

**MINUTES**

**City of San Diego Boards and Commissions  
Parks and Recreation Department  
MISSION BAY PARK COMMITTEE  
December 3, 2024**

**Meeting Location**

Santa Clara Recreation Center  
1008 Santa Clara Place  
San Diego, CA 92109

**Mailing Address:**

Balboa Park  
Administration Building  
2125 Park Boulevard  
San Diego, CA 92101

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Members Present**

Cindy Adams  
Chuck Dunning  
Jim Gross  
Jeff Johnson  
Ryan Karlsgodt  
Judith Munoz  
Steve Pinard  
Julie Roland

**Members Absent**

Bernadette Butkiewicz  
Giovanni Ingolia  
Cathie Jolley

**Guests**

Linda Morales  
Jennifer Keller  
Pete Hess

**City Staff Present**

Mike Rodrigues  
Cris Amezcua  
Mayra Medel  
Michele Kelley  
Cambria Head

**CALL TO ORDER** – Chairperson Jeff Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – October 1, 2024

**MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED**

A motion was made by R. Karlsgodt and seconded by J. Roland to approve the October 1, 2024 Mission Bay Park Committee meeting minutes as written. The motion carried 8-0

**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS**

Connor Arleo expressed his desire to operate a boat charter business (floating venue) out of Mission Bay. He is in discussions with Sportsman's Seafood

**CHAIRPERSONS REPORT**

Jeff Johnson shared that he attended the Parks Foundation fundraiser and feels it is important to build and maintain good relationships with Mission Bay Park Lessees as mutual partnerships. Most of the funding for park projects comes from lease revenues

**CITY COUNCIL OFFICES**

Council District 1 – Cambria Head with CM LaCava's Office announced the undergrounding utility project occurring in Pacific Beach, 12/17 will be the last City Council meeting for the year, meetings will resume in January after the holidays

Council District 2 – no report

**STAFF REPORTS**

**San Diego Lifeguard Service** – reported at the Improvement Fund Oversight Committee meeting

**San Diego Police Department** – no report

**Parks and Recreation**

Cris Amezcua, Mission Bay Park Maintenance Manager, provided updates on park maintenance projects occurring in Mission Bay Park. The DeAnza Cove comfort station repairs are nearing completion for re-opening

Mission Bay Park District Manager, Mike Rodrigues reported that park improvement projects have resumed. Sunset Point, Hospitality Point, Ventura Cove restrooms are in the construction phase with North Cove, El Carmel restroom and Crown Point playground/improvements in final design/bid process. The Right of Entry Permit for additional mowing at Fiesta Island’s fenced dog area has been finalized. Mike announced Doreen Gonzales-Kuper as the new Grounds Maintenance Manager for Mission Bay Park Support Services section. The Playa 2 restroom was damaged by a vehicle accident and is currently closed. The Fanuel Street Park playground is awaiting some new spring toys to replace the play structures that were removed due to extensive corrosion

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Consent** (These items are adopted without discussion; they can be moved to adoption by any committee member)

101. Lucky Fun Run 5K for Clairemont Schools – Jennifer Keller & Linda Morales, requested approval to conduct a Lucky Fun Run/5K to benefit Clairemont Schools at DeAnza Cove on Saturday, March 15, 2025 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Estimated attendance is 250 with no alcohol, road or parking lot closures. Amplified music from 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

STAFF RECOMENDATION: Approve the request as proposed. Event Organizer must notify Mission Bay Beach Club tenant in advance. No reserved parking allowed. All parking is first come, first serve and open to the public at all times

**MOTION:    MOVED/SECONDED**

A motion was made by J. Munoz and seconded by C. Dunning to approve the Consent Item as presented with staff recommendation. The motion carried 8-0

**Adoption** (Each adoption item requires individual action; they can be moved to consent by action of the committee)

201. Request to review and approve letter regarding illegal fireworks enforcement  
Chuck Dunning presented the draft letter for review

Chairperson Johnson commented about the reality of law enforcement staffing priorities during holiday periods in Mission Bay Park

It was suggested that maybe Police, Lifeguards and Park Rangers can use UTVs to educate the public about illegal fireworks during busy holiday periods, Perhaps Public Service Announcements can be made prior holidays

**MOTION:    MOVED/SECONDED**

A motion was made by J. Munoz and seconded by R. Karlsgodt to approve the content of the draft letter to be sent by Chairperson Johnson on the Committee's behalf. The motion carried 8-0

202. Request to review and approve letter asking to reduce or end fireworks in Mission Bay

Julie Roland and Chuck Dunning presented a draft letter to end fireworks in Mission Bay for review

Chairperson Johnson recommended sending the letter directly to SeaWorld, stating: "Would you consider ending the fireworks displays . . .", since MBPC is simply an advisory group for City of San Diego/Mission Bay Park. Further studies may be needed to show impacts and effects that fireworks have

**MOTION:    MOVED/SECONDED**

A motion was made by R. Karlsgodt and seconded by C. Dunning develop a list of recipients to include SeaWorld as a CC and to approve the content of the draft letter to be sent by Chairperson Johnson on the Committee's behalf. The motion carried 7-1 with J. Johnson voting no

**Special Events** (Special Events that require road or plaza closures or will potentially impact park and/or institution operation, are brought to the Committee for a formal recommendation. They can be moved to Consent by action of the Committee.

301. Pacific Beach Half Marathon - Pete Hess, San Diego Running Co. requested support and approval to modify this existing special event. The proposal is to move the start line from DeAnza Cove to Crown Point Park and switch the day of the week from Saturday morning to Sunday morning. The majority of the logistics of the route, finish line would stay consistent with previous years of the race. Date/Time: October 5, 2025 from 6:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Estimated attendance is 3,150 with PA system. Crown Point Lot will be closed during event times with some road closures. No Alcohol

**STAFF RECOMENDATION:** Approve the request as proposed. Event Organizer must notify Crown Point residents in advance of the race. No reserved parking allowed. All parking is first come, first serve and open to the public at all times.

PA system must aim away from residences and kept to a minimum. No early sound checks. Citywide Special Event Permit required

**MOTION:    MOVED/SECONDED**

A motion was made by R. Karlsgodt and seconded by J. Roland to approve the request as presented with staff recommendation. The motion carried 8-0

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

401. Proposed FY26 User Fee Updates – Michele Kelley, Fiscal Operations Program Manager with Parks and Recreation Department Administrative Services provided an overview of the proposed FY26 Parks and Recreation Department user fee changes. Based on a user fee study, most P&R fees were adjusted with the current CPI and updated cost of service. Proposed revised user fees will visit Park Board and full City Council for approval

Chairperson Johnson commented that he doesn't want to see the new fees price people out of parks for their events

**WORKSHOP ITEMS** (No actions taken; discussed by the committee and staff)

501. Illegal RV/camper habitation in Mission Bay Park – Chairperson Johnson shared an update of his observations regarding RV habitation along the East Shore of Mission Bay Park. This item will remain on the agenda for future meetings

**SUBCOMMITTEE**

601. none

**COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS**

**ADJOURNMENT** – Chairperson, J. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 8:17 p.m.

**Notice of Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting:** Next regular meeting will be held on January 7, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

*Mike Rodrigues*

District Manager, Mission Bay Park