

MINUTES

City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board
BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE
July 7, 2016

Meeting Location:

Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Mailing Address:

Balboa Park Administration
Building
2125 Park Boulevard
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

ATTENDANCE:

Members Present

Amy Bernal (arr. 6:10 p.m.)
Kenneth Davenport – Vice
Chair
Andrew Kahng
Luanne Kanzawa
David Kinney – Chair
Don Liddell
Dang Nguyen
Micah Parzen
Johanna S. Schiavoni
Rob Steppke

Members Absent

Staff Present

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Mario Llanos
Jeff Van Deerlin

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kinney called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF May 5, 2016

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MR. DAVENPORT/MR. KAHNG

A motion was made by Mr. Davenport and seconded by Mr. Kahng to approve the June 2, 2016 meeting minutes with an amendment by Mr. Kahng to his Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council report. The motion was unanimously approved (7-0-2) Mr. Kinney and Mr. Nguyen abstaining.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES – Chairperson Kinney noted that Item #201 is tabled and will be heard at the next meeting.

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Jesus Benayas of the House of Spain invited all to visit the House of Spain to learn how Spain helped George Washington and our thirteen colonies win the Revolutionary War. The House of Spain has had several workshops at the Balboa Park Committee meetings and he hopes that all have read the letter from 1515 written by Balboa to the King of Spain. The House of Spain had an Action Item 202 on April 7, 2015, regarding the Balboa statue. A few days earlier, Mr. Benayas had been asked to delay the presentation so that meeting could be held to discuss the issue with Kumeyaay representatives from Barona, Sycuan and Viejas tribes to hear concerns. Meetings have not been held in May or June and he is hopeful that they will meet in July for a discussion of concerns.

Daniele Laman of the House of Pacific Relations noted that the new cottages are moving through the process, recently completed the CEQA process and now going to the Planning Commission on July 21. They hope to have a ground breaking be the end of the year.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report presented

STAFF REPORT

City Council Third District, Council Representative Stephen Hill

- On Tuesday, Council will be voting on reducing emergency water regulations from level two to one.
- The City Council has adopted the fiscal year 2017 budget and Balboa Park gained additional funding for the following: 1.5 million for the rehabilitation of former Thompson Medical Library (Building 8 at Inspiration Point); \$350,000 for light post replacement in the Central Mesa; \$95,000 for an additional grounds maintenance supervisor position; 1.2 million in additional funding towards the Penny for the Arts blueprint goal which will benefit the park institutions; \$500,00 Balboa Park Golf Course CIP funding; \$300,000 for the West Mesa comfort station replacement; \$500,000 for Bud Kearns Pool; \$350,000 facilities maintenance; and 1.35 million towards Botanical Building restoration. He thanked all present who participated and supported park funding during the budget hearings.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, District Manager, Balboa Park Facilities and Special Events, Reported the following:

- The elevator modernization project at the Old Globe is waiting for state inspection and the San Diego Air and Space Museum elevator is nearing the end of the design phase. Work should begin in two to three weeks.
- Twilight Concerts in the Park is underway in the Organ Pavilion every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. Park and Recreation staff works with the Twilight Committee to provide eleven weeks of diverse musical programming. We are thankful to the Friends of Balboa Park for acting as the fiscal agent this year and for sponsoring the ice cream social on August 18.

Upcoming large special events:

- July 15 – 17 - LGBT Pride Parade, Festival and 5K at 6th and Laurel south lawn, Marston Loop

Mario Llanos, Acting District Manager, Balboa Park Operations, Reported the following:

- Food Truck Friday is a huge success and is now happening every Friday in Balboa Park from 4:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. It is a partnership between the City and the Balboa Park Conservancy. More information can be found at balboapark.org, including what trucks will be present each Friday.
- The new Kids Nature Exploration Area opened in time for the Parks Fir Kick-off event on June 18. It is located behind the Tennis Club just east of the Morley Field Dog Off- Leash area and near a major trailhead at the rim of Florida Canyon. It was designed and built by Park and Recreation staff and has been well received.
- The Chess/Horseshoe Club has received new irrigation and a drought tolerant landscape to the immediate exterior, along with a major renovation of the building's interior by City Facilities staff.

- Maintenance staff has planted (18) new Jacaranda trees and added irrigation outside the west fence line of the Roosevelt Joint Use Field along Robinson. Additionally, drip irrigation and smaller shrubs will be added to enhance the fence line.

BALBOA PARK NON-PROFIT PARTNER UPDATES

Balboa Park Conservancy

Mr. Tomas Herrera-Mishler shared the following:

- He thanked the Conservancy Trustees for attending the meeting tonight
- The Botanical Building steering committee is led by Mr. Paul Myer and many of the members of the committee are currently working with the design team.
- The cultural landscape report is underway with a steering committee leading the way
- Over 500 signs have been inventoried in the park and is leading to further conversation about park signage
- Tree inventory will hopefully be launched in the fall as they are gathering proposals
- Thanked the City for their partnership of the Food Truck Fridays, bringing great synergy in the park and institutions.

Balboa Park Cultural Partnership

Mr. Parzen shared the following:

- The BPCP joined the Mayor Faulconer and others last week in support of the renewed Plaza de Panama project. BPCP is looking forward to restoration Balboa Park, the City's crown jewel.

Ms. Kanzawa shared the following:

- The sustainability kiosk which features case studies, green exhibits, and an informative video series is now being hosted by the Veteran's Museum in Balboa Park until the end of September.
- The annual Sustainability Partner's Breakfast is scheduled for Monday, October 17 and will feature green museum expert, Sarah Sutton.
- A temporary sustainability store front will be communicating collective efforts from October through December in the Spanish Village Art Center.
- The next Explorer Experience this Saturday will feature a production by San Diego Junior Theater.
- Over 800 Balboa Park team member enjoyed the annual One Park – One Team BBQ
- The second Learning Exchange at Balboa Park, Keys to Amplifying Awareness and Engagement via Media and PR was presented to 42 people representing 36 organizations.
- The Call to Markers has opened for Maker Faire San Diego and is looking for local Makers to apply to exhibit at the event scheduled for October 1 -2, 2016.

Committee of 100

Michael Kelly shared the following:

- Noted that three years ago, they expanded their mission to include the 1935 Exhibition, buildings and gardens. They have chosen the Automotive Museum (California State Building) to restore and will begin with restoration of the murals. They are looking for a color photo of the murals, which were painted on fiberboard.

Friends of Balboa Park

Mr. Bolthouse shared the following:

- Thanked Mario Llanos who has been a great partner in his interim role
- Restoration of light posts on the Cabrillo Bridge has begun and the first of 31 is complete
- The Gatehouse restoration is near completion and they are tentatively planning a September ribbon cutting
- The Competitor Group's donation resulted in enabling almost twice the number of school children to visit the park from Title 1 schools. They have pledged continued support during the 2016-2017 school year as well.
- Stand in solidarity of Proposition C and the Plaza de Panama Project

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

None

Adoption

None

Special Events

301. Suja Rock'n'Roll San Diego 5K. Kara Kong, Competitor Group

Ms. Kong requested a recommendation to waive the summer moratorium for their 5 K on Saturday, June 3, 2017. This would be the third year of offering the 5K race before the marathon/half marathon which encourages runners to come into town a day early or participation by those friends and family members who may not be ready to tackle the longer race. The 2016 event was a huge success with over 33,000 participants for the weekend. It is estimated that the economic impact of the event was 54 million and resulted in 32,000 room nights. The 5K would remain in same format as 2016, which had 3,000 participants.

Committee Comments:

- Thanked for coming to the Committee in advance of the race
- Ms. Schiavoni was pleased to hear the event was a success, of the contribution to the park and suggested that their report reflect that information.
- Asked if the review is needed every year which is indeed a requirement of the Municipal Code
- Requested follow-up with financial data on donation

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED MS. BERNAL/MR. NGUYEN

A motion was made by Ms. Bernal and seconded by Mr. Nguyen to approve the event as presented. The motion was unanimously approved (9-0-1) with Mr. Kinney abstaining.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

None

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Proposed Amendments to Charter Section 55. Presenter Mike Hansen: Mayor Faulconer's Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. Hansen described the Mayor's two-pronged approach to restore the City's Regional Parks; an initiative for the November, 2016 ballot to extend Proposition C (Charter Section 55.2) for another 30 years. Presently, Charter Section 55.2 requires that the annual leasehold revenue from Mission Bay Park in excess of 20 million be divided 75% to the Mission Bay Park Improvement Fund and 25% to the Regional Park Improvement Fund through 2039. Charter Section 55.2 also contains language restricting multiple projects from occurring simultaneously and requires a rigid project sequencing. The proposed initiative would extend Proposition C until 2069, allow projects to move forward concurrently, and increase the amount of leasehold revenue to the Regional Park Improvement Fund from 25% to 35%. Long term bonds could also be leveraged over the 30 years. The Mayors' vision is to provide funding to address deferred maintenance of the buildings in Balboa Park. This item will be presented to the City Council on Monday at 2:00 p.m.

Committee Comments:

- Applaud the effort to streamline the process and gain more funding for the parks
- Requested clarification of the percentages
- Applaud finding a funding stream for maintenance. It is very welcome by the park's institutions.
- Requested clarification of funding amounts currently coming to Balboa Park- Jeff Van Deerlin provided examples of projects and funding amounts on the current allocation list

******Chairperson Kinney stated that this is an information item so the committee is not obligated to take public comments. The appropriate time for public comment would be on Monday at the City Council meeting. Mr. Hansen encouraged comments from committee members and the public and asked for support.

Commented [FH1]: Recommend removing the stars. If this comment was made before Committee comments, recommend moving this above the Committee Comments section.

502. Update on the Plaza de Panama Project. Presenter: Stacey LoMedico Assistant Chief Operating Officer

Ms. LoMedico noted that Mayor Faulconer held a press conference on June 30, 2016 in Balboa Park to announce that the long stalled Plaza de Panama project is moving forward. Mr. Charles Daniels is the point person for Park and Recreation and Ms. Katherine Johnson is the point person as Policy Advisor to the Mayor. The next step will take place on August 4 at 10:00 a.m. at a special meeting of the Infrastructure Committee, which will be asked to bring forward an action to City Council to amend the FY 2017 CIP budget to include this project. Funds will be allocated to update and complete the construction documents for any regulatory changes or updates to the plans, prevailing wage and the scope will be defined and re-reviewed. The hope is to have an action at the first City Council meeting in September and to present a project financing plan in four to six months. A report will be sent by staff to update the Committee as it moves forward. She asked if anyone had any questions.

******Mr. Kinney thanked Ms. LoMedico for the update and encouraged all to provide any comments at the Infrastructure Committee meeting scheduled on August 4 at 10:00 a.m.

Commented [FH2]: Recommend removing stars

~~***Note: A number of speaker slips were submitted on the two preceding Information Items. To provide members of the public with the opportunity to address the Balboa Park Committee on these Items, Some members of the public indicated that not accommodating public comment was a violation of the Brown Act. Staff determined the alleged violation to be correct. Therefore, the two Information Items will again be re-heard placed on by the Balboa Park Committee at 's agenda the next regularly scheduled meeting, onfor Thursday, September 1, 2016, in order that public comment can be taken.~~

SUB-COMMMITTEE REPORTS

- 601. Land-Use and Policy – No Report
- 602. West Mesa Subcommittee – No Report

COMMITTEE MEMBER'S REPORTS –

Mr. Nguyen invited all to attend the International Summer Organ Festival Concerts hosted by the Spreckels Organ Society on Monday nights at 7:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Thursday, September 2, 2016
6:00 P.M.
Balboa Park Club
2150 Pan American Road West
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Lowery-Mendoza
District Manager