

City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
May 16, 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
Robert Chávez
Amy Denhart
Claudia Dunaway
Vicki Granowitz
Bobby Hughes
David Kinney
Kathryn Warburton

Members Absent

Rick Bussell
Michael Stepner

City Staff Present

Stacey LoMedico
Bonnie Pearson
Mike Rodrigues
Jim Winter

CALL TO ORDER – Chair William (Bill) Diehl, called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF APRIL 18, 2013

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

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Kinney to approve the April 18, 2013 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved (9-0-2).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Ms. Warburton to move Action Item 102. Naming of Mira Mesa Little League Junior Division Field in Honor of Les Fletcher to the Consent Agenda.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Ms. Warburton

Consent Agenda unanimously approved. (9-0-2)

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee – No Meeting

Community Parks II Area Committee – No Meeting

Balboa Park Committee

- Mr. Kinney reported the committee received an update from CalTrans regarding the Cabrillo Bridge retrofit project. Due to extensive work the bridge will be closed to vehicular traffic from January through April 201. The committee strongly recommended that while there will be work on the deck, that some of the sidewalk that had been replaced be repaired as it does not match the rest of the sidewalk.

Design Review Committee – No Meeting

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee

- Ms. Warburton reported there was a great amount of discussion regarding Cowles Mountain having been closed since March 25. She added the Ranger and others thanked the Urban Corps and volunteers who took the lead on the repairs.
- Ms. Warburton added that Mission Trails Regional Park Task Force took a position against the Quail Brush Plant.
- Ms. Warburton said students from the New School of Architecture have agreed to provide design services on a volunteer basis for a shade structure for the equestrian staging area.
- Ms. Warburton provided flyers for Explore Mission Trails Day on May 18.

COMMUNICATIONS

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

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Chair Diehl stated he attended the Balboa Conservancy Workshop. The Conservancy is looking for direction as to what the Conservancy's role should be as they move forward.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Ms. LoMedico followed up with the Board's request from last month for Development Services (DSD) to come back for discussion on park equivalencies. DSD staff will come to the Board in June or July from the OB Community Plan discussion and at that time, equivalencies will be a part of the workshop.
- Monday, May 20 San Diego River Park Master Plan will be the Council Docket at 2:00 pm.
- Ms. LoMedico provided members with the OVRP Day Flyer scheduled for June . She encouraged members to attend.
- Additionally, Ms. LoMedico added that the budget hearings are continuing, with a night meeting on June 22. That meeting will be held in the City Administration Building at 6:00 pm.
- The first CiclosSDias, which is our bicycle initiative and will close the Balboa Park Marston Sunday, May 19. Mayor Filner will kick-off the event. This in an international movement and the first for San Diego. Roads will be closed to vehicular traffic and is opened for bicycles and other activities. Balboa Park Committee is very supportive of this initiative.

- Ms. LoMedico also provided a Press Release from Mayor Filner that was issued last Friday regarding Balboa Park being named one of the top urban oasis in the country. Kudos to Balboa Park staff!
- Ms. LoMedico also commented on the newspaper article regarding the Children's Pool and the issuance of the rope. The Coastal Commission issued a permit on Tuesday and the rope will be up year-round.
- The Mayor's temporary parking management plan, there is no update at this time, but Ms. LoMedico stated she will continue to update the members as she receives information.

ACTION ITEMS

101. Dana Middle School Joint Use Agreement

Presenter: Jim Winter, Project Officer, Asset Management Division, Park and Recreation Department. Co-presenter Randy White, Interim Director, Real Estate Department and Debra Beaver, Real Estate Specialist, San Diego Unified School District

Mr. Winter, Ms. White and Ms. Beaver presented to members for consideration a request by San Diego Unified School District to amend the Joint Use Agreement to remove the baseball field from the joint use area at Dana Middle School, located in the Peninsula community.

Mr. Winter presented a detailed report as well as a PowerPoint presentation which outlined the background, discussion and alternatives regarding this request to amend the Joint Use Agreement. Mr. Winter also commented that a memo was sent to Director LoMedico from Robin Shifflet, Park Planner, Development Services Department recommending the City not support SDUSD proposal to remove the baseball field from the joint use area and, the Park and Recreation Department supports the recommendation. However, the Park and Recreation Department also realizes this is a community issue and outreached to the Ocean Beach Recreation Council and the Peninsula Planning Group. Also, a memo was sent to the Community Parks Area I Committee informing them of this issue and today's meeting.

Mr. Winter's question to the members: Does the Park and Recreation Board support SDUSD's proposal to amend the Joint Use Agreement, which will remove the baseball field from the Dana Middle School Joint Use area? The Board's recommendation will be carried forward to the full Council for their consideration.

Details of the report may be obtained on the Park and Recreation Department's website at: <http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/>

Public Comment/Speakers: (4) Speakers support amending the Joint Use Agreement; (2) Speakers opposed amending the Joint Use Agreement recommendation.

Former Councilmember Byron Wear spoke/commented in favor of the recommendation. Councilmember Faulconer recommended supporting the recommendation, via a letter read by Council Representative John Ly.

Comments/Questions from members:

- Ms. Denhart inquired if the funding from Mr. David Wells is not there etc., will the SDUSD foot the bill for maintaining the field? Ms. White stated SDUSD would maintain the field, but would not commit to maintaining it at specific level.
- Mr. Brown inquired as to what other groups other than baseball have used the facility? Ms. LoMedico stated because it's within the Joint Use, the City permits the field during non-school hours. This field is permitted through the Ocean Beach Recreation Center. The field portion in question if it were taken out of the inventory, SDUSD would permit. The balance on the site remaining in the Joint Use, the City would continue to permit.
- Mr. Brown also inquired if there is any thought of a compromise at SDUSD? Ms. White stated this is the first she has heard of a compromise, but it is something SDUSD can look into. Mr. Brown asked what would be different if the Board approved the amendment. Mr. Winter replied if amended, the baseball field would then come out of the Joint Use Agreement and the City would no longer be the entity permitting the use of that field. It would all go back to SDUSD.
- Ms. Granowitz inquired if the field gets used for anything other than baseball? What is the percentage of time it's used by the public? Mr. Jim Nickel (member of public) commented that he and some members of the community do utilize the field. Mr. Winter added the City will permit that field for groups who want to use it but, when not permitted it's open to the public. Ms. LoMedico added it is typically permitted by adult groups for seasonal sports and on weekends. Ms. Granowitz asked if SDUSD would be willing to assure that off hours can be permitted for baseball use by the various leagues? Ms. White stated that Ms. Beaver of SDUSD permits the current baseball group that utilizes the fields at several of the schools. There is a procedure which states that recreation facilities at all schools should be open to the community. With respect to the Dana field, Ms. White added that one of the board members has asked SDUSD to convene an ad hoc committee to look at how and when it's opened and how permitted. Ms. Granowitz stated she would request tabling this until the Board can obtain answers and have clear statements regarding the use of fields, an agreement by the school etc. In addition, Ms. Granowitz requests information about the donor's commitment to the maintenance of the field.
- Mr. Chavéz inquired if any Board member has representation for the Peninsula Planning Group as to their discussion/decision on this recommendation. Mr. Winter stated he attended that meeting and the discussion was what would be the advantage/disadvantages of amending the Joint Use Agreement. That group was given the same presentation and based on that, the planning group felt it wouldn't really be a difference in the public's use of that field, other than being able to use an upgraded facility. Additionally, Mr. Chavez asked since the cost to use the field would be higher per SDUSD, what would be the cost for the public to use the field? Ms. Beaver stated rates are approved by the Board of Education each year and rates for baseball fields is approximately \$40/hr. League rates are substantially lower and matches the City rate. The difference is the control for the approval of the rental falls to the school principal. The fee would include opening the field and staff support.
- Ms. Dunaway commented that one of the speakers stated there is difficulty raising funds to maintain and improve the field when it's a Joint Use but not when it should go to SDUSD, why is that? Ms. LoMedico commented the City maintains it and we must utilize our maintenance standards. There may be community groups who want to provide a landscape maintenance company to supplement, we must conduct a meet and

confer process because we currently have City employees who perform the service. It is a complex situation.

- Ms. Denhart asked as to the timeline of Sunset View, Silvergate, and Barnard are potentially going to be future Joint Use facilities? Ms. LoMedico commented that Barnard is on a surplus list to be sold and the other two are not in the process for joint use.
- Chair Diehl commented the Recreation Councils receive a percentage of the fees when they rent out the fields to the leagues and it would be a loss to the Recreation Councils if the fields are permitted by SDUSD.
- Ms. Warburton asked is Mr. David Wells not going to give money this project as long as there is a Joint Use Agreement? Does the SDUSD have anything in writing from Mr. Wells? Ms. White stated there is nothing in writing from him and are working toward that direction. Ms. Warburton suggested that any amendment should be brought back to the Board and be in the Joint Use Agreement; something in writing that both parties agree to that is open to the public to the maximum extent possible. To assure that the leagues and children can play after school and evenings. Ms. LoMedico stated the City would not be moving forward with SDUSD to demand that, because that is what a joint use does.
- Ms. Dunaway asked how many high school baseball fields in SDUSD are Joint Use? Ms. White stated there are no baseball fields that are Joint Use, but have two other high schools in the District that have Joint Use, but do not include baseball field. Ms. LoMedico commented on the Master Agreement between the City and SDUSD. Ms. Dunaway asked how does this field compare to other high schools in its current state? Mr. Joe Radovich (member of the public) explained the tedious process of maintaining baseball fields.
- Mr. Kinney is opposed to giving up any park land or equivalent park land. The idea of finding some kind of a trade or something else under joint use so we could keep that equivalency going, would have his support.

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Brown/Ms. Warburton

A motion was made by Mr. Kinney and seconded by Ms. Warburton to do the following:

- Table the action and have SDUSD and City look at a possible compromise, which could include a swap or additional Joint Use elsewhere,
- In addition, look at SDUSD fee schedule
- Get more information about the Ad Hoc as mentioned by SDUSD,
- Return to the Recreation Council and provide additional information,
- Request a formal proposal from Mr. David Wells.

The motion was unanimously approved (9-0-2).

102. Naming of Mira Mesa Little League Junior Division Field in Honor of Les Fletcher
Presenter: Mike Rodrigues, District Manager, Community Parks I Division, Park and Recreation Department

Action Item 102 was moved to the consent agenda and approved unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS - None

WORKSHOP - None

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 3:12 p.m.

Next Meeting: **Thursday, June 20, 2:00 p.m.**

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

Submitted by,

Stacey LoMedico
Park and Recreation Director