

City of San Diego  
Park and Recreation Board  
June 18, 2015

**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**

David Kinney, Vice Chair  
David Baron  
Bruce Brown  
Vicki Granowitz  
Bobby Hughes  
Martin Moreno  
Dennis Otsuji

**Members Absent**

William Diehl (Excused)  
Virginia Angeles (Excused)  
Robert Chávez (Excused)  
Hazel Ocampo (Excused)

**City Staff Present**

Herman Parker, Director  
Andrew Field  
Heather Ferbert  
Nancy Bragado  
Manuel Gonzalez  
Howard Greenstein  
Bruce Martinez  
Scott Mercer  
David Monroe  
Chris Ojeda  
Marlon Pangilinan  
Bonnie Pearson  
Robin Shifflet  
Bernie Turgeon  
Jim Winter

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Kinney at 2:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2015

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

A motion was made by Mr. Brown and seconded by Mr. Baron to approve the May 21, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion was unanimously approved (7-0-4).

NON-ADOPTION AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

This portion of the agenda provides an opportunity for members of the public to address the Board on items of interest within the jurisdiction of the Board. (Comments relating to items on today’s Agenda are to be taken at the time the item is heard.) Comments will be limited to (3) three minutes and is not debatable.)

REQUEST FOR ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON CONSENT AGENDA

The Chair may entertain a motion by any Board member to approve any agenda item as consent when no speaker slips have been submitted in favor or in opposition to the item. Items approved on consent are approved in accordance with staff's recommendation as reflected on the agenda and described in the Staff Report to the Park and Recreation Board, unless otherwise noted in the motion.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE - None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Parks I Area Committee - None

Community Parks II Area Committee - None

Balboa Park Committee

- Vice Chair Kinney reported that at the next meeting in July, the committee will be voting on proposed expansion of the House of Pacific Relations Project with the International Cottages. It is anticipated this item will come before the Park and Recreation Board as it requires amending the Precise Plan and the Master Plan.
- Additionally, Vice Chair added a press conference was held on Tuesday, June 16 which announced the City's fall event for the Balboa Park Centennial. It's called the Maker Fair; a collaboration with the City of San Diego, Balboa Park Cultural Partnership and Balboa Park Conservancy. It is a great use of Balboa Park with numerous maker activities outside of the museums spread throughout the park. The events outside of the museums will be free, but ticketed items will be inside the museums. The dates are October 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>. Great attraction for children.

Design Review Committee – None

Mission Trails Regional Park Citizens' Advisory Committee - None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT - None

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Mr. Parker reported that Park and Recreation is working hard to provide a variety of programs and services this summer at our community centers. He invited all to take part in the various activities at your local community center or park facility. All pools are open and active. Mr. Parker encouraged all to get involved.
- Mr. Parker added that the City's Budget process specifically Park and Recreation, did wonderfully. He thanked the Mayor and City Council for their approval of the budget. Park and Recreation will be adding additional hours to approximately 36 Recreation Centers.
- Additionally, Mr. Parker stated the National Park and Recreation Association (NRPA) will be doing a featured spotlight article in their monthly publication in July. The feature will be about the City of San Diego's Park and Recreation Department. We are very excited about the national exposure the article will provide.

Comments/Questions from the members:

- Ms. Granowitz commented she and her husband walked the length of Mission Beach boardwalk and wanted to commended park staff on the terrific job they have done with maintenance. The seaweed was nonexistent, except for a tiny area. The bathrooms were clean and supplied. She encouraged all to spend some time walking along the boardwalk and see the great job staff is doing.

#### ACTION ITEMS

#### **101. Renaming Pacific Breezes Park to Cesar Solis Community Park**

Mr. Gonzalez presented a report on the Renaming Pacific Breezes Park (undeveloped) to Cesar Solis Community Park. This is a park the community has been waiting on for a number of years. It is a 15 acre park in the Ocean View Hills community. It was originally named Ocean View Hills Park; renamed Pacific Breezes in 2006. The request was presented to the Ocean View Hills Recreation Council, which was approved unanimously; and presented to the Community Parks II Area Committee who also approved the recommendation. Cesar Solis was a 32 year veteran of the San Diego Police Department and the first Filipino American to reach the rank of Captain. Mr. Solis retired as an Assistant Chief of Police. He has also been a resident of the south bay community for a number of years. Staff is seeking a recommendation to approve the renaming of the park. Mr. Gonzalez' report outlined the following:

- The park was fully designed a few years ago and is in the process of being updated. It is anticipated the park will go out to bid toward the end of the year.
- The community is looking forward to this park and to the proposed name change.

Questions and Comments from the Board:

- Ms. Granowitz commented this is a well-deserved honor and congratulated Mr. Solis. She commended the community for their role in bringing the renaming forward.
- Mr. Otsuji inquired as to the time schedule of construction of the park. Mr. Field responded the project is entirely funded by Facility Benefit Assessment Funds generated in the Otay Mesa Community. Those funds serve a variety of purposes other than parks. In conjunction with Facility Finance, there is an amendment planned to enable funds to be reallocated to the Pacific Breezes, now the Cesar Solis Park. It is a shovel-ready project designed to reflect current codes and water. Once that is completed, the project should be ready to go out for bid. Mr. Otsuji congratulated Mr. Solis and will be supporting the project.
- Vice Chair Kinney thanked all of the community members who spoke today, stating public input is an important part of what the Board does.

Speakers: 11 (In favor) including support from Councilmember Alvarez – 0 (Opposed)

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

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Brown to approve the Renaming Pacific Breezes Park to Cesar Solis Community Park as presented by staff. The motion was unanimously approved (6-1-4) with the Vice Chair abstaining.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

### **201. Golden Hill, North Park and Uptown Community Plan Updates-Recreation Elements**

Mr. Greenstein, Ms. Shifflet and Ms. Bragado presented a report and PowerPoint presentation. Although this is an informational item, staff is requesting the Board's input and feedback on their work to date. The updates are being prepared to reflect the changes that have taken place and anticipate the new conditions that will occur in these communities over the next 20-30 years. The plan updates will establish policies and recommendations to guide the development of the individual communities in the areas of land use, mobility, conservation, public facilities and other areas including recreation. The overall goal of the recreation element updates is to provide park and recreation opportunities including parks and recreation facilities that keep pace with the growing population. The presentation outlined the following:

- Background
- Discussion of all three draft recreation elements (Greater Golden Hill, North Park and Uptown)
- Goals of Recreation Element Updates
- Public Outreach
- Park and Recreation Needs Assessment
- Balboa Park – East Mesa Precise Plan
- Recreation Element format
- General Plan standards
- Park Equivalencies – Public
- Greater Golden Hill Recreation Element (population-based parks, Recreation Centers, Aquatic Complexes, Balboa Park Equivalencies, Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space)
- North Park Recreation Element (population-based parks, Recreation Centers, Aquatic Complexes, North Park CPU (Community Plan Update) Equivalencies, Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space)
- Uptown Recreation Element (population-based parks, Recreation Centers, Aquatic Complexes, Uptown CPU Equivalencies, Parks, Recreation Facilities and Open Space)
- Trails in Public Open Space
- Summary of Park Acreages

#### Questions and Comments from the Board:

- Mr. Baron requested more information regarding Linear Park (median) on Normal St. Mr. Greenstein stated it has a series of medians that extend approximately three blocks north of University Ave. One of the two medians could be developed as a linear park. The mobility study has looked at reducing one travel lane for cars within Normal Street, providing some

additional angled parking along the street; thereby increasing the size of the linear parks. It would serve the existing Farmer's Market, as well as other passive opportunities.

- Vice Chair Kinney commented on how high some of the numbers were and referred to the numbers listed on page 2 of the presentation survey.
- Mr. Otsuji commended staff for providing background and information that the public could make comments on. He requested clarification on what the report is about. Mr. Greenstein responded that this is an "information item" to let the members know what City staff is proposing in the three recreation elements at this time. He added that staff will return to the Board with this as an "action item" later in the year when all three full community plan updates are going through the approval process. The presentation today was scheduled to coincide with the release of the three public drafts. The Uptown Plan has already been released and the other two should be released by the end of this month. All three communities have seen the discussion drafts. Mr. Greenstein added that staff welcomes feedback from the Board and community members, so that staff has ample time in the coming months to refine each public draft. Ms. Bragado added, staff worked intensely with the communities in receiving long lists of potential sites and doing a tremendous amount of field work to investigate the sites and go through the lists with the community and then refine. She also added the Mayor, many Council offices, Planning Department, Park and Recreation Department also support doing a Parks Master Plan.
- Mr. Otsuji added there is tremendous history in the different areas selected and stated that this is just the beginning process of this project.
- Ms. Granowitz commented this is toward the end of the process, as this has been going on for a long time. Ms. Granowitz added there are significant issues for North Park with the document. She added North Park felt it had not been heard and feels significant progress was made at the meeting on Tuesday with City staff with regard to the problem of oversight with the use of DIF. Ms. Granowitz added that she offered suggestions she felt staff was open to and she will be preparing a list of suggestions. One of the main issues for North Park is the process issue as relates to adequate input. Mr. Greenstein and Ms. Bragado stated staff welcomes input and look forward to the suggestions.
- Mr. Otsuji added/suggested a discussion on equivalencies needs to occur and it be clearly defined.
- Ms. Shifflet added that staff is doing a tremendous amount of updates on community plans and spending a lot of time looking for parks in new areas and new land. Staff is also looking at right-of-ways, Caltrans land, land not being used to its full potential. She added that in these three communities, we have the opportunity to evaluate Balboa Park and find certain areas that do act like neighborhood and community parks which is unique.

Speakers: 2 (In Favor) - 2 (Opposed)

## **202. Water Reduction Strategies**

Mr. Field and Mr. Martinez presented a PowerPoint presentation to bring members up-to-date as to where the Park and Recreation Department is on use of water in the City's parks system. Per Governor Brown's Declaration, the State has been directed to reduce water usage by 25%. Coinciding with that, Mayor Faulconer's Declaration of 16% was decided upon after several discussions of what a targeted reduction amount would be. Mr. Field stated Park and Recreation Department has developed a strategy to reduce its water usage

within the 16% as directed by the Mayor and Governor. The presentation's three tiered approach for reducing outdoor water usage outlined the following:

- CMIS Data (California Irrigation Management Information System), which indicates 2013 raw data vs. adjusted data
- Raw Data Department Total
- Adjusted CIMIS Data Department Total
- Types of Park Landscape
- Areas of No Change
- Active Turf Areas (Green) as indicated on the Presentation
- Passive Turf Areas (Yellow) as indicated on the Presentation
- Ornamental Turf Area (Orange) as indicated on the Presentation
- Drought Signage for Decommissioned Areas
- Irrigation Savings Reinvested into Parks
- Golf (Balboa Golf Course and Mission Bay Golf Course)
- Decommissioned Turf
- Proposed Amendments to City Drought Ordinance (SDMC)  
(Parks are *exempt from watering time restrictions but must comply with targeted water use reductions*)
- Smart Controllers
- Trees (water approach designed to preserve trees)
- Parks with Recycled Water (does not fall under the restrictions, based on the Ordinance)

#### Questions and Comments from the Board:

- Vice Chair Kinney thanked Mr. Field and Mr. Martinez for their presentation. He also appreciated that the signage has been included.
- Ms. Granowitz also appreciated the concise report.
- Mr. Baron inquired if there is a way to use recycled water south of Interstate 8. Mr. Field responded that the Public Utilities Department is responsible for installation and operation of the purple pipe system. There are only two water treatment plants currently located in the City – I-805 @ Miramar Road and near the Border in South Bay. Mr. Field advised Mr. Baron that Public Utilities Department staff presented a pure water program presentation to the members several months ago. During that presentation, it was stated the purple pipe system would not be expanding the purple pipe system any further south.
- Mr. Otsuji appreciated the presentation also and inquired if the existing sod will remain in the ornamental areas. Mr. Martinez stated yes.

Mr. Parker thanked Mr. Field and Mr. Martinez as well as the team involved with this reduction process. He added this was a tremendous effort to strategically look at all park sites throughout the system and determine how best to reduce water use. Mr. Parker added that Park and Recreation uses approximately 60% of the City's total water use. Some preliminary numbers for May showed the department has exceeded the target. This is an ongoing process and adjustments will be made where we can. Mr. Parker added that members may hear questions as to the justification of water use in various areas. He wanted the members to know that the team looked at every scenario and their approach is where activities can be preserved and recreational activities for the community, we want to do that.

Mr. Field also thanked Mr. Jim Winter and Ms. Shamli Tarbell of our Assets Management Division and were largely responsible for many of the slides and assisting him and Mr. Martinez with presentation today.

Vice Chair Kinney requested staff provide very brief report updates on how this process is going. Mr. Field acknowledged staff will do.

Details of all reports and PowerPoint presentations can be found on the Park and Recreation Department website at:

<http://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards/index.shtml>

ADJOURNMENT – The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.

Next Meeting: **July 16, 2015 at 2:00 p.m.**

**City Administration Building  
Council Committee Room  
202 C Street, San Diego, CA 92101**

Submitted by,

Herman D. Parker  
Park and Recreation Director