

**City of San Diego
Torrey Pines City Park Advisory Board
May 20, 2010**

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
Douglas Williamson, University Community Planning Group
Edward Slater, Associated Glider Clubs of Southern California
Ken Baier, Hang Gliding/Torrey Hawks Hang Gliding Club
Ken King, Council District 1 Representative
Ronald Brown, Torrey Pines Gulls-Radio-Controlled Soaring Society
Chris Schmidt, Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter

Members Absent

David Metzgar, Paragliding/San Diego Hang Gliding & Paragliding Association
Mary Coakley, Park & Recreation Board's Community Parks 1 Area
Michael Stepner, Park & Recreation Board Member
Brian Thompson, Torrey Pines Association

City of San Diego Staff

Jeff Harkness, Project Manager
Jesse Mays, Council District 1 Representative

Other Agencies

Consultant

Kathleen Garcia, Wallace Roberts & Todd

CALL TO ORDER - Chair, Ginny Barnes, called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

A motion was made by Ken King and seconded by Ed Slater to approve the February 18, 2009 with the following corrections. Under Communications b. 1st sentence, revise "everyone" to "every one" and second sentence revise "And" to "He" strongly recommends.... Under Action Items second to last sentence revise to read "It was decided that there should be an additional TPCP meetings to discuss implementation.... The vote, of those present at the May meeting, was 5 yeas and 1 abstentia by Ron Brown.

COMMUNICATION

- a. Bob Kuczewski said if the Board concludes without addressing management of the Gliderport a key chance to change this would be missed. Maybe there should be a different Advisory Board for on-going management of the glider port made up of those who understand how a glider port functions.

- b. Jim Wright provided Board members with a 12 minute DVD called Soaring Torrey Pines, created by the La Jolla Historical Society.
- c. Jesse Mays of Council District read a message from Councilmember Lightner thanking the board members for the work they have done on the Board (see attached). Commendations from the Councilmember were presented to each of the Board members.

REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES

None

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

- a. The Chairperson attended the very informative and entertaining presentation by Gary Fogel on the history of gliders in La Jolla and Torrey Pines, at the recent La Jolla Historical Society meeting.
- b. The Chairperson advised the Board members that they will be kept informed of the approval process schedule as the project moves forward.

CITY STAFF REPORT

The city's web site is being actively updated to publicize the agenda, information and links <http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/programs/parkplanning/tpcitypark.shtml>. Please continue accessing the site for further information on any further Torrey Pines City Park activity. As was done for this meeting, staff will send out an e-mail, to those who have provided their e-mail address, as a heads up to watch the website for any further meetings or approval process information.

BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT

None

OTHER AGENCY'S REPORT

None

INFORMATION ITEMS:

301. Review and Approve

1. A presentation of Implementation Priorities was presented by Kathleen Garcia of WRT, the professional consultant for the TPCP General Development Plan. Priorities were discussed by area and by type, based upon the park program.
2. The question was asked "Do you agree with the overall park wide priorities". Board members and the public expressed the following comments:
 - "the cart is in front of the horse", what kind of operations are going to be there in the Flight Center? use and management of the Flight Center are key elements
 - there is no real access control at the park entry
 - by nature of what the park is open space and flight, it self-regulates itself
 - don't make it too inviting without the improvements being put in first
 - habitat and trails are a high priority

- agree that addressing erosion is a high priority and there should be an agreement worked out with UCSD for erosion control stormwater management
- there should be focus on the southern bluff for erosion control and stabilization
- need to get one area done at a time
- there is a concern that a fence along the UCSD property could be dangerous to flight
- habitat restoration park-wide should be up at the top of the priorities and picnic tables put at the bottom.
- there should be no big observation deck or paved walking trail that takes away from the natural character of the site
- the highest priority is for the park to be used for flight, pilots would use the south bluff trail
- agree with access control as a high priority - historically there was a gate and wood barrier between UCSD property and the park, but they are gone
- support comments about erosion control, but comfort station is important and needs to be a top priority in the leasehold
- something needs to be done within the leasehold to hold down the dust
- is there a distinction between the leasehold and the park for the comfort station?
- have the leasehold maintain the comfort station – this is a high priority
- priorities include: stormwater from UCSD, erosion control, habitat restoration and retreat for rise of ocean waters
- public restrooms should be connected to the lease
- leave the park as-is
- move education, picnic tables and passive recreation to the bottom of the priorities list
- interpretation should not be within the top six priorities
- two priorities, flight and trails
- more restoration in the north, more active in the south
- pictorially put restoration and erosion in the same pie (referencing pie chart in report)

Following the comments, the committee summarized their discussion with the following summary of recommended implementation priorities:

- recommended priority of implementation
 - stormwater control/north and south
 - habitat restoration
 - parking and circulation
 - passive recreation
 - south area is a higher priority than the north area
- priorities for leasehold
 - launch/landing
 - parking (reference parking of leasehold to coordinate with south bluff)
 - flight operations building

3. Funding sources discussed include:

- Developer Impact Fees/Facilities Benefit Assessment
- leasehold fees
- regional park improvement funds
- user fees
- UCSD Regents

ACTION ITEMS:

None

ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jeff Harkness, Project Manager

Council member Lightner Remarks

- Thank you to board members for your thoughtful work since accepting this responsibility nearly two years ago.
- Special thanks to Ginny Barnes for her strong leadership. Ginny – you’ve really taken charge and your selfless interest in this project is commendable.
- Thank you to the members of the public for your continued participation.
- I know that many of you are interested in next steps.
- I’m looking forward to seeing the results of the environmental study in July.
- I look forward to reviewing the final GDP for approval at Council in November.
- I’m appreciative that City staff has initiated internal discussions about funding possibilities, and I know that much more remains to be done, and will be done, in this area.
- I will continue to encourage these efforts, as I have done in the past.
- I support the community’s interest in securing private funding and grants.
- And I encourage those here tonight to consider formation of a private “Friends of Torrey Pines City Park” group to solicit donations for the park.
- There is a Council Policy outlining the process of park Development with Non-City Funds.
- We are willing to provide assistance in these efforts at the City level in any way we can.
- A discussion should happen over the coming months about the ways in which the community can be involved with the park after the GDP is approved.
- I will be discussing this with the Park & Rec department, and I’m looking forward to hearing from you and from the entire community about your thoughts on the best way forward.
- We will keep the community updated as to progress in these areas.