

MINUTES

**City of San Diego Boards and Commissions
Parks and Recreation Department
MISSION BAY PARK COMMITTEE**

February 4, 2025

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
Bernadette Butkiewicz arrived 6:09pm
Chuck Dunning
Jim Gross
Giovanni Ingolia
Cathie Jolley
Jeff Johnson
Ryan Karlsgodt
Steve Pinard
Julie Roland

Members Absent

Judith Munoz

Guests

Kathy Parrish
Mike Beltran

City Staff Present

Mike Rodrigues
Cris Amezcua
Mayra Medel
Ryan Barbrick
Carrie Munson
Cambria Head
Brian Clark
Karen Dennison
Karolynn Estrada
Patrick Hadley

CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Jeff Johnson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – January 7, 2025

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED

A motion was made by R. Karlsgodt and seconded by C. Adams to approve the January 7, 2025 Mission Bay Park Committee meeting minutes as written. The motion carried 7-0 with 2 abstentions (J. Roland, C. Jolley)

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT / COMMUNICATIONS

none

CHAIRPERSONS REPORT

none

CITY COUNCIL OFFICES

Council District 1 – Cambria Head with Council President LaCava’s Office provided updates on Budget Committee. FY26 budget conversations have started, increasing user fees is being considered

Chuck Dunning asked if CM LaCava received the fireworks letters from MBPC and if CD1 has communicated with SeaWorld regarding fireworks. Cambria replied with a yes, the letter was received and talks with SeaWorld have not occurred yet

Council District 2 – Carrie Munson announced that the Northeast DeAnza parking lot is nearing completion with the new CoolSeal surface. The SeaWorld settlement has been finalized with \$8.8 going into the MB Improvement Fund. A recent audit showed that the beach bars program needs improving with recommendation to increase fees to meet cost recovery. A forum will be held to discuss ADUs in the Clairemont area on first Thursday in March. Housing density rules will be discussed at the next Town Hall meeting. CD1 & CD2 supported a grant to fund freedom trax for ADA mobility at the coastal areas. CD2 assisted with securing grant funding some murals. The change in dog hours at Mission Bay Park will not move forward, there were some concerns regarding enforcement by Lifeguards

STAFF REPORTS

San Diego Lifeguard Service – Brian Clark reported that Lifeguards are working with P&R to inventory all safety/navigational buoys and are addressing any maintenance/repair issues to the buoys and moorings. Brian stated that security cameras will be installed around Mission Bay in the Spring for operational purposes. Work continues removing abandoned vessels and enforcement of Mariner's Basin 72 hour mooring rules. Lifeguards are preparing for Spring Break by onboarding seasonal lifeguards

San Diego Police Department – no report

Parks and Recreation

Karolynn Estrada provided a brief update on the Park Ranger Program for coastal communities. A volunteer clean up occurred at Fiesta Island Youth Camp and another one is scheduled at Sunset Cliffs

Mike Rodrigues thanked Mayra Medel for serving as Interim Deputy Director and introduced Patrick Hadley as newly appointed Deputy Director for Mission Bay/Shoreline Parks Division. Upcoming special events include Randy Jones walk/run on 2/8 at DeAnza Cove. New spring toys have been installed at Fanuel St. Park. The fire damaged DeAnza Cove restrooms have reopened. Tree trimming continues at Ski Beach, Crown Point, then moving over to Bonita Cove

Cris Amezcua reported in the follow projects currently under construction: El Carmel, Ventura Cove, Sunset Point, Hospitality Point comfort stations and improvements. Crown Point improvements will begin in March

ACTION ITEMS

Consent (These items are adopted without discussion; they can be moved to adoption

by any committee member)

101. none

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

201. none

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. Mission BayFest 2025 - Michael Beltran, San Diego BayFest requested approval and support to increase daily capacity from 12,000 to 15,000 attendees, use of Ventura Cove Park and adjacent parking lot, extra day for load in, potential pyrotechnics on stage and use of sand area at Mariner's Cove for additional bar set up. Event is scheduled for October 2025, at Mariner's Cove/East Bonita Park

Staff Recommendation is to approve the changes to the existing event as proposed with no glass containers used at the sand bar. Event Organizer must notify all Mission Bay Park stakeholders in advance of the event. No reserved parking allowed. Expanded off-site shuttle required. Any pyrotechnics must be contained within the stage areas as to not create any interference with park assets and reviewed by Fire Marshall as part of Citywide Special Event Permit process

Ranger Karolynn Estrada shared some concerns regarding community impacts with increased attendance, use of pyrotechnics and glass at the sand bar. These items will be addressed under Citywide Special Event process review

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED

A motion was made by J. Johnson and seconded by S. Pinard to approve the requests to increase capacity to 15,000 max, include Ventura Cove as a venue, add extra day for load-in, potential pyrotechnics and additional bar at Mariner's Cove with staff recommendation of no glass containers at sand bar. Fire Marshall must approve pyrotechnics and increased attendance based on square footage. The motion carried 9-1 with C. Dunning voting no

INFORMATION ITEMS

401. Fiesta Island Dog Owners update – Kathy Parrish and members of FIDO provided updates on clean-ups with SD Bird Alliance and monitoring foxtail growth. Kathy thanked P&R for developing a Right of Entry Permit allowing an additional mowing of evasive species within the fenced off leash dog area after the first rains

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

501. Illegal RV/camper habitation in Mission Bay Park – pushed until next meeting

SUBCOMMITTEE

601. none

COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS

Chuck Dunning commented about special events closing park areas from public use. He thinks the user fees for events is too low

Damage was reported at the Mariner's Point protected area fence

Giovanni Ingolia stated that the Ocean Beach Dog Park fence looks good

ADJOURNMENT – Chairperson, J. Johnson adjourned the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Notice of Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting: Next regular meeting will be held on March 4, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

Mike Rodrigues

District Manager, Mission Bay Park