

**City of San Diego
Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board
November 20, 2008**

MINUTES

Meeting Held at:

Forum Hall – 2nd Fl. Wells Fargo
4545 La Jolla Village Drive
San Diego, CA 92122

Mailing Address is:

City of San Diego
202 C Street, MS 5A
San Diego, CA 92101

Members Present

Ginny Barnes, Chair
Ken Baier, Hang Gliding/Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club
Ronald Brown, Torrey Pines Gulls-Radio-Controlled Soaring Society
Mary Coakley, Park & Recreation Board's Community Parks 1 Area
Ken King, Council District 1 Representative
David Metzgar, Paragliding/San Diego Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association
Chris Schmidt, Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter
Edward Slater, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California
Michael Stepner, Park & Recreation Board Member
Douglas Williamson, University Community Planning Group

Members Absent

Brian Thompson, Torrey Pines Association

City of San Diego Staff

Michelle Abella-Shon, Project Manager
Deborah Sharpe, Project Officer II

Other Agencies

Milton Phegley, Director, Community Planning, University of California, San Diego (UCSD)

CALL TO ORDER

Ginny Barnes, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Michael Stepner moved to approve the October 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes, Chris Schmidt seconded. The Advisory Board approved the October 16, 2008 Meeting Minutes without corrections.

COMMUNICATION

- Bob Kuczewski requested that the City review the suspension case. He presented on 1978 Show & Tell, Flight of Torrey Hawks of Hanggliding Club.

- Byron Lowry asked the Advisory Board to consider integrated-type solutions. He said that the flying activity is dependent on UCSD's Property, an extension from Torrey Pines City Park. Both addressed the management component of the Gliderport facility in regards to concessionaire charges and safety rules.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- Ginny Barnes welcomed everyone present.
- Notification was made about future meeting locations to be held at the Forum Hall at UTC Mall for the following months: November and December 2008 and January, February, March, June, August, September, October, November, and December 2009. While April, May & July will be held at Doyle Community Park.

PROJECT MANAGER REPORT

- Michelle Abella-Shon provided updates on the Consultant Selection for the Torrey Pines City Park GDP. Contract is still in negotiation. The Consultant, Wallace, Roberts & Todd, Inc. (WRT) will attend the January Advisory Board Meeting.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

OTHER AGENCY'S REPORT

- Milton Phegley's response to Chris Schmidt's question regarding deed restrictions at UCSD: Impacts are evaluated with historic resources designation in mind. There are no deed restrictions except within historic registry boundary. Even with deed restrictions, fix-winged gliders can still operate. UCSD's proposed project for recreation & academic use will determine the need for to accommodate flying activities. The State Historic Presentation Board has the final say. UC Regents is the lead agency for CEQA compliance.

INFORMATION ITEMS

101. History of Soaring at Torrey Pines Gliderport Presentation

- Gary Fogel, Ph.D. provided an extensive PowerPoint presentation on the history of soaring at Torrey Pines Gliderport. The Torrey Pines Gliderport, a living museum for aeronautics community, has received various historic designations due to its unique geological formation for soaring activities.

102. Public Input Process and Determination of Site Uses

- Deborah Sharpe of the Park Planning Section of City Planning & Community Investment presented the City Council Policy 600-33, outlining the public input process. Every project is unique and establishes the number of meetings to prepare a General Development Plan (GDP). In the case of the Torrey Pines City Park GDP, a Mayor appointed Advisory Board has been established. The public will share their interest and conflicts, the consultant will take the information, synthesize and present to the group the various options several times. Complex issues unique to the site are taken into full consideration. The GDP is presented to various groups such as Area Committee, Design Review Committee, Park & Recreation Board, Sub-committees, to look at technical components of the GDP such as grading, ADA, public notification, safety, environmental constraints, parking, CEQA compliance. This process would lead to the ultimate product. Public input process determines the use. The GDP can show footprint structures. Following the final approval of the GDP, the City will work on the cost estimates for construction. No funds have been identified for implementation. There are multiple potential funding sources.

Subsequent meetings and hearing are open to the public. The Advisory Board's role is to advise and provide recommendation to the Park & Recreation Board. The goal for the Board is to come to a consensus for the final GDP design. The City Council will approve the GDP, per the requirements of the Court Settlement Agreement.

ACTION ITEMS:

201. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

301. Discussion of Board Member Outreach

- Ronald Brown asked the question: Should flying activities continue at Torrey Pines City Park?
- Edward Slater said that consensus is key to envisioning the full-scale. Prime time for soaring is Feb, March, & April. Weather conditions determine it. Other uses are supported throughout the year. No one group determines its use.
- One member suggested educational facility for school children & youth to stimulate interest.
- David Metzgar said that all organizations come to a consensus and determine the requirements for hang gliders in order to share air space.
- Ken King asked what the concessionaire's requirements are for operations, physical facility, shelters, and equipment maintenance.
- Ginny Barnes suggested that all amenities be considered on-site.
- Doug Williamson asked about the northern end of the site and the possibilities of various activities which could change the leasehold boundary. He asked if the presence of the historical site designation would limit the use of the park. The answer is no.
- Ron Brown said that the public is willing to identify all possible activities which is why we are collecting the information first.
- Questions rose if the City of San Diego will consider shutting down the facility. City staff said that the City has no intention of shutting down the current Flying operations. Public has the right to speak at City Council Hearings, who ultimately approves the final GDP.
- Public member, Craig T.'s wish list included museum, shade structures, training facility or institution for hanggliding.
- Per David Metzger, there used to be hanggliding training for beginners on UCSD property but are no longer active. Torrey Pines Soaring Council (TPSC) established and implemented rules to keep flying activities safe. There are no conflicts between the flying communities sharing the same air space.
- Ginny Barnes suggested that the TPSC review the rules and consider what could be done on-site to facilitate training activities.

- Ron Brown said that the rules were updated in 2000 and suggested that in reviewing the lease, the TPSC can be consulted.
- Mary Coakley said that UCSD's proposed project doesn't have to comply with City of San Diego regulations.
- Mike Stepner mentioned events and historical vs. physical structures.
- The general public mentioned training facility, educational opportunity for soaring. UCSD Soaring Club for students currently has no active glider, per Edward Slater. The club is associated with the UCSD's Aeronautical Engineering Program.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, January 15, 2009, 7:00 p.m.**
 Forum Hall (Westfield UTC)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Abella-shon
City Staff Representative