

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADAMS COMMUNITY RECREATION GROUP
MINUTES/PUBLIC MEETING
In person and via Zoom
Tuesday, March 26, 2024
6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jim Baross – Chairperson
Dennis Reiter- NHUA
Ellen Stone
Kim Emerson – Corresponding Secretary
Nancy Lawler – NHCPG
Mark Lawler –
Jackson Stover – VOLO

STAFF

Fernando Jumillas, OCA Center Director
Michele Chicarelli, Area Manager – Absent
Erni Barros – San Diego Library – Absent
Jenny Hall – Community Relations Officer – Absent
Sara Al-Agha – Rep for District 9 – via Zoom

GUESTS:

Carmen Fagurdes
Mr. Pradeep
Veronica Aranda
Adam Shames
Kenny Patrick

CALL TO ORDER

Jim Baross called meeting to order at 6:05pm

Introductions of Attendees

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of Minutes for January 23 & February 27th, 2024, were tabled to next meeting on April 23rd, 2024

COMMUNICATIONS *(limited to items not on the agenda. Each one will be limited to five (5) minutes and is not debatable).*

There was a discussion about efforts to eradicate the graffiti problem, specifically at Ward Canyon Park. Michele promised to get a city issued “anti-graffiti kit” to Ellen Stone who has offered to assist with this problem. Other members and guests offered to help with this problem.

ORGANIZATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. **San Diego Police/Community Relations Officer** – No Report
2. **City Council District 9 Representative – Sara Al-Agha** - reported she had a constituent contact her regarding how gates were closed to the ballfield. She communicated with the Parks department and are coordinating with the Adams Elementary School to keep the doors open on scheduled hours. She mentioned their office is dedicated to having a clean, safe, and healthy community. She believes that safe walkable streets that are the cornerstone which provides accessibility for everyone. Her office is working on policy changes and has a survey for opinion on street conditions. The transportation department plans to be in District 9 to service streetlights in June and July. She said she is finalizing the dates for the Budget Forum

that will take place in May. Regarding the Ward Canyon Park GDP, a city project team is working with the park planners to evaluate areas of the existing park property and where to locate the dog park. She mentioned that the city is reconsidering the option of Cal Trans' relinquishment due to cost and time impacts to the Ward Canyon Park project of constructing the I-15 on off ramps required. She says there will be a community engagement process for layouts of the dog park, new recreation building, and park amenities, after they get started with proposed improvements. The date for the community engagement process has yet to be announced. The expected demolition of the vacant building at 49th and Adams Avenue is to happen Fall of 2024 – 8 to 10 months from now.

3. **San Diego Library**- No Report
4. **Mid-City Little League** – No Report.
5. **VOLO - Jackson Stover** – Reports that they are still having issues with field lights, but they were able to get permits for Wednesdays and Thursdays kickball. They haven't been able to get permits for Mondays and Tuesdays, and he hopes that this can be resolved ASAP.
6. **Normal Heights Community Association**- No Report.
7. **Normal Heights Community Planning Group** – No Report
8. **Ward Canyon Waggers**- No Report
9. **Normal Heights Urban Arts –Kim Emerson & Dennis Reiter** – Happily reported that the mosaic mural “Kaleidoscope of Butterflies” was successfully installed on March 14th and they worked on the details the consecutive days afterwards. The dedication and ribbon-cutting will be on **Friday, March 29th, from 2:00 to 3:30 pm**, right before the “Spring Fling” Egg Event in the ballfield. During the dedication, they mentioned that Veronica Aranda's, representing her non-profit called **Art Connects Hearts** will have a hands-on arts and crafts table at the event. Also, there will be a nature education table set-up by the **Earth Discovery Institute** for children, and adults, can learn about butterflies.
10. **Adams Elementary**- No Report.
11. **Normal Heights Elementary**- No Report

ADAMS PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS - **Fernando Jumillas, OCA Center Director** - Reported they are getting ready for Friday March 29th Egg Hunt event. He mentioned that soccer is coming up and Peewee practices are Mondays and Wednesdays from 5-6 pm. Soccer practices for 10u will be Tuesdays and Thursdays 5-6 pm at the Normal Heights Joint Field.

CHAIR REPORT & INFORMATION ITEMS/ ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Chair Jim Baross**: Announced that he has volunteered to participate on the Police Captain's Advisory Board. He mentioned again about his Google Group created the Adams-Ave-Recreation-Group@googlegroups.com. Jim again mentioned about the **Adams Avenue Street Fair** on September 21st and 22nd and he wants the Adams CRG to have a booth and/or open house during that weekend. He also mentioned about a link

for a study to help us calculate the number of resources we have for recreation in each of the communities.

- **Additional Discussion:**

CRG member, Ellen Stone, and other members, are asking for an anti-graffiti kit that Michele Chicarelli mentioned to help with the graffiti problem at Ward Canyon Park.

Guest, Veronica Aranda's, proposed the possibility of an art mural to be painted on the Vacant Building East facing wall, and knowing that it will soon be demolished, in attempt to minimize the graffiti.

Mr. Pradeep proposed a healing plant or garden element in lieu of the existing playground equipment at the Adams Community Park. He will prepare a proposal.

Jim Baross stated that there is to be a vote for the addition of Adam Shames as a CRG member at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT – Jim Baross adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING – The next Adams Community Recreation Group meeting will be on Tuesday, April 23, 2024, in person and via Zoom.

Submitted by Fernando Jumillas, OCA Center Director.

This information is available in an alternative format upon request. Please contact Fernando Jumillas at 619-235-1149.