

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board  
April 18, 2013

**Minutes**

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

**Meeting Location:**

City Administration Building  
Committee Room, 12<sup>th</sup> 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  
Amy Denhart  
Claudia Dunaway  
Vicki Granowitz  
Bobby Hughes  
David Kinney  
Michael Stepner  
Kathryn Warburton

**Members Absent**

**City Staff Present**

Nancy Bragado  
Rumi Doherty  
Laura Gates  
Jeff Harkness  
Patty Jencks  
Stacey LoMedico  
Bonnie Pearson  
Ken So

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 21, 2013

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

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Bussell to approve the March 21, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved (8-0-3), with three abstentions.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee

- Mr. Bussell reported the community expressed concern regarding increased ice cream vending activities in the park. Staff volunteers are monitoring and feel that Neighborhood Code Compliance and San Diego Police Department is needed to assist. Additionally, there is concern regarding the lack of compliance by the snack bar user groups in obtaining proper health permits and complying with the County regulations.

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Meeting

Balboa Park Committee

- Mr. Kinney reported the committee is looking at an event that will be tied into the Mayor's bicycle initiatives. The Balboa Park Committee agreed with the request to close the section of road on a particular Sunday this spring to vehicles.
- Mr. Kinney also reported there is new litigation on the ruling the Judge made regarding the Plaza de Panama. It is asking for another hearing and Mr. Kinney is not sure of the timeline. Additionally, Mr. Kinney commented that the Committee has been advised that Mayor Filner wants to hold a special meeting at the Balboa Park Committee to talk about a temporary plan regarding traffic and parking for the Plaza de Panama. A date has not been confirmed as yet.

Design Review Committee – No Meeting

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee - No Meeting

### COMMUNICATIONS

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

- Mr. Stepner thanked Ms. LoMedico and Park and Recreation staff for making arrangements for use of the park last Saturday for his architecture students who participate every year in a competition on temporary emergency shelters.
- Mr. Bussell invited everyone to the Linda Vista Multicultural Fair on May 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00pm – 2:00pm

### CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Chair Diehl stated he attended the Planning Commission meeting this morning, in which the Commission reviewed the San Diego River Park Master Plan. He added that the Commission was pleased with the report.
- Chair Diehl advised he will be on vacation from June to September.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico reminded members we had asked them for their availability for a couple of dates in case there was a need for an additional budget meeting. Based upon the presentation coming forward today, please release those dates. As a reminder, Park and Recreation will be presenting its Proposed FY 14 Budget at the public hearing on Monday, May 6.
- Development Services Department released the draft environmental document regarding the closure of Children's Pool during pupping season. The draft is available on the Development Services Department web page.
- Good News!!! American Public Works Association gives awards every year to agencies throughout the County of San Diego. The City of San Diego received twelve awards this year which will be presented in early May. Of the twelve, five were Park and Recreation Department projects managed by the Public Works Department: Museum of Man Restoration, West Lewis Mini-Park, Mission Trails Regional Park Equestrian Centers Comfort Station, La Jolla Kellogg Park Green Lot Infiltration Project and Rose Creek Bike-Way and Pedestrian Bridge. Ms. LoMedico acknowledge the good work being done by Public Works staff.

- Ms. LoMedico briefly commented on the Parklet article from Seattle, Washington and added there are exciting Parklets coming forward specifically for the City of San Diego in North Park. She will be asking the Development Services Department and the Transportation Department to provide a presentation to the Board in June.
- The Veterans Memorial improvement project in Chicano Park will be unveiled on May 18<sup>th</sup>. Additionally, this weekend is Chicano Park Day, also Earth Day this weekend in Balboa Park and National Pools Day. National Pools Day encourages children to learn life-safety skills and this will be held at the Bud Kearns Pool in Balboa Park.
- Good News e-mails were provided to members by Ms. LoMedico.
- Additionally, Ms. LoMedico shared the good news photo gallery regarding San Diego Urban Corps work in the Mission Trails/Cowles Mountain Trail.

Comments/Questions from members:

- Ms. Granowitz added there was an additional award of the North Park Mini-Park by the American Association of Planners on March 30<sup>th</sup>.

### ACTION ITEMS

#### **101. Barrio Logan Community Plan Update – Recreation Element and Designation of Chicano Park as a Regional Park**

Presenter: Jeff Harkness, Park Designer, Planning Division, Development Services Department

Mr. Jeff Harkness and co-presenters Laura Gates, Project Manager, Long Range Planning for the update and Deborah Sharpe, Park Designer. They appeared before the Board members requesting the recommendation of approval of the Barrio Logan Community Plan Update and the designation of Chicano Park as a Regional Park.

Mr. Harkness presented a report and PowerPoint presentation which outlined the recommendations. Details of the report may be obtained on the Park and Recreation Department's website at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/pdf/prbr130418101barriologancommunityplanupdate.pdf>

Comments/Questions from members:

- Mr. Brown inquired for a park to be designated a regional park, does the City Charter have to call out a regional park? Ms. LoMedico stated no it does not. When City Charter 55.2 of the Charter language indicated that additional regional parks other than those listed in the Charter can be adopted by ordinance of the City Council.
- Ms. Warburton inquired as to the size/acreage of Chicano Park. Mr. Harkness stated it is 8 acres. Additionally, Ms. Warburton asked if it is one of the smallest parks? Ms. LoMedico stated it would be (not open space). Ms. Warburton additionally asked about the group that was formed in 2011 to begin work on the plan and if the group was in favor of what has been provided today. Ms. Gates responded that the 33 member stakeholder committee looked at the entire community plan. The recommendation from the stakeholders was on the land use maps.

- Mr. Chávez inquired is there a general benefit that a community receives when a park is designated as a regional park in terms of resources for the park? Ms. LoMedico reiterated City Charter 55.2 allocates a certain percentage of Mission Bay Lessee revenues that are designed specifically for Mission Bay and Regional and Parks.
- Chair Diehl inquired if the art work is permanent or on a rotating basis, plus who maintains it? Ms. Gates replied the art work is permanent and was recently restored by a Caltrans grant. The work is of historical and cultural significance and will not be removed. Mr. Diehl also commented that the State recognizes Chicano Park as historical and asked if the City has recognized the park as historical? Ms. Gates replied yes it is a historical resource under the City and National recognition.
- Ms. Granowitz inquired about equivalency credits as relates to joint use. Are those scaled for the hours that the joint use is actually available. Mr. Harkness stated all joint uses are given 100% equivalency as a park. Additionally, Ms. Granowitz commented about rethinking what a park standard should be and asked if there was any discussion to do that. Ms. Nancy Bragado the overwhelming consensus at the time of the workshops was that people did not want to see two park standards in the City. People acknowledged that not every community would be able to meet the standard. However at that time, people wanted to go on record with what the standard should be and if a community didn't need it, it would be so noted. Ms. Granowitz requested change in thinking on equivalency standards. Ms. LoMedico asked how long has Barrio Logan been without a community plan? Ms. Gates stated it was last updated in 1979.
- Mr. Stepner added he would like to urge staff to begin discussing park standards and equivalencies. He would like to see different ways of looking at serving the park needs in our neighborhoods. If there is a way that Ms. LoMedico and staff from Development Services Department could provide a workshop to discuss equivalency issues in the future. Ms. LoMedico responded she would be happy to begin a conversation with Mr. Broughton, Director of Development Services Department.

Public Comment: Georgette Gomez, Environmental Health Coalition (EHC) – Stated EHC is in full support of this project and Scenario I reflected the needs of the majority of stakeholders in moving forward.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Kinney and seconded by Mr. Stepner to approve staff recommendations for the plan update and for the Regional Park designation. The motion was unanimously approved (11-0-0).

**102.    Park and Recreation Department – Proposed FY 14 Budget**

Presenter: Patty Jencks, Supervising Management Analyst, Administrative Services Division, Park and Recreation Department

Ms. Jencks introduced Ms. Rumi Doherty, Sr. Management Analyst, Administrative Services Division, Park and Recreation Department, who assisted with the Department's budget. Ms. Jencks and Ms. Doherty presented a PowerPoint presentation. Of note, this is the first year since FY 2009 that Park and Recreation Department did not have any budget reductions. The presentation does not include the restored positions the department had since 2009, which are approximately \$1.7 million. The presentation

provided the General Fund Department Summary as well as the Non-General Fund Department Summary. Details of the presentation can be obtained on the Park and Recreation Department's website at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/pdf/prbr130418102parkandrecdeptproposedfy14budget.pdf>

Comments/Questions from members:

- Mr. Bussell inquired about the three FTE's for Balboa Park Centennial Celebration; stating that appears to be approximately \$128,000 per FTE. Is that typical? Ms. Jencks replied it is not and it is two managerial positions and a clerical position.
- Mr. Bussell also inquired about the difference in FY2013 and FY2014 Key Performance Indicators regarding the customer satisfaction survey. Ms. Jencks responded the 2014 levels are a five year average, which looks at results from the last five years and uses that as the target figure.
- Mr. Kinney inquired what percentage of the GPS will the Golf Division receive? Ms. Jencks stated of the approximate 1,000 vehicles, 350 will be equipped with GPS.
- Ms. Warburton inquired about cost reductions in other departments and if Park and Recreation can reduce its costs? Ms. Jencks responded yes we can.
- Ms. Granowitz thanked staff for funding the North Park Mini-Park. Also, Ms. Granowitz inquired if the Park and Recreation budget is at risk of losing its funding.
- Chair Diehl inquired if the fire rings are in place this year? Ms. LoMedico responded yes, they are in the budget.
- Chair Diehl also inquired if a position for a person who handles dedicated open space was included in the proposed budget? Ms. Jencks replied no we didn't receive that position.
- Chair Diehl inquired CIP being a part of the budget and when it's approved, is the CIP funding approved at the same time? Ms. Jencks and Ms. LoMedico responded yes.
- Chair Diehl also inquired if Enterprise Funds and MADs pay for themselves? Ms. Jencks responded yes.

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

A motion was made by Mr. Bussell and seconded by Ms. Warburton to approve the proposed budget as presented by staff. The motion was unanimously approved (11-0-0).

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

WORKSHOP - None

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, May 16, 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