

MINUTES

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

June 5, 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
Andrew Kahng
David Kinney
Mike McDowell (Arr 5:37)
Michael Singleton
Donald Steele (Ex)

Members Absent

Mick Hager

Staff Present

Kathleen Hasenauer
Susan Lowery-Mendoza
Bruce Martinez

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Granowitz called the meeting to order at 5:34 P.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2008 MEETING (KINNEY /KAHANG 7-0)

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

NON AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT

Warren Simon presented an overview of the 2007 Balboa Park December Nights event. The presentation was based on a comparison between the 2006 and 2007 events. Overall the 2007 event generated less revenue by about \$ 15,000.00. The decrease in 2007 revenue was contributed to the rain. The event's expenses were increased by about \$ 10,000.00. The event generated about \$ 20,000.00 for the City.

Jim Kidrick presented a brief overview on an upcoming proposal for a San Diego Air and Space Museum project. Jim informed the Committee that they are working with City staff on details for a proposal to enable an Atlas rocket to be

placed in the park near the San Diego Air and Space Museum. The intent of the project is to acknowledge the legacy of the Atlas rocket to the San Diego area and help promote the space aspect of the museum.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chairperson Vicki Granowitz reported that the next meeting for the Balboa Park Study will be on June 18, 2008. The meeting will be held at 5:30 P.M. in the War Memorial Building. Representation from Forrest Park of St. Louis, the Forrest Park Forever Conservancy, the San Diego River Conservancy, and San Diego River Park Foundation will make presentations. The July 3, 2008 Balboa Park Committee meeting has been rescheduled for Thursday, July 24, 2008 at 5:30 P.M.

The Cinevelo Twenty Saturdays event proposed for the San Diego Velodrome was considered an intensification of use on the East Mesa and it was requested that the event organizer present the proposal to the North Park Planning Committee. The community had significant issues with twenty events proposed throughout the summer at the Velodrome. The organizer subsequently the organizer withdrew the proposal to use the Velodrome.

STAFF REPORT

Jeffery Tom did not have a report.

Kathleen Hasenauer, Deputy Director reported that the City Council Budget Review Committee met on June 4, 2008. A revised budget was presented along with the Independent Budget Analyst's recommendations for restoring some position. The revisions, recommendations, and restorations of positions will not be known until City Council adopts the FY 09 Budget in late June.

Susan Lowery-Mendoza, Facilities and Special Events District Manager invited everyone to the Twilight Concerts in the Park. The concert series begins on June 17, 2008 and copies of the schedule were provided.

The Casa Del Prado Theater flooring project is almost complete. New carpet has been installed throughout the theater with linoleum being installed in the Green Room.

Susan made a presentation to the Balboa Park West Side Advisory Group during their June meeting. The topic of Special Events and permit process was discussed and she answered questions at the end of the presentation.

Upcoming special events include the Greatest Show on Turf Car Show June 7, 2008, the San Diego Museum of Art Family Festival begins June 8, 2008, and the Summer Organ Festival begins June 16 and continues on June 23 and June 30.

Bruce Martinez, Operations District Manager reported that the Balboa Park Trust approved funding for three additional projects from the 2008 Balboa Park Operations Projects List. The projects funded are; the Electropure Deionization

System for the Kate Session Nursery , (\$8,500.00) the Rose Garden Replacement Fence in the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden (\$ 19, 800.00), and The Juniper Canyon Trail Enhancement (\$ 6,000.00.)

Park Rangers and the California Conservation Corps planted forty-five trees as part of the Golden Hill\ Grape Street Canyon Enhancement Project. Fifteen trees were planted in Golden Hill Park at the northwest side of the park and another thirty trees went into the gully area between Golf Course Drive and the Grape Street Dog Off Leash Area.

Last week staff completed a major renovation and cleanup of the Marston House's landscaping and Formal Garden. The restoration of plant material reflects a more historically accurate representation of the site.

We have started a turf renovation project on the Laurel Street South turf. The project entails leveling the area, over-seeding and top dressing. The project should take about six weeks to complete.

WORKSHOP ITEMS

401. Balboa Park Study

Vicki Granowitz introduced Dorothy Leonard, Chairperson of the Mission Trails Regional Park, Craig Adams, Executive Director of the San Dieguito River Valley Conservancy, and Paul Meyer Esq. Ms. Leonard and Mr. Adams discussed their respective organizations', history, experiences, and management structure. Mr. Meyer presented an overview of public-private partnership projects. Mr. Meyer discussed the dynamics that go into a public-private partnership. Each is unique and organic. Mr. Meyer discussed the importance of involving the public in the process and making sure those who express opposition are heard and their issues of concerns are documented with special provisions in the agreements to mitigate their concerns.

Public Comments

- Opposition was expressed to building within Balboa Park and any loss of park land.
- Concerns were expressed about privatizing Balboa Park. The citizens of San Diego should be asked what they want. A comment was made that this is a City park and foundations or conservancies are not needed.

Committee Member Comment

- This is a policy discussion and no impacts to Balboa Park will result from this portion of the Study. This is not a Project Committee.
- This Process is not a privatization issue. The one consensus among everyone is that privatization is a bad option. Balboa Park will always be a public park.
- The flexibility of conservancy management is a concern.

- Adherence to the Brown Act and transparency were questioned as they pertain to a conservancy.
- Existing models of Public and Private Partnerships were discussed.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

601. Land-Use and Policy – None
602. Balboa Park West Advisory Group- Alyssa Wolven reported that the BPWAG had their second meeting on June 4, 2008 with the topic of Special Events being discussed. BPWAG has created a website which contains a Mission Statement, meeting agendas and notes, contact links and a live weather station. The next BPWAG meeting will be held on August 6, at the Redwood Bridge Club.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent

101. None

Adoption

201. None

Special Events

301. San Diego Science Festival, Science Expo- Revised to be Information Item 502.

INFORMATION ITEMS

501. Cool Globes- Susan Lower Mendoza presented a follow-up report pertaining to the placement locations of the proposed globes. Susan mentioned that City staff and event organizers met on site to discuss potential locations and concerns. The proposed locations of the globes were identified on maps which were distributed to the Committee members. Susan stated that these were only proposed locations and that these locations were subject to change based on impacts the globes may present once they are on site.

Committee Member Comment

- The proposed globe locations seem crowded around the fountain and the placement of the globes should be congruent to the arch of the fountain wall.
 - Flow of pedestrian traffic between and around the globes was a concern. The proximity of the globes to each other may impact path of travel.
502. San Diego Science Festival, Science Expo- Allison Rynne thanked the Committee for allowing her to change the event to an Information Item for this month's agenda. The event was pulled due to a date/location conflict. Ms. Rynne distributed a draft brochure of the three hundred science

events planned for March 2009, The Balboa Park Science Expo is one event. It was stated at a previous Balboa Park Committee Meeting that two hundred and fifty thousand people will attend the San Diego Science Festival. It was clarified that an estimated fifteen thousand people will attend the Science Expo in Balboa Park, not the expected persons attendance for the San Diego Science Festival.

COMMMITTEE MEMBER REPORT

Andrew Kahng announced that the Balboa Park /Morley Field Recreation Council approved the purchasing of a floor cleaning machine for the Municipal Gym. The donation amount was about \$11,000.00. The Recreation Council was please to see the Independent Budget Analyst's recommendations for restoring some of the positions in the Balboa Park portion of the FY 09 Budget. The Council is launching a process for updating usage and stakeholder statistics for Balboa Park.

David Kinney reported that the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership sent Mayor Jerry Sanders a letter requesting that he reconsider some of the proposed budget cuts for Balboa Park's Park and Recreation staff. The Ruben H. Fleet Science Center is replacing its IMAX theater dome screen. The renovation will take about three months to complete and the work is tentatively scheduled for Fall of 2008. The Partnership with the Metropolitan Transit System continues to grow. Staff from The San Diego Natural History Museum and the Rueben H. Fleet Science Center sketched environmental Green theme pictures on a soon to be retired MTS bus. Two hundred Children painted the bus and it will be in service for approximately six months. The service route includes Balboa Park.

Jennifer Ayala reported that currently an open space needs assessment for downtown is underway. It is a six to eight month long process to determine what community members want and need in downtown parks. Two America Plaza Park is moving forward. The park at Tenth, J, and Island is on hold due to developer issues. East Village Greens Park is currently being planned as a major park for the area. It has plans to encompass a couple city blocks. Several parcels of property have been obtained and others are being sought. The use of the post office square and the Post Office are incorporated into the plans. A temporary dog off-leash park for the area has been discussed.

Laurie Burgett thanked staff for the update on the planting of the forty five trees in the Golden Hill and Grape Street Park area. Laurie also mentioned that the Land Use and Policy Sub-Committee are not meeting because of the focus being placed on the Balboa Park Study. However, should staff have any large projects, the sub committee will meet.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Granowitz adjourned the meeting at 8:09 P.M.

Next Balboa Park Study Meeting:

Wednesday, June 18, 2008
5:30 P.M.
War Memorial Building
3325 Zoo Drive,
San Diego, CA 92101

Next Regular Meeting:

Thursday, August 7, 2008
5:30 P.M.
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room
2150 Pan American Road
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen S. Hasenauer