl also asked, who decides what project to fund? Ms. LoMedico stated it is allocated the same way as other funds. There is a CIPRAC committee. Each of the departments are eligible for funds. However in this case, the only department that would have input would be Park and Recreation. We go to our unfunded needs list which is also updated and approved by Recreation Councils and make recommendations. The ultimate approval takes place with the CIP adoption in May.
- Ms. Granowitz asked if Ms. LoMedico will advise the public what the recommendations will be, so communities who might have projects can outreach to get support. Ms. LoMedico advised that she does not normally do that. She would have to contact Public Works Department who manages CIPRAC for that timeline.

ACTION ITEMS

- 101. Ward Canyon Neighborhood Park – General Development Plan Amendment**
Presenters: Alexandra Corsi, Park Designer, Public Works, Engineering & Capital Projects, Architectural Engineering & Parks Division; co-presenters Glen Schmidt, Principal, Schmidt Design Group and Nate Magnusson, Project Manager, Schmidt Design Group
- 102. Central Avenue Mini Park – General Development Plan**
Presenters: Alexandra Corsi, Park Designer, Public Works, Engineering & Capital Projects, Architectural Engineering & Parks Division; co-presenter Vicki Estrada, Principal, Estrada Land Planning
- 103. Carmel Valley Community Park – General Development Plan Amendment**
Presenters: Jim Winter, Project Officer II, Park and Recreation Department; co-presenter Jim Neri, Principal, Neri Landscape Architecture

All items were moved to the consent agenda and approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, February 21, 2:00 p.m.**

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202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director