

**City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 19, 2022**

“TO PROVIDE HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE, AND ENRICHING ENVIRONMENTS FOR ALL”

Meeting Held by Teleconference:

This meeting was held remotely using the Zoom Webinar platform and was streamed online. The public was invited to join the meeting by phone or computer, as well as invited to submit “Public Comments” in writing via a webform. The form was made available on the Parks and Recreation website at <https://www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/general-info/boards>.

NOTE: Both verbal and written communication were used by Committee Members, City staff, and presenters during the meeting. City staff also used the screen-share function to allow viewers to view content shared by the speaker which included PowerPoint presentations and websites.

Before the meeting was called to order, City staff read instructions to the public regarding technical procedures for making live Public Comment during the Webinar.

Members Present	Members Absent	City Staff Present
Nick Anastasopoulos David Baron Jon Becker Ron Cho Rick Gulley Dennis Otsuji – Vice Chair Evelyn Smith Pita Verdin Noli Zosa	Marcella Bothwell – Chair Molly Chase	Karen Dennison – Assistant Director Louis Merlin Michelle Abella-Shon Frank Hunt III Shannon Scoggins Elvi Ricafort

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Dennis Otsuji at 2:11 pm.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF APRIL 21, 2022

MOTION: MOVED/SECONDED Mr. Gulley/Mr. Baron

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Baron to approve the **April 21, 2022, Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**. The motion was approved 9-0-2 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos David Baron, Jon Becker, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, Evelyn Smith, Pita Verdin, and Nick Zosa. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not Present: Marcella Bothwell and Molly Chase

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
John Leek	Park and Rec is embroiled in closing Point la Jolla by posting signs there and Rangers every day, per recommendation of the City Council Environment Committee. That was to require the City Council have new municipal code installed by May 7th. Could not be scheduled for budgeting. The City Council can and must be advised there is no need - never was. Whether the City Attorney was going to allow it or not. The closure is in effect and guarded by rangers 7 days/wk now using the existing ordinance §63.20.13. That existing ordinance allows the Director to establish "rules" on his own, to post and enforce using his rangers. This will also allow the Director to legally effect any other sea lion protection closures on any other beach where pinnipeds wander onto. Park and Rec has had Federal encouragement for this since 2017.
Daniele Laman	I have question follow up from last month's meeting. It was mentioned that this meeting of Park Board will return to an in-person one, in a hybrid form. So, I was wondering if that also applies to the CP-1 and CP-2 meetings. It seems that these groups have not meet very much these past few years. And I would like to know what the procedure will be for moving two naming requests forward. One is for the North Chollas Comfort Station, and the other for Colina del Sol Recreation Center. The first was on hold until in-person meeting return and the second was just voted on last night. Thank you.

CONSENT AGENDA: (two votes needed):

REQUEST FOR CONTINUANCE: –Mr. Becker clarified that the Item 102 is to be continued. Ms. Dennison confirmed it.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Committee Name:	Summary of Comment:
Area Committee CP-1	Mr. Otsuji reported that they had a combo meeting with CP-2. They were not able to take action on one item they had due to not having a quorum, but that was the basis of the meeting that they had for the past month for CP-1
Area Committee CP-2	No update.
Balboa Park Committee	No update.
Mission Trails CAC	Mr. Gulley reported on the meeting of 5/3/22, where the committee discussed seven information items. The three that made the most sense. The Mission Trails Flow Regulatory Structure and Vernal Pools Habitat Site: were discussed. The project is nearing completion.

Committee Name:	Summary of Comment:
	The San Diego River Crossing Bridge project: The father of the boy who drowned was there, as well as couple of engineers. They raised \$900,000 from donors and \$1.5 million from the State. The bridge hasn't been designed yet. So still in design process, there will be quite a regulatory/permit process they have to go through. Old Mission Dam dredging project still in regulatory/permit process. Funding is likely secured.

SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION (SDPF) UPDATE:

Topic:	Update: (No Update due to Ms. Bothwell on vacation)
Come Play Outside	No update.
Other	No update.

CHAIR COMMENTS: None

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

Mr. Baron shared that the Fern Street Circus (FSC) provides great opportunities for young people and adults in the mid-city area. The FSC is looking to move to a new property at 4105 Polk Street which is a piece of land that is being transferred from CALTRANS to the P&R for park use. He would like to know if the FSC move there for their outdoor performances and would like a report on that at the next meeting. Ms. Dennison responded that she'd be happy to provide an update at the next meeting.

Mr. Anastasopoulos shared that he had been working with State Assembly Brian Maienschein to secure \$750,000 in funding for the Rancho Bernardo Community Park which is in addition to the \$500,000 that they secured three years ago for the dog park within that facility. He shared that he had mentioned this funding to the staff at P&R and would like to make the board aware of this funding too.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Assistant Director Karen Dennison greeted Board Members and meeting participants. She noted that Director Field would not be present as he was in attendance at the City Council Budget Meeting along with Ryan Barbrick and Michele Kelly. She gave the following update on the Department's status:

- **Appointments to the P&R Board** – no updates
- **Return to In-Person Meetings**
 - Still testing proposed solution to allow recording and remote meeting participation
 - Information on June will be provided to Board members and on June agenda

- **Employees of the Quarter** – on April 29, 2022, we announced the third quarter Employees of the Quarter:
 - **Steven Smith**, Senior Park Ranger, who during this quarter has made significant trail improvements in Tri-Canyon Parks
 - **Jason Pleas**, Golf Operations Assistant, while leading up to the Farmers Insurance Open, he helped fill thousands of divots beginning in January, to optimize playing conditions for the incoming professionals
 - **Angela Bremseth**, Recreation Leader I, who has been a constant, reliable employee and always available in times of need to take on assignments given to her
 - **David Salenius**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who continues to show pride in his work and recognize the importance of quality service to the residents of Linda Vista, Kelly street Neighborhood Park, and other beautification projects in the area
 - **Claudia Apodaca**, Recreation Center Director III, who has demonstrated tremendous leadership, accountability, and knowledge of rules and policies while assisting her supervisor as needed
 - **Larry Mar**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who during this quarter his supervisor received compliments from regular user groups about the visible difference in the beautification and improved maintenance of Allied Gardens
 - **Jose Serrato**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who has demonstrated a work performance that was above and beyond his performance plan by providing high quality service to the Paradise Hills/Bay Terraces Community
 - **Guadalupe “Lupita” Eddleman**, Clerical Assistant II, who during this quarter provided excellent customer service to grieving families at Mt. Hope Cemetery
 - **Lonnie Alexander**, Grounds Maintenance Worker II, who has conducted special projects to improve facility and park appearance, to include stripping and waxing all floors at Colina del Sol.
- **Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Development and Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Monitoring**
 - The Department participated in the Proposed Budget Hearings on May 5, 2022
 - The City issued the Year-End Capital Report on May 11, 2022. Director Field provided a copy to the Board members via email.
 - Mayor Gloria issued the May Revision to the Proposed Budget on May 17, 2022; changes include:
 - Chicano Park Public Restroom Graffiti Abatement – \$150,000
 - Second Shift of Park Restroom Cleaning – Addition of 16.00 FTE positions and total expenditures of \$1.5 million to support a second shift of restroom cleaning and increased trash collection throughout City parks in the afternoon/early evening hours.

- Support for Sidewalk Vending Ordinance - Addition of \$1.3 million in one-time non-personnel expenditures for the acquisition of vehicles and equipment to support 27.00 FTE positions for the Sidewalk Vending Ordinance program.
- Support for the Animal Services Program - Addition of 1.00 Program Coordinator; addition of \$144,000 to administer the Animal Services Program; and transfer of animal services contract (\$14.9 million) to the Department.
- Turf Maintenance Reimbursement - Addition of \$353,000 in non-personnel expenditures for the City's share of turf maintenance for Jefferson, Eddison, Language Academy, and King Chavez Elementary Schools and Pershing Middle School Joint-Use fields. The City is responsible for 50 percent of the expense per the Joint-Use agreements.
- Park and Restroom Security - Addition of \$388,000 in security services to provide roving security at 20 parks and recreation facilities and at Mission Bay Parks.
- Delayed Opening of Dennery Ranch Neighborhood Park - Reduction of \$264,000 in expenditures associated with the delayed opening of Dennery Ranch Neighborhood Park as a result of recently agreed upon terms for the reimbursement agreement amendment with the developers. This is later than anticipated thus pushing the opening of the park to Fiscal Year 2024.
- Emerson Elementary Joint Use - Addition of 0.50 FTE Grounds Maintenance Worker II and associated non-personnel expenditures of \$91,000 to maintain and support the Joint-Use agreement for Emerson Elementary School.
- The following table outlines capital improvement program changes:

Project	Fund	Amount
Chicano Park Improvements Phase III (B20060)	Climate Equity Fund	\$1,079,330
Willie Henderson Sports Complex Improvements (B20096)	Climate Equity Fund	\$3,519,815
Torrey Pines Golf Course Clubhouse & Maintenance Yard Improvements (S23005)	Torrey Pines Golf Course CIP Fund	\$2,000,000
Martin Luther King Jr. Community Park - Mountain View Racquet Club Water and Sewer Connection (ABT00001)	General Fund	\$530,000

- Director Field is currently participating in the City Council Budget Hearing to discuss the May Revision to the Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Budget and Fiscal Year 2022 Third Quarter Budget Monitoring (on May 19, 2022)
- City Council will deliberate the budget and adopt a budget by mid-June
- **Come Play Outside/Summer for All of Us**
 - Efforts continue to plan for summer activities, programs, and events in collaboration with partners such as San Diego Parks Foundation and Price Philanthropies
- **Job Opportunities in Parks and Recreation**
 - We have created a new recruitment webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-and-recreation-employment>.
 - Yesterday (on May 18), Director Field sent you a memo and flyer related to job opportunities
 - We still need more applicants, especially for entry-level jobs such as grounds maintenance, recreation aide, pool guard, and golf operations assistant
- **Vacancies**
 - The Department continues to have between 100 and 130 permanent, full-time vacant positions. These include grounds maintenance workers, mid-level supervisors, recreation staff, and a variety of office and administrative staff.
 - The Department continues to do what it can to fill all vacant positions and ensure each recreation center and pool has sufficient staff to allow for regular operations.
- **Parks Master Plan (Parks for All of Us):**
 - No major update this month
 - Copy of the plan is available on City's webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-for-all-of-us>
- **Council Policy 700-42 and Community Recreation Group Update**
 - No major update this month
 - The Department continues to monitor the ongoing efforts to update the relationship between the City and the Community Planning Groups with a planned revision to Council Policy 600-24
 - After the relationship is settled and Council Policy 600-24 revised, the Department will use the same guiding principles for a revision to Council Policy 700-42 on Community Recreation Groups
 - Interim Standard Operating Procedures remain in effect currently
- **Play All Day/Joint Use:**
 - No major updates this month

- **New Facilities/Groundbreaking and Grand Opening**
 - Fairbrook Park – grand opening was on May 11, 2022
 - City Heights Pool – grand reopening on Friday, May 20, 2022 at 10 a.m.
 - Sherman Heights Community Center Playground – grand opening on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 10 a.m.
 - Park Social Launch Event at Faultline Park – Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 11:30 a.m.
 - Island and 30th Street Mini Park Grand Reopening – tentatively scheduled for Friday, May 27, 2022 at 8 a.m., but this may change
 - Marston Middle School Joint Use Renovation Project Groundbreaking – Thursday, June 2, 2022 at 10:30 a.m.
- **Street Vending Ordinance:**
 - Additional park ranger and maintenance resources are identified in the proposed budget for Street Vending Ordinance implementation
 - Park Ranger Chief Michael Ruiz is leading department efforts to create educational materials, maps, and training for street vendors and park stakeholders
- **Pickleball**
 - Still working to develop space for pickleball and continue to work with both tennis and pickleball advocates
- **City Council Items:**
 - **Recreation Center Funds Proposed Budget** is at City Council on Monday, May 23, 2022, at 12 noon in City Administration Building 12th floor.
 - **Coastal Development Permit for Sea Lions at Point La Jolla** is at City Council on Tuesday, May 24, 2022, at 2 p.m. in City Administration Building 12th floor.
 - **Proposed Overnight Gated Closure of Certain Coastal and Bay Parking Areas package** is being developed for Coastal Commission to receive in July 2022
- **Revere School Site**
 - During public comment at the April meeting, guest Kim Hanson asked the Board about the status of the Revere School site in Linda Vista. At the time, Director Field was unaware of the site and had no information to share with Ms. Hanson or with the Board. Since that time, staff has gathered the following information to share.
 - Owned by the San Diego Unified School District, Revere is an administration site that currently houses administrative functions such as food services, junior ROTC, and other similar functions. The District is considering longer-range changes to the property. For those who would like more information,

please contact Gene Fuller, Real Estate Director. He can be reached at gfuller@sandi.net or (619) 278-6725.

- **Upcoming Board Items:**
 - Policy for uses of the Opportunity Fund
 - Policy for uses of the Citywide Park DIF Fund
- **Board Member Questions of P&R Assistant Director**
 - Mr. Becker had a question regarding the \$264,000 reduction of expenditures for Dennery Ranch Neighborhood Park report. He asked if by chance Ms. Dennison knows if the reduction will be shifted back at some future date. Ms. Dennison responded to follow up with Mr. Becker's question. She indicated that the reduction affected the opening of the park. It pushed it back to Fiscal Year 2024. She had no other additional information, but happy update Mr. Becker at the next meeting. Mr. Becker responded that the update would be helpful.
 - Mr. Otsuji asked about the vacancies. He indicated that he was asked by couple retired people. They asked if the City hires the retired people, for these positions that are available part time. Ms. Dennison responded that she was glad that Mr. Otsuji asked the question. However, she deferred to Mr. Merlin who is the lead for all personnel matters to provide the information. Mr. Merlin responded that for retirees we have provisional appointment process. Anybody that retires from the City can apply to come back to the City after they had a bonafide break up service of 6 months. The returning program has been effective in getting the subject matter experts to be leaders in the fields that they retired from. A great example is Jim Winter who is currently serving provisional appointment in the Asset Management Division of the Parks and Recreation department. They can contact him directly or the personnel liaison. Mr. Otsuji was pleased to know that we have great resource for retirees that have lot of history and experience and so glad that the City has positions for them.

101. North Park Community Park Temporary Off-Leash Dog Park General Development Plan Amendment

Presenters: Frank Hunt III, Park Designer, Parks and Recreation Department

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Becker/Mr. Anastopoulos

A motion was made by Mr. Becker and seconded by Mr. Anastopoulos to approve the **North Park Community Park General Development Plan Interim - Dog Off-Leash Area**. The motion was approved, 7-0-3 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Ron Cho, Dennis Otsuji, Evelyn Smith, Pita Verdin and Noli Zosa. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, and Rick Gulley.

Public Comment:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Danielle Laman	Had a question if the item went to Community Recreation Group (CRG) in February then came straight to Park Board. Did it go to Community Park II area and did they vote on it or what is the proper procedure for General Development Plan amendments. Mr. Hunt responded in accordance to the Council Policy 600-33 which is the governing document for amendment to General Development Plan, the process for this project was to go before the North Park Community Recreation Group. So, it only went to that group before coming to the Park Board.
Murphy Michael	I am the Principal of the Garfield Elementary School. My only comment is to thank you all. It has been hard returning to school after COVID just generally. And the moving of the park really keep us at ease and keeping our parents feeling comfortable with their kids returning to school. We had quite a bit of challenges around the dog parks. Nothing against dogs, love dogs. I just want to thank you for making this an item and approving.

Board Member Comment:

Mr. Anastasopoulos asked how long this is supposed to be temporary as opposed to permanent. Mr. Hunt responded it is temporary until a revised implementation and revised design of the eastern part of the North Park Community Park is developed and funded. A more permanent facility will be established during that process.

Mr. Becker thanked Mr. Hunt for his presentation. Mr. Becker asked if fencing would be permanent anchored into the location. Or is it just like a construction kind of fencing which is shiftable or movable. Mr. Hunt responded yes that the fencing would be more permanent with the footings and with chain link metal style fencing.

- 103. Emerson Elementary Joint Use Facility General Development Plan**
 Presenter: Shannon Scoggins, Park Designer, Parks and Recreation Department

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Becker/Mr. Baron

A motion was made by Mr. Becker and seconded by Mr. Baron to approve the **Emerson Elementary Joint Use Facility General Development Plan**. The motion was approved, 9-0-2 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, Pita Verdin and Noli Zosa. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Marcella Bothwell and Molly Chase.

Public Comment:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Danielle Laman	Did this joint use project go before the CP-2 for vote? Ms. Scoggins responded that per Council Policy 600-33 the general developments plans do not go to the Area Committee for vote.

Board Comment:

Ms. Verdin asked if the Park Board will be looking into having a dog park in these joint fields as a head of the community requesting it or would it have to be requested by the public or residents. Ms. Scoggins responded that the dog park would not be a suitable use for a joint use facility. Ms. Scoggins also shared that municipal code requires a dog to be on leashed in parks. We had been working to identify some alternative sites. Ms. Verdin shared that it is happening in her community at the joint use facility Sherman Heights Elementary School. It is a leash dog park and I had seen the use for off-leash. She indicated that the residents might be requesting something like that for a park and just wanted to know the procedure.

Mr. Becker commented that he looked at the project site from google map and google earth. The site looked green today, but then it does not appear, maybe this is something for the San Diego Unified School District (SDUSD) chief and representatives to address. He also noticed that there is a proposal for bioretention, to be created and to be maintained by SDUSD as well. Ms. Scoggins responded that the bioretention basins that are shown in the General Development Plan, some are encapsulated within the red dash lines which the joint use boundary. Those inside the red line will be the responsibility of the Parks and Recreation's staff to maintain those planted basins because they treat the parking lot and asphalt walking tracks, and synthetic turf field. The other bio basins will be for the treatment facilities for some of the hard courts and surfacing that outside the joint use boundaries and that the distinction between the two. Mr. Becker also asked if the new artificial grass will be reduced in size. Ms. Scoggins responded that the size and configuration will be different, but the size approximately the same.

Mr. Otsuji commented that his understanding right now on this bioretention, they take up a large amount of the park space that could be used for better things than a bioretention. It is important to have a bioretention but the way they are doing it is not as efficient what the discussion is going on. Hopefully there would be changes in the next 3 years. The last comment he had for historical perspective, that he went to this school in 1952 or 1953. He was pleased to know that the school still there and will be a nice elementary school as it progresses.

INFORMATION ITEM: None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Copies of the reports, attachments, PowerPoint presentations, and audio-video recordings can be found on the Parks and Recreation Department website at <http://www.sandiego.gov/parkandrecboard/reports>.

Next Calendared Meeting: June 16, 2022

Submitted by,

Karen Dennison
Assistant Director
Parks and Recreation Department

DRAFT