

MINUTES

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

March 6, 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
Jerelyn Dilno
Vicki Granowitz
Mick Hager
Andrew Kahng
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 6:05 P.M. She then announced the reordering of the Agenda to reflect that Information Items 501 will be presented after Workshop Item 401.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 7, 2008 MEETING (STEELE /KINNEY 8-0) ABSTENTION- DILNO AND KAHNG

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

COMMUNICATIONS

Amelia Earhart of Twenty Saturdays Production Company provided copies of a written proposal and informed the Committee that they are working with the San Diego Velodrome Association to present films on Saturday evenings during the summer.

Alyssa Wolven and Janet Fairbanks presented an update of the Balboa Park West Advisory Group. A meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 2 at the

Redwood Bridge Club.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Vicki Granowitz reported that last month the Park and Recreation Board hosted its retreat. The Fiscal Year '09 Budget was discussed and will be presented to City Council in April.

Alcohol Ban for the Public Areas of Balboa Park is waiting to be docketed for City Council.

The Mayor's office is working on appointees for the Balboa Park Committee. Patti Roscoe has notified the Mayor's Office that she does not wish to be reappointed due to time and availability constraints.

STAFF REPORT

Jeffery Tom reported that City Council Member Atkins along with Mayor Jerry Sanders will be at the Balboa Park Committee Governance meeting on Saturday March 8.

The Alcazar Garden Tile Project has been completed. The Committee of One Hundred will be hosting an event on Friday, April 7 to celebrate the completion of the project.

Kathleen Hasenauer, Deputy Director, reported that the Park & Recreation Department Grants office has nominated the Spreckels Organ Pavilion Lighting Restoration Project for a National Preservation Award.

The Friends of Balboa Park are interested in conducting a study regarding Achieving Sustainability in Major Urban Parks.

The City Management Program update was presented to the City Council. Park and Recreation Department information is found on pages 6-8. The information will be part of the Budget documents.

City Council has approved funding for parking lot asphalt repair and maintenance in Balboa Park. Inspiration Point, Federal Building, Palisades, and Organ Pavilion Parking lots are scheduled to be worked on this year. The remaining Balboa Park parking lots will be schedule in subsequent years.

Susan Lowery Mendoza, Facilities and Special Events District Manager, reported that The St. Patrick's Day Parade and Festival event will be hosted on Saturday March 15.

The Red Light Movement Charity Walk has modified its event proposal to address the concerns expressed during their February 7 presentation to the Committee. Amplified sound will only be used between 3:00P.M. - 6:30 P.M. with the walk ending at 8:00 P.M. The area of the walk will be contained within the boundaries of Sixth Ave, Laurel St., Quince St. and Balboa Dr.

The Refugee Camp in the Heart of the City will be relocated to the Park and Presidents lawn area and will be held on November 5, 2008 through November 10, 2008 as requested.

The San Diego Automotive Museum will be hosting a three day event titled Toyota Highway to the Future. The event will be held in the Palisades parking lot beginning Saturday, March 8, 2008.

Review of the 2008 Lunar Tet Festival will be presented to the Committee at the April 3, 2008 meeting.

The Eighth Annual Spring Fling will be held at the Morley Field Sports Complex on Saturday, March 22 from 10:00A.M. - 12:00P.M. This event is sponsored by the Balboa Park / Morley Field Recreation Council.

Bruce Martinez, Operations District Manager, reported that the Friends of Balboa Park are hosting an Arbor Day Ceremony on March 11, at 11:00 A.M. The event will be at the War Memorial Building lawn area where 21 new trees have been planted.

City staff is researching historical photos for options and designs to renovate the turf area around the Lily Pond. The intent is to come up with a design that is more resilient to the foot traffic in the area.

Over height vehicle sensors for the San Diego Museum of Man pedestrian bridge are scheduled to be installed and operational by the end of March.

Friday, February 22 a security light pole cracked due to storm winds. City staff secured the pole to prevent it from falling and removed the banners from the pole to minimize wind load stress. The pole was eventually removed. All banners attached to the fiberglass composite light poles in the Central Mesa were removed.

Committee Member Comments

- An inquiry was made about the tree removals in Golden Hill Park.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. Item was deferred to the April 3, 2008 meeting.

Special Events

301. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Cal Trans Tree Replacement on State Route 163

Cal Trans Staff members Marcelo Peinado, Deputy District Director of Design, Tom Ham Landscape Architect, and Dave Strickland, Associate Landscape Architect, presented an overview of the State Route 163 Corridor Management Plan. Tree management concerns were discussed. It was stated that eleven trees were recently removed, all of which were planted in 2004. No historic trees had been removed and only after an assessment and review would an historic tree be considered for removal. In the Fall tree pruning is scheduled for the center median as part of their tree management program. Traffic may be impacted. They also stated that they will return and report any new project information they may have regarding tree work.

Committee Member Comments

- The Public is concerned about the removal of trees.
- Inquiries were made about the criteria considered for tree removals.

402. Balboa Park Study Update

Vicki Granowitz reported that she has received requests from other organizations to have her speak at their meetings. The possibility of scheduling meetings at different times and other days to give an opportunity for all people to be able to attend a scheduled meeting was mentioned. Specific subjects for meetings were suggested and potential guest speakers identified. Vicki also requested that the Committee help identify other park governance models to study.

Committee Members Comments

- Having the meetings transcribed or recorded would be helpful.
- Groups that request speaking time of the membership should provide their questions or comments in writing.
- Flexibility of meeting times and days would be helpful in ensuring people with schedule limitations to have an opportunity to attend.
- Golden Gate Park in San Francisco was recommended as a governance model.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Balboa Park Trail System

Casey Smith, Senior Park Ranger distributed a handout and narrated a Power Point presentation of the Balboa Park Trail System project. He emphasized trails, gateways, signage, and promotion of the trails system. Jerry Schad spoke about the aspects of the trails network and how it could expose more of the Park to visitors. Paul Meyer discussed the role of the Balboa Park Endowment Fund and its potential to assist with projects that meet the needs of the Park as identified by others.

Committee Member Comments

- This project is long overdue and one that is needed.
- Inquiries were made about the type of mapping, signage, and distance accuracy of the trail signage.
- Connectivity of the Park to internal and external locations makes this a great project.
- This project is an excellent way to promote the trails. Tourists are looking for this type of activity.
- The final selection of a map should take into consideration that the majority of map users will be visitors from outside the area and the map will need to be informative yet easy to read.

502. Balboa Park Operations 2008 Project List

Bruce Martinez, District Manager presented an overview of the Balboa Park Operations 2008 Project List. The list included details of thirteen projects and their costs. He stated the projects were selected by staff for operational reasons but the projects themselves came from several different sources. Projects had been identified by community members, conformance to the Precise Plans of Balboa Park, and organizations within the Park. These projects are a way for staff to better manage internal and external resources. Projects funded from this list would receive priority status for completion.

Committee Member Comments

- Identifying ways to acknowledge the funding source of a project is helpful in getting donors.

503. Balboa Park Kiosks Update

Ken Tranbarger from the Friends of Balboa Park gave an update on the project. Monday March 10 the kiosks will go live and be tested. The ATM machines have been up and operational since they were installed. The touch screens are not yet in use. WiFi is being impacted by the work on the California Tower. Currently they are working through sponsorship issues with the City Attorney.

Committee Member Comments

- Inquiries were made pertaining to the Eastside of the Park being included on the maps.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – None

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

Balboa Park/Morley Field Recreation Council

Andrew Kahng reported that the Recreation Council will be hosting its Spring Egg Hunt. The U.S. Table Tennis Association has named Jock Oubichon National Volunteer Coach of the Year.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Granowitz adjourned the meeting at 8:16 P.M.

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, April 3, 2008
6:00 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen S. Hasenauer