

**City of San Diego
Park and Recreation Board
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, January 20, 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 Marcella Bothwell – Chair Molly Chase Ron Cho Rick Gulley Evelyn Smith Dennis Otsuji, Vice-Chair	Noli Zosa	Andy Field, Director Karen Dennison Louis Merlin Ryan Barbrick Michelle Abella-Shon Shannon Scoggins Elvi Ricafort Jonathan Avila Luis Briseno Marye Sanchez Andrew Reeves

CALL TO ORDER – The meeting was called to order by Chair Marcella Bothwell at 2:07 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2021

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

A motion was made by Mr. Anastasopoulos and seconded by Mr. Gulley to approve the **October 21, 2021 Park and Recreation Board Meeting Minutes**. The motion was approved 8-0-1 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Dennis Otsuji, and Evelyn Smith. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: Molly Chase. Not present: Noli Zosa.

NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Naveen Waney	Alcott playground is old and dilapidated; it may be a safety hazard.
Chris Carterette	SANDAG Pershing Bikeway Project; virtual construction session on 1/25/22 at 6 p.m. Visit https://www.keepsandiegomoving.com/pershingbikeway for more information.
John Leek	The City has established master plan equity goals, yet resources are being spent to create an illegal reserve for sea lions with a goal of bringing tourist money into La Jolla. This represents a diversion of funds from underserved communities to the wealthiest community in the city. Equity goals should take precedence. Going to Coastal Commission and obtaining a permit and sued by advocates is a waste of government funds.
Kurt Hoffman	Similar comments to Mr. Leek. City is focused on sea lions and seal society, which suggests issues are an emergency. Real emergency is public health crisis caused by seal and sea lion excrement creating e. coli. Great white sharks notice the growing sea lion population, which will create dangerous condition for swimmers and divers. Kelp beds and fish will be impacted by increased sea lion population.
Larry Asakawa	Can the agenda be shared on the screen? Pt. La Jolla and sea lion solutions – are those on the agenda? Agrees with Mr. Leek and Mr. Hoffman. Former Scripps Research diver and marine biology researcher. Consulted with various organizations. Body surfer at Boomer Beach and learned how to dive at La Jolla. Believes sea lions should be moved to east cliffs of La Jolla Cove in a humane way.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Committee Name:	Summary of Comment:
Area Committee CP-1	No update.
Area Committee CP-2	No update.
Balboa Park Committee	Ms. Chase reported on the meeting of 1/6/22, where the committee received updates on the Pershing Bikeway, Municipal Gymnasium restoration, street vendors, and Botanical Building.
Mission Trails CAC	Mr. Gulley reported on the meeting on 1/4/22, where the committee discussed the West Sycamore Staging Area Improvements project and the proposed San Diego River Crossing bridge. Regarding the bridge, Mr. Ben Lenail attended and provided a good update to the committee on the project status; his team is using same firm that built Lake Hodges Bridge.

SAN DIEGO PARKS FOUNDATION (SDPF) UPDATE:

Topic:	Update: (from Ms. Bothwell)
Undertow	Undertow golf tournament coming in a few weeks, and SDPF members are involved in getting the event ready; there will be an evening reception on 2/1/22

COMMITTEE COMMENTS:

- Mr. Baron thanked the San Diego Parks Foundation and provided Jackie's Jams for the board members of SDPF.

DIRECTORS REPORT:

Mr. Field noted the following updates for the Board:

- **Appointments to the P&R Board**
 - We still have a vacancy for the District 8 seat
 - As news comes regarding reappointments and new appointments, Mr. Field will keep the Board apprised
- **COVID-19 Update**
 - Most facilities, recreational activities, and programs resumed operations by 7/19/21 with a few exceptions
 - In-person meetings of Park Board are delayed due to the increase in cases related to the Omicron variant
 - Positive tests for COVID-19 have continued and are impacting operations, as protocols require isolation for staff testing positive or exposed to someone testing positive
- **FY 2023 Budget Development and FY 2022 Budget Monitoring**
 - Upcoming Budget Reports:
 - Fiscal Year 2023 Fee Schedule – at Budget Committee 1/19/22
 - Fiscal Year 2023-2027 Five-Year Capital Outlook – at Active Transportation 1/26/22
 - Fiscal Year 2022 Mid-Year Budget Monitoring Report – at Budget Committee 2/2/22
 - Fiscal Year 2023 Proposed Budget Release – 4/15/22
- **Come Play Outside**
 - Winter events enhanced with funding from the County, City, and nonprofits – more snow days for more recreation centers
 - Summary of 2021 Come Play Outside program coming to the Board next month (February)

- Advance planning for summer 2022 underway with San Diego Parks Foundation
- **Job Opportunities in Parks and Recreation**
 - Virtual Job Fairs will continue in 2022
 - Progress made on bringing mentors and interns on board
 - We are hiring ... job openings are posted now at <https://www.sandiego.gov/jobs> for:
 - Equipment Technician III - T10555-202110
 - Golf Operations Assistant - T11439-202105
 - Pesticide Applicator - T11472-202111
 - Pool Guard I - T10996-202103
 - Pool Guard II - T10997-202103
 - Recreation Aide - T11355-202107
 - Recreation Leader I - T10975-202105
 - Recreation Leader II - T11348-202105
 - Swimming Pool Manager I - T10998-202103
 - Swimming Pool Manager II - T10999-202103
 - Swimming Pool Manager III - T11000-202103
 - Therapeutic Recreation Leader - T11314-202105
- **Parks Master Plan:**
 - Copy of the plan is available on City's webpage at <https://www.sandiego.gov/parks-for-all-of-us>
 - On 1/10/22, Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department presented an implementation timeframe for key recommendations; this was at the Council's request during the August approval of the PMP
 - This presentation is Item 202 on today's agenda
 - Item 202 today results from direction from City Council to report on timeframes before end of 2021
 - This is not the official 2022 update on the PMP, which is identified for regular reporting to be presented to the Public Safety and Livable Neighborhoods Committee as well as made available on the Parks for All of Us webpage
 - As part of the director's report, Mr. Field will continue to keep Board members apprised as to the status of PMP implementation
 - More to come on this when staff introduces Item 202 later this afternoon
- **Play All Day/Joint Use:**
 - SDUSD Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Use Council Policy 700-35 was approved by City Council on 11/2/21
 - Grand opening of Rolando Park Joint Use was on 12/17/21
 - Standley Pool will open in March 2022

- Continuing to examine potential joint use locations in underserved communities
- **Street Vending/SB 946:**
 - Draft ordinance tentatively planned for Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee on 2/9/22
- **DeAnza Special Study Area**
 - In 2018, the City issued the original notice of preparation/NOP, which studied several options
 - In January 2022, the City announced a modified project called “De Anza Natural,” which includes:
 - Local and regional recreation needs of the public
 - Preservation of natural resources of the De Anza Cove area
 - Expanded wetlands which will help restore and enhance the existing natural wetland habitat
 - Nature-based solution to protect the City against the risks of climate change, in line with its Climate Resilient SD Plan
 - Low-cost visitor accommodations
 - On 1/11/22, the City issued a Revised Notice of Preparation (NOP) of a Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) and Scoping Meeting that includes study of “De Anza Natural.” This notice can be found on the City’s Planning Department website at:
<https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/ceqa>.
 - On 1/24/22, the City will hold a public scoping meeting starting at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. The public scoping meeting can be accessed at:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81149830815?pwd=SVZmOEUxSzFoc2dpV3VMTmZlYWVpdz09> (Meeting ID: 811 4983 0815 Passcode: 515128) or call (669) 900-6833 and enter the meeting information.
 - On 3/1/22, the Mission Bay Park Committee will have an informational update on the revised NOP and “De Anza Natural” option.
- **City Council Items:**
 - **Proposed curfew at 3 Pacific Beach-area parks (PB Library Grounds, Fanuel Street Park, and Bob McEvoy Fields)** approved by City Council on 6/8/21; Coastal Commission review pending
 - Proposed modifications to **on-leash dog approved hours for Mission Bay Park** was at Environment Committee on 1/20/22

- **Park Amenity Condition Assessments** was presented to Active Transportation and Infrastructure Committee on 10/13/21; staff is preparing a memo summarizing the overall effort
- **Proposed Overnight Gated Closure of Certain Coastal and Bay Parking Areas package** is being developed for Coastal Commission to receive in February or March 2022
- **Employees of the Quarter** for Second Quarter, FY 2022
 - Pending; will report on awardees next month
- **Future Park and Recreation Board Agenda Items:**
 - Come Play Outside 2021 Summary
 - Animal Services/Off-Leash Dogs/SD Humane Update
 - Hiring/Vacancies Update
- **Board Member Questions of P&R Director** – *none*

ACTION ITEMS

101. – Marston Middle School Joint Use Facility General Development Plan

Presenter: Shannon Scoggins, Landscape Architect, Parks and Recreation

No public comment was received.

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation – Moved to Consent

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Baron/Mr. Becker

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Becker to place this item onto consent and approve the consent item, 9-0-1 and passed with the following vote:
Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Evelyn Smith, and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Noli Zosa.

No public comment was received on this item.

102. – Wilson Middle School Joint Use Facility General Development Plan

Presenter: Shannon Scoggins, Landscape Architect, Parks and Recreation

No public comment was received.

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation – Moved to Consent

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Baron/Mr. Becker

A motion was made by Mr. Baron and seconded by Mr. Becker to place this item onto consent and approve the consent item, 9-0-1 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Evelyn Smith, and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Noli Zosa.

No public comment was received on this item.

Board Member Comment:

Ms. Otsuji was glad to see connections at Wilson Middle School thanked Shannon Scoggins.

Mr. Becker commented that recreation value points are very helpful and provide good information.

Ms. Bothwell commented that recreation value points are very helpful and provide good information.

103. - Park and Recreation Board and Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Year-End Report 2021

The presentation outlined the accomplishments and work completed by the Board and Oversight Committee during 2021.

Public Comment: None

Board Member Comment: None

MOTION: Approve Staff Recommendation

MOVED/SECONDED

Mr. Gulley/Mr. Becker

A motion was made by Mr. Gulley and seconded by Mr. Becker to approve the **Park and Recreation Board and Regional Park Improvement Fund Oversight Committee Year-End Report 2021**. The motion was approved 9-0-1 and passed with the following vote: Yea: Nick Anastasopoulos, David Baron, Jon Becker, Marcella Bothwell, Molly Chase, Ron Cho, Rick Gulley, Evelyn Smith, and Dennis Otsuji. Nay: None. Recused: None. Abstained: None. Not present: Noli Zosa.

INFORMATION ITEM:

201. Performance Audit of Equity in Recreation Programming

Presenters: Luis Briseño, Principal Performance Auditor, Office of the City Auditor
Andrew Reeves, Performance Auditor, Office of the City Auditor
Marye Sanchez, Performance Auditor, Office of the City Auditor

The presentation outlined the recently completed audit of recreation programming equity and provided recommendations to improve future recreation opportunities.

Public Comment:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Stacey LoMedico	I would like to thank the Auditors Office for the Perf Audit of Equity in Rec Programming. It is clear and concise by stating this is a long-time issue with the way the city budgets and programs "equally" across the city. This does not provide equity. This also is clear this is not a fault of the Dept staff. The report mentions that the city doesn't have adequate staffing in "marketing" as benchmarked against other municipalities. Let's be clear, the City's park dept is woefully underfunded across all dept functions. I disagree with one of the recommendations, which is to hire a marketing person to "market the programs." Please don't do this until you can adequately hire, create and sustain quality programming. You set the City's rec programming for failure if you market to the communities, but don't have the programs adequately funded, staffed and developed. This effort will take time and MORE staffing. There is what? a 60% vacancy in recreational leaders and supervisors? NO programming has been going on for nearly 2 years. Spend the time in making this happen, not hiring staff who has nothing viable to market. Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments.
Larry Asakawa	Impressed that City has an equity master plan and glad to see a pathway to make it better and less rhetoric. This goes right toward the Pt. La Jolla issue, why are there more park rangers needed in this community when there are needs elsewhere in the park system?
Sally Smull	Audit fills in many blanks that we have in Community Parks 2 division. Currently serving on the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Recreation Group and the forming Encanto Community Recreation Group. Marketing is needed to help get info out to neighborhood schools, local neighborhood councils/associations, and libraries.

Board Member Comment:

Ms. Otsuji indicated he would withhold his comments until after Item 202 update on the implementation status of the parks master plan, which dovetails with the recreation equity audit.

202. Parks Master Plan Update

Presenters: Jonathan Avila, Park Designer, Planning Department,
 Andy Field, Director, Parks and Recreation

The presentation outlined the key recommendations of the Parks Master Plan and provided an update on their implementation status.

Public Comment:

Commenter Name:	Summary of Comment:
Stacey LoMedico	<p>Thank you for the report. I am very excited to see the effort that went into providing this Framework. I am also pleased that you have made it clear the initiatives / goals within the Park Master Plan (PMP) will take time, resources, and coordination. I hope to see funding spread across the multi-disciplinary city programs, and the staff necessary to achieve the goals outlined. This will also require continued transparency and public engagement and I look forward to seeing that as this moves forward. Finally, I look forward to seeing the Mayor's Proposed FY23 Budget to ensure the Framework is outlined as a mayoral priority and that funding is allocated, to ensure we develop a world class - equitable park system for ALL.</p>
Deborah Sharpe	<p>I applaud staff for taking this important first step to implementing the goals and policies of the new Parks Master Plan. The commitment of human resources will be essential to accomplish the tasks within the timeframes outlined. Also, because the RV-points system is experimental, close oversight is required to determine and monitor outcomes. Therefore, I urge you to establish an Oversight Subcommittee composed of appointed public members under the Park and Recreation Board structure to monitor the Implementation Plan elements, and report on their progress on a monthly basis. Any proposed administrative changes to the PMP (including minor changes) should be made public and documented for historical reference. Thank you for your consideration of my recommendation.</p> <p>Questions: how will members of stakeholder group be selected? Which department will be leading the various short-term items? Will there be a printed chart that shows the updates for each item with responsible parties?</p>
Susan Baldwin	<p>The Parks and Recreation Coalition thanks the City for this report on PMP implementation actions, recommended by PARC and added to the final motion by Councilmember Moreno. During the year before its approval, PARC members worked to ensure the PMP would lead to improvements to and greater equity in the City's parks system. We love parks and strongly support implementation of the PMP. PMP implementation and creating a successful, equitable park system will require the coordination of many departments, including Parks and Recreation, Planning, Engineering and Capital Projects, and others. PMP implementation actions and departmental coordination will require the commitment of significant funding and personnel. Also, the City should facilitate public engagement in PMP implementation. PARC encourages the City</p>

	to actively engage us, as well as the many other parks, recreation, and open space advocacy groups in the City as implementation progresses. Toward that end, the Park and Recreation Board should consider establishing a PMP Implementation sub-committee whose purpose would be to review progress, comment on proposed parks and revisions to the PMP, advise staff, and inform the public with regular updates. The sub-committee should include volunteer members of the public to assist and support the effort. Thank you.
Jeff Harkness	<p>I am in full support of PARC's recommendation for establishing a PMP Implementation sub-committee. While creation of another sub-committee may be frowned upon by City staff, it is important that there is a forum for the public to receive information and provide input on all aspects of PMP revisions/amendments, as well as PMP implementation. Also, the staff report, as part of this presentation, states: "With appropriate staffing and funding in the coming budget years, the Departments are committed to implementing this important and landmark Plan." While I applaud the proposed efforts of completing both a Chollas Creek Regional Park and a Citywide Trails Master Plan as part of the short-term actions, is this realistic?</p> <p>I have the following questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What will be the increase in staff necessary to oversee their development? 2. Will staff be preparing these documents, or will consultants? 3. An update of Mission Trails Regional Park Master Plan took over 5 years to complete. How can Chollas Creek Master Plan, which would impact extensive private property holdings, be completed in 2 1/2 years?
Howard Greenstein	Pleased to see the monitoring of the PMP forthcoming and wants to ensure PARC remains directly engaged in the process. Public stakeholders play a necessary role and feedback, which was highlighted in Item 201. Important in implementing goal of 100 acres of new parks in the next 9 1/2 years.
Larry Asakawa	Aside from recreational programs and park programs, a lot of immigrants and ethnic minorities use EB Scripps Park for fishing opportunities. Need to maintain access to coastlines for general access. This would be for older generation and young kids.
Volker Hoehne	Expand fishing opportunities in the City and prevent them from eroding.

Board Member Comment:

Ms. Bothwell asked Mr. Field to respond to the questions raised during the public comment. Mr. Field provided the following responses to the public comments:

- There are numerous comments raised about the notion of having a subcommittee for the Park and Recreation Board. He recommended the board consider whether a subcommittee is of interest to the Park Board; however, it is not part of the staff update. The staff update is more about where we are with the recommendations of the Parks Master Plan. The Department is committed to keeping the Board updated. If the Board feels a subcommittee is appropriate that is something that we can place onto a future Board agenda to create a subcommittee and assign membership to that committee.
- Mr. Harkness mentioned increasing of staffing to oversee the development of the items. Mr. Field agreed that additional staffing is needed for both Parks and Recreation and Planning departments. Implementing the Parks Master Plan is a partnership between the Planning Department and Parks and Recreation Department, and both departments will need additional staffing and resources for a variety of the items that are on the implementation list. The department will use consultant services where it makes sense, but there is also hope that staff will be able to lead a great deal of the effort, including the planned Chollas Creek Master Plan.
- Some of elements of the Parks Master Plan are going to start to focus on individual projects and efforts, and the departments will keep the Board apprised as they move forward. An example of this will be the Chollas Creek Master Plan, for example.
- Ms. Sharpe asked if the Board decides to create a subcommittee to focus on the Parks Master Plan implementation, who will be allowed to join the subcommittee and how they will be selected. Mr. Field noted that if such a subcommittee is of interest in the future, the Board may request a future action item for the agenda.
- The departments will delineate departmental responsibility for each of the initiatives listed in the Parks Master Plan. Mr. Field committed to provide more specificity as to responsibility for each item, and he will provide that to the Board in one of the upcoming meetings.

Mr. Otsuji expressed that he had been involved in park system for many years, going back to the 1970s. He noted that there remains a need for integration and clarity in roles and responsibilities between Parks and Recreation, Planning, and Development Services departments to ensure the conceptualization and maintenance of these elements are included. Noting the proposal for a subcommittee for the Parks Master Plan, he recalled the former Design Review Committee that was in place for many years for design professionals to opine on various park project designs. He noted a key downfall was that the former Design Review Committee got to be too detailed, which created additional work, time, and effort for project delivery. If a new design review committee is restored, it needs to be simplified and made more effective.

Mr. Becker asked how the system of recreation councils would be incorporated into this feedback process. He recommends that this item go to the Area Committees for Community Recreation Group input. Mr. Field responded to Mr. Becker that obtaining more direct feedback from the community recreation community level would be appropriate.

Ms. Bothwell agreed with Mr. Becker about recreation groups. She noted that the recreation groups need to be at the table; they appear less engaged now than they were before the demise of the recreation council model and the transfer of fees collected for recreation center funds to the City starting in 2018.

203. Fiscal Year 2022 Parks and Recreation State Grants Update

Presenter: Ryan Barbrick, Supervising Management Analyst, Parks and Recreation

This presentation outlined the status of grants specified by the State of California that are earmarked for specific park projects via the annual budget development process.

Public Comment- None

Board Member Comment:

Mr. Gulley asked whether the Office of Grants and Local Services (OGALS) is part of California State Parks and how that relates to local assistance programs. Mr. Barbrick responded that the OGALS routinely manages grants from the State of California to the City, and many specified grants from the State budget are also being handled in this way.

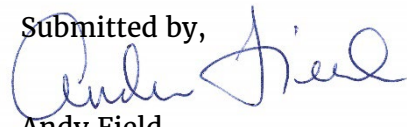
Mr. Otsuji asked why Engineering and Capital Projects Department is the only department delivering capital projects and wondered if project delivery should come back to the Parks and Recreation Department? Mr. Field responded that the delineation of duties places the responsibility of all park project delivery to the Engineering and Capital Projects Department.

Ms. Bothwell noted the good work of Mr. Barbrick and the grants team.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 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: February 17, 2022

Submitted by,

Andy Field
Director
Parks and Recreation Department