

## MINUTES

### City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board **BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

February 7, 2008

#### Meeting held at:

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

#### Mailing address is:

Balboa Park Administration  
2125 Park Boulevard MS39  
San Diego, CA 92101-4792

#### ATTENDANCE:

##### Members Present

Jennifer Ayala  
Laurie Burgett  
Vicki Granowitz  
Mick Hager  
David Kinney  
Mike McDowell  
Michael Singleton  
Donald Steele

##### Members Absent

Patti Roscoe

##### Staff Present

Kathleen Hasenauer  
Susan Lowery-Mendoza  
Bruce Martinez

#### CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Granowitz called the meeting to order at 6:06 P.M. She then announced the reordering of the Agenda to reflect that Information Items 501, 502 and 503 will be presented after Staff's Report.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3, 2008 MEETING WITH A CORRECTION TO THE SPELLING OF BRIDLE ON PAGE 3. (STEELE /HAGER 9-0)**

#### REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

#### COMMUNICATIONS

Betty Peabody thanked everyone who was involved with the Light the Way project and ceremony. She also announced the Arbor Day Celebration event scheduled for March 11 with more information to follow. The Balboa Park Educators Council will be meeting on February 13, and after the meeting they will be testing the WiFi services at the kiosks in the park.

Warren Simon Sub-Chair for the Balboa Park December Nights Committee thanked the institutions and staff for their help and cooperation during the event.

Mr. Simon also stated a final report is scheduled to be released soon.

Joel Martin of Twenty Saturdays Production Company informed the Committee that he is interested in presenting films at the San Diego Velodrome during the summer with music.

Larry Bach informed the Committee he is interested in hosting a science festival at the end of March, 2009 in Balboa Park. He requested this proposal to be placed on the March 6, 2008 agenda.

City Council Member Tony Atkins thanked the Committee for the work they do. She stated the Balboa Park Committee is best suited to move the Governance Study forward and it is one of her top priorities. She made herself available to the Committee should they need her assistance and asked them not to rush to judgment on this critical issue. She also stated she has talked to Mayor Jerry Sanders about filling the two open seats on the Balboa Park Committee.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Vicki Granowitz reported that last month the Park and Recreation Board approved the Old Globe Conrad Prebys Project unanimously and they approved the Alcohol Ban for the Public Areas of the Central Mesa of Balboa Park unanimously. She stated she had discussion with staff from Mayor Jerry Sanders' office about the two vacancies on the Balboa Park Committee. The Mingei Museum landscape project should be presented to the Balboa Park Committee in March or April.

#### **STAFF REPORT**

Jeffery Tom stated that City Council Member Atkins thanked the Friends of Balboa Park for the Light the Way Project and Ceremony. Jeffery noted that on January 22, the San Diego City Council recognized Dr. Jeffery Kirsch for twenty five years of service as the Executive Director at the Reuben H. Fleet Science Center.

Kathleen Hasenauer, Deputy Director, acknowledged the Friends of Balboa Park for the Light the Way Project and Ceremony. The project has created interest to the extent that another division has received a phone call inquiring about the project and its technology.

City staff is working on the municipal code language for the Alcohol Ban for the Public Areas of Balboa Park that will be presented to City Council.

Several vacancies pertaining to Park and Recreation have been filled, Elmer Heap has been selected as the Deputy Chief Operating Officer and Chris Zerkle is now the Deputy Director in Open Space. Susan Lowery Mendoza was introduced as the Facilities, Special Events and Cultural Arts District Manager.

Susan Lowery Mendoza, Facilities and Special Events District Manager, reported

that Circus Vargas final performance was held Monday, February 4. The event had no reports of problems and they have expressed the desire to return next year.

The San Diego Lunar TET Festival will be held February 8 through February 10.

The San Diego Dance Company is presenting Collogue 2008, at the Casa Del Prado Theater.

The Museum of Art and California Tower ornamentation project is on schedule for completion in July of 2008.

Bruce Martinez, Operations District Manager, reported City staff is working with the California Conservation Corps on a canyon cleanup project at Grape Street Park. The project entails removing non native plant material and about five imbedded transient camps. Approximately three hundred volunteers from UCSD will assist with the project on Saturday. The area will be replanted with native trees and plants in a follow up project.

Recently the Union Tribune published an article about the catfish in the Balboa Park Lily Pond. The article generated inquires regarding the pond contents and maintenance process. Staff discussed maintenance issues and determined the Lily Pond did not need to be drained for filter maintenance. However, the smaller lotus pond will be drained to replace a leaking valve.

The Balboa Park Botanical Building Museum Accreditation committee held its first post report meeting on January 10. The report makes recommendations for areas of improvement and strategic planning. The committee members reviewed the recommendations and are moving to implement the improvements prior to the formal application for museum accreditation.

The Alcazar Garden Tile Project started the week of January 7. Work on the west fountain has been completed and it is estimated the entire project will be completed in mid February.

Installation work began on the over height sensors for the San Diego Museum of Man pedestrian bridge. It is estimated the project should be completed in mid March.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent**

101. None

### **Adoption**

201. Grant Request for funds to hire Administrative Staff for the Balboa Park Study.

Vicki Granowitz introduced the item and provided a brief overview of the Balboa Park Governance Study. She also stated an Ad Hoc Committee had been established to address the questions raised in the study for public discussion. The

Ad Hoc Committee consists of Vicki Granowitz, Mike McDowell and David Kinney. A job description for the Administrative position was also distributed.

Committee Member Comments

- This Assistant position is needed to help ensure the process is promoted and documented thoroughly.
- The Administrative Assistant must be an independent contractor and work for the committee but be hired by the Foundations.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ENTER INTO DIALOG WITH THE FOUNDATION TO PROVIDE GUIDANCE AND RESOURCES FOR THE ASSISTANCE REQUIRED. (STEELE/MCDOWELL 8-0)**

Special Events

301. A Refugee Camp in the Heart of the City.

This tour is sponsored by Doctors without Borders. The exhibit is an outdoor reconstruction of a refugee camp to be located at the War Memorial Building Lawn area from October 29 to November 2, 2008. Set up includes a temporary emergency shelter, several tents, a water distribution system, and latrines. Aid workers act as guides performing demonstrations and clinics. The exhibit includes photographs from leading photojournalists working emergency zones around the world. Exhibit hours are 9:00 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. daily with an estimated attendance of one thousand visitors per day. Overnight security will be provided

Committee Member Comments

- Parking impacts are a concern since October is Founders month for the San Diego Zoo.
- Refugee resettlement communities should be involved to share experience.
- This is a great event, can it be moved to the following week to avoid Founders Month?

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL WITH DETAILS TO BE WORKED OUT WITH PARK STAFF FOR THE PROPOSED DATE LOCATION AND PARKING PLAN. (HAGER/STEELE 8-0)**

302. The Red Light Movement Charity Walk

The proposed walk will start at 5:00 P.M. on Sunday April 27, 2008 and last approximately one hour, with registration beginning at 3:00 P.M. A post walk ceremony will be held from 6:00 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. The walk will begin and end at the Sixth Ave and El Prado Lawn area and walkers will travel on sidewalks between Upas St. and Marston Point with No road closures. The event will include vendors, a raffle, vocal performance and

two guest speakers. No food or alcohol will be served, Donations will be accepted. Tee-shirts and glow sticks will be sold. Estimated attendance is one thousand two hundred people.

#### Committee Member Comments

- Amplified music on the West side at night is a concern
- Traffic flow is a concern at Laurel St., El Prado, and Quince St.
- Amplified sound should not go later than 5:00 P.M.
- Lighting on the West side is an issue.
- The walk should start earlier and end at dusk to avoid lighting issues.
- Cypress Point should be considered. The walk route should avoid crossing streets.
- Provide additional information with the staff recommendation for events proposed.
- Report the final plans back to the Committee

Kathleen Hasenauer stated the walk could start earlier and end at dusk with no amplified music after dark, acoustical only. The walk should not go south of Laurel Street or north of Quince Street to facilitate vehicle access/egress.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE REVISED PLAN AS STATED BY KATHLEEN HASENAUER. (AYALA/HAGER 7-1) NAY-SINGLETON**

#### WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. None

#### INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Brown Act

Kimberly Davies, Deputy City Attorney presented an overview of the Brown Act with supporting documents. She stated the intent of the Brown Act was to ensure that legislative bodies are open and public and that there is meaningful public access to their decision making.

#### Committee Member Comments

- Ad Hoc Committee concerns were expressed.
- The impact of open seats on committees was clarified.
- The issue of private meetings or closed meeting was discussed.
- A list of topics for which a meeting could be closed was requested.

502. Balboa Park Monitoring Well

City of San Diego Water Department Staff Bob McCullough, Water Planning Manager and Antero Penaflor, Principal Engineering Aide presented an update with supporting documents. They thanked Park and Recreation staff for their assistance with the project. They stated the U.S. Geological Survey crew completed drilling the well at a depth of one

thousand five hundred feet. There were two sections of the well that showed potential for water. Data information collected will be available on the US Geological Survey's web site.

#### Committee Member Comments

- Inquiries were made about school visits, water levels and duration of monitoring.

#### 503. Introduction of Balboa Park West Advisory Group

Vicki Granowitz introduced Janet Fairbanks and Alyssa Wolven who are in the process of forming a sub-committee to the Balboa Park Committee for issues pertaining to the West Mesa. They will be reporting under Sub-Committee Report. The first meeting is tentatively planned for March at the Redwood Bridge Club.

#### Committee Member Comments

- Inquires were made pertaining to schools and businesses being invited to the meetings.
- Concerns were expressed on how the Balboa Park West Advisory Group would impact the Uptown Planning Group.

#### 504. Balboa Park Study -Next Steps

David Kinney discussed the process for gathering community input by involving the stakeholders, the public, and neighbors. He stated the first meeting is scheduled for Saturday March 8, 2008 and that theme meetings addressing certain topics will be hosted in the future.

Mike McDowell discussed the obligation the committee has and the use of technical input from others with experience in governance management. He stated the importance of community input and being able to look back at the end of the process to see outreach efforts were made and information was received.

Vicki Granowitz stated we have resources between public and private groups along with speaker bureaus that may be able to assist us in the process.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT**

601. Land-Use and Policy – Laurie Burgett reported that during the January 24, meeting, the formation of the West Side Advisory Group was discussed with some goals met and a work plan created which is a living document.

### **COMMMTTEE MEMBER REPORT**

**Vice Chair** – None

#### **Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council**

Vicki Granowitz reported that the Recreation Council approved the revised bylaws which will be submitted for approval and new sub-accounts for Balboa Park Horticulture and Canine Council have been created. The Recreation Council also purchased Automated External Defibrillators for the Balboa Park Activity

Center and Municipal Gym.

**Large Institutions**

Mick Hager stated that he will be on sabbatical April – July of 2008 and that a representative from the Large Institutions will be in the audience.

**Small Institutions**

The House of Hospitality published its first Balboa Park E-News. The newsletter has a section “Ask the Horticulturalist” which is responded to by Crystal Ritchie, Balboa Park Horticulturalist.

**Center City Advisory Committee**

Jennifer Ayala reported the Children’s Museum will have an open house on January 29, 2008 and opening day will be May 4, 2008. Museum will be open 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. daily except Wednesdays.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Granowitz adjourned the meeting at 8:39 P.M.

**Next Regular Meeting:**

Thursday, March 6, 2008  
6:00 P.M.  
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room  
2150 Pan American Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen S. Hasenauer

