

CITY OF SAN DIEGO PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT
ADAMS COMMUNITY RECREATION GROUP
MINUTES/PUBLIC MEETING
Tuesday, 25 June 2024
6:00 PM

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Jim Baross – Chairperson
Ellen Stone – Member
Nancy Lawler – NHCPG
Mark Lawler – Member

STAFF

Michelle Chicarelli – Area Mgr P&R (zoom)
Sara Al-Agha – Council Dist. 9 (zoom)
Jenny Hall – Officer SDPD Mid-City (zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Cameron Fagundes – Member
Dennis Reiter – NHUA
Kim Emerson – Corresponding Secretary
Chandler Galt – Mid-City Little League

GUESTS

Dr. Terry Hoskins – Candidate, Dist. 9
Paul Coogan – NHCPG Chair (zoom)
Kenny Patrick – NH Resident

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Jim Baross.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion: It was moved/seconded (N. Lawler/M. Lawler) to approve January, March, and May 2024 minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously (4-0-0.)

COMMUNICATIONS

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

No agenda changes noted.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

The chair thanks Dr. Terry Hoskins for the hotspot connection.

ORGANIZATION/COMMITTEE REPORTS

San Diego Police Department/Community Relations Officer – Officer Jenny Hall

- There is a new Police Chief, Scott Whal, sworn in on June 7th
- San Diego Police Chief David Nisleit, retired after 36 years of service
- Ward Canyon Park has several Get It Done requests about encampments; they are in process through neighborhood policing
- The retaining wall on south side of building was removed to try to reduce storage activity and people using it to hide.

- One police partner is working with CalTrans about homeless encampments near Ward Canyon; resources being offered to those who are being removed from the area as part of a grant which might cover one year.
- Park de la Cruz in City Heights has similar needs along freeway.
- Assault with a deadly weapon 11 July 2024 in Ward Canyon reported. The victim appears they knew their attacker and is not moving forward.
- Jim asked about encampments along the east side of the 15 on bikeway – Jenny said Sarah might have more information. Mayor’s office and Council’s office have been very involved.
- Sarah said it was determined to not be CalTrans property so the city departments are looking into it.

Sarah Al-Agha, Council District 9

- Ward Canyon park has leaves reported by Nancy have now been cleared by Parks Department.
- The building demolition remains on pace to be completed by end of Summer.
- Nancy asked for definition of end of Summer. Sarah replied August to September.
- Michelle said the dates will be determined by permits.
- Concerns about 40th Street relinquishments of Ward Canyon area.
- Parks After Dark program began on the 20th and is active until end of Summer. This program includes the areas of City Heights, Linda Vista, Logan Heights, and Skyline sdd9.info/parksafterdark
- Jim asked about the budget. Sarah said it was approved. Jim joked about “a lot of extra money for P&R.”
- Jim asked if there were any additional questions for Sarah. No one spoke up.

No reports today from the following:

Library
 Mid-City Little League
 NHCA
 Urban Arts
 Waggers
 Elementary School

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF REPORTS

Recreation Center Director not present today; report is from Michelle Chicarelli, Area Mgr.

- Day Camp is going extremely well and is full with 25 children daily
- Several recreation centers are taking kids to a Padre’s game on 26 June 2024
- Adams and NP rec centers participate in free breakfast and lunch daily.
- No outstanding needs reported.
- Ellen thanked Michelle for graffiti buckets and asked about reporting any completed clean-ups

- Ellen will send pictures of completed work to Michelle
- Michelle will replenish supplies as needed. She just needs a request to do so.
- Michelle reported about Ward Canyon buildings, including restrooms.
- Continuous cleaning of vacant building. Each day it's cleared but also daily, it fills with debris.
- Jim found some historical documents.
- Old furniture is still there and will be donated as possible. The abandoned furniture is city property.
- Jim said there is a big screen tv and other equipment.
- Jim found two hats which Nancy remembered from years past.
- Restroom graffiti is daily. Vandalization is nearly daily. Doors locks broken each night.
- Jim said he was approached by neighbors who wish to use the center for other activities, clubs, public meetings, etc.
- Michelle said Fernando would be the contact. It's done with permits and there would be a portion of any fees collected shared with the center.

ACTION ITEMS

- Kenny Patrick will continue to act as secretary even though they are not yet on the board.
- Jim asked if anyone agreed or disagreed with a non-board member acting as secretary. Michelle stated Kenny would be acting as a volunteer from the community; which is ok.
- Motion: It was moved/seconded (E. Stone/N. Lawler) to approve Kenny as volunteer secretary. Motion passed unanimously (4-0-0.)
- Jim reminded there is not pay for the work (with a grin) and offered support.
- P&R has asked us to provide draft proposal of updated bylaws. (based on P&R's bylaws example)
- Jim prepared a draft after collecting edits and suggestions from others. Ellen asked about quorum calculations - Jim answered.
- Once ready, Michelle said she will submit to Gina D. (director) who then will forward to Annie Field (director.)
- Motion: It was moved/seconded (N. Lawler/E. Stone) to approve bylaws. Motion passed unanimously (4-0-0.)
- Jim asked Michelle to review for grammar, etc., prior to submission. Michelle will edit and return to us for final approval.

INFORMATION ITEMS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- In the vacant building, Jim reported about finding police department , and other, historical records. Some were a former newspaper from the 90's. Jim saved a box to be forwarded to Pete; who is a local area historian.

- Jim also found approximately 40+ chairs, some desks, coffee makers, televisions, etc. Jim asked others if a garage sale is an option but it is not as this is government property. Jim is in contact with P&R about the disposition of these items. Michelle said there is a warehouse where old government items are stored.
- Jim asked Paul Coogan about Ward Canyon Community Garden.
- Paul sent a proposal to the city about administration oversight of said garden and shared this document with ACRG via zoom.
- Paul reports that a governing body is required. That body will make sure all paperwork is filed and selecting a garden manager (volunteer.) That manager would engage in assigning plots, arranging for trash clean-up, making sure rules are followed, procuring corporate donated funds, etc. The Selby's have committed to donating up to \$5,000 as matched funds. Normal Heights For Smart Growth has collected \$200 so far. Once this program (the garden) is approved, NHFSG will engage in greater fundraising efforts.
- These funds will pay for water supply, raised beds, plumbing, etc. The existing fencing will remain.
- There needs to be coordination with the City about plot locations. The City currently has plans guided by their engineers for other construction. There are native plants to be considered. The goal is make sure the City plans are not in conflict with the community garden.
- Once all paperwork is done, then there can be a key turn-over and building the raised beds can begin. Paul said that a liaison is needed between the City and NH Community Garden. That liaison could come from several local entities; which is in process.
- Michelle says that Paul is successfully following the City guidelines to proceed. Ellen asked about ACRG managing the garden being a challenge because the ACRG is still trying to grow their board.
- The garden management is still under consideration and moving forward. Paul offered to be a sometime advisor yet is otherwise committed and cannot be a full-time manager of the project.

ADJOURNMENT – the meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM

NEXT REGULAR MEETING - The next ACRG meeting will be Tuesday 23 July 2024

Minutes submitted by Kenny Patrick (619) 300-5535

THIS INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATE FORMATS UPON REQUEST BY CONTACTING THE RECREATION CENTER DIRECTOR AT (619) 235-1149