

**City of San Diego
Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board
January 15, 2009**

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
Douglas Williamson, University Community Planning Group

Members Absent

Brian Thompson, Torrey Pines Association
Chris Schmidt, Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter
Edward Slater, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California
Michael Stepner, Park & Recreation Board Member

City of San Diego Staff

Michelle Abella-Shon, Project Manager
Jesse Mays, Council Representative, District 1

Other Agencies

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

CALL TO ORDER - Chair, Ginny Barnes, called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Ken King and seconded by David Metzgar seconded. To approve the November 20, 208 meeting minutes with corrections. Vote was unanimous.

COMMUNICATION

- Bob Kuczewski reported that he and David Beardslee have been reinstated back to the Gliderport. He stated that the Advisory Board can play an ongoing role at the Gliderport.
- 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 suggested that the Agenda and the Meeting Minutes be posted on the City's website as part of the public outreach effort. Newspaper publication announcement another form of notification. She reminded everyone about the Park & Recreation Dept. and the City's overall budget cuts and how it potentially affects projects and programs. In the next two months, the Advisory Board will work to establish a Mission Statement.

CITY STAFF REPORT

- Michelle Abella-Shon provided updates on the Consultant Contract status for the Torrey Pines City Park GDP. She introduced Wallace, Roberts & Todd, Inc. (WRT) at the Advisory Board Meeting.
- Jesse Mays, Council Representative District 1 introduced himself as the representative for Councilmember Sherri Lightner. He plans to attend the monthly meeting to stay up-to-date on the progress and to be able to provide input from District 1 office.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

None

OTHER AGENCY'S REPORT

- Milton Phegley emphasized that there are lots of environmental issues to be considered on site including hydrology, erosion control, and dust factor, stormwater run-off from adjacent properties. Emergency vehicle access for the park is via UCSD's property. There are issues of access control from City personnel.

INFORMATION ITEMS

101. Introduction of Wallace Roberts, & Todd, Inc. as Design Consultants

- Kathleen Garcia and Laura Burnett of WRT (Planning, Urban Design, Architecture, and Landscape Architecture firm) introduced themselves to the Advisory Board and the attending public. They provided background information and examples of past and current projects. They emphasized that they were at the meeting for the first time to listen and take careful notes of various ideas for the proposed project. The first step is to develop opportunities and constraints and identify critical elements essential to Torrey Pines City Park's General Development Plan.

ACTION ITEMS:

201. None

WORKSHOP ITEMS:

301. Discussion of Board Member Outreach

- Advisory Board and Public comments:

1. What are the minimum requirements for physical design?
2. Flight director needs to coordinate and enforce all activities of users.
3. Grass or similar soft surface for launching and landing will enhance the flying activity experiences and safety
4. Fewer structures, barricades and safe places to land are crucial.
5. Natural habitat restoration, fix existing chainlink fences, beach wash or footwash, recycle run-off for irrigation, restroom facility, stairway access to be improved, educational facility for whale watching, flying, history, shade & seats are several amenities and improvements to be considered on park facility/site.
6. Gliderport is the second most designated flying spot.

7. Areas outside of the City Park should be noted & taken into account.
8. Designated special areas on beach for emergency landing for safety due to sudden wind change. Coordinate with City & State lifeguards.
9. Trail access to be improved & upgraded, both north & south.
10. Minimalist design is preferred with fewer obstacles such as high poles, utility poles and trees to be strategically placed.
11. Maximize vistas, viewpoint and other improvements for everyone to enjoy, including ADA improvements.
12. What are we doing at the north end of the City Park?
13. There are other ways to spectate that protects the environment and does not interfere with the flying activities.
14. Spectator control, no fences or obstacles, clear path, signage that defines where to go.
15. Parking lot facility that's drivable but the current one is an issue during rainstorm
16. Water control in runways is also an issue
17. Designated areas for each flying activities for pilot safety
18. Provide weather station (wind socks), transmit information to the internet
19. Look into adjacency issue by coordinating with various jurisdictions such as State Parks, Coastal Commission, and other agencies. Collaborate with UCSD for mutual benefits.
20. Provide unique educational opportunities with a lot of input from experts.
21. Physical structures and design space should be tastefully done.
22. Existing cliffs and coastal bluffs that are eroding have liability issues.
23. Potential competed interests, other uses such as soccer field, parking lot size, outside users, historical sites.
24. Primary task of this Advisory Board is to come up with a mission statement such as "Work to protect stakeholders' needs."
25. People need to stay on trail and stay off the bluffs and non-designated trails.
26. The public expects a restroom facility where there are parking lots.
27. Determine the best use for the City of San Diego.
28. All ideas are welcome from public input, to provide everyone a voice.
29. Start with a blank slate.
30. So far there's not a single statement made in regards to the flying activities to be discontinued.
31. There will be opportunities to notify the public for workshops and outreach.
32. Security is an issue in the parking lots, such as car theft.
33. Landscape requirements in parking lot may impede with the 'less obstruction' design.
34. Look at perfect model such as the spectator viewing deck in San Francisco and various examples of other flying activity parks.
35. Free flight is a key component for this site.
36. Signage location requires input from various users, experts.
37. This site requires a lot of time spent on managing people. Consider self-management type of design.
38. This is an endangered activity that can only be on this Torrey Pines Gliderport site.

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: **Thursday, February 19, 2009, 7:00 p.m.**
Forum Hall (Westfield UTC)

Respectfully submitted,
 Michelle Abella-Shon
 Project Manager, CPCI