

□ LA JOLLA PARKS AND BEACHES, INC. □

MINUTES FOR JULY 22, 2019 REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc. was held on Monday, July 22, 2019 at 4:00 PM at the La Jolla Recreation Center Auditorium, 615 Prospect, La Jolla, CA 92037.

Members Present (18): Patrick Ahern, Dan Allen, Debbie Beacham, Tom Brady, Janet Collins, Ann Dynes, Bob Evans, Judy Halter, Marie Hunrichs, Ken Hunrichs, John Leek, Melinda Merryweather, Sally Miller, Mary Ellen Morgan, Phyllis Minnick, Stan Minnick, Jane Reldan, and John Shannon,.

Members Absent (0): None

Guests signed-in (10): Debbie Adams, Katie Hubert, Eddie Meyerholz, Doug Burleigh, M.O & T.W. Andreae, Barbara Dunbar, Eren Branch, Mauricio Medina and John Alexander.

Welcome and Call to Order – Ann Dynes, President.

Approval of Agenda for this meeting – The final Agenda for this meeting was approved unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of meeting of June 24, 2019 – The Minutes from the meeting of June 24, 2019 were approved unanimously.

Approval of Treasurer’s Report for May and June, 2019 – The Treasurer’s Reports were approved unanimously.

Report by Councilmember Bry’s Office -- Mauricio Medina spoke briefly on following item:

- Invited everyone to join Councilmember Bry and her Staff at Farmer & the Seahorse, 10996 Torreyana Road, San Diego, CA 92121 on Thursday, August 8, 2019 from 4:30pm to 6:30pm. Councilmember Bry will be present and is eager to hear everyone’s thoughts. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by Tuesday, August 6, by sending an email to Lora Fleming at lfleming@sandiego.gov.
- Paper copies of the July 2019 “Bry Bulletin” were distributed by Mauricio Medina to all Trustees as well as everyone else in attendance who requested a copy of Councilmember Bry’s latest monthly newsletter.

Non-Agenda Public Comment—issues not on the agenda within the LJPB jurisdiction (2 minutes or less) —

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- Guest Debbie Adams spoke about vegetation cleanup along the Fay Avenue bike path. She stated that vegetation cleanup requires the assistance of official City Staff in addition to the current volunteers. She will contact the City in regard to this matter.
- Member Jane Reldan, MD, read in to the record of the meeting the following from the Journal of San Diego History, Volume 51 (Summer/Fall 2005, Numbers 3 & 4) **“Until Kingdom Come’: The Design and Construction of La Jolla’s Children’s Pool”** (pages 135 – 136):

After the completion of construction in early March 1931...workers finished before April 4. Design alterations caused the project to go over deadline and over budget by approximately \$4,000. However, the cosmetic changes clearly added to the visual appeal and safety of the breakwater.

Outside of these slight modifications, Savage encountered only one obstacle during the final phase of construction. He noticed that the sand level of the pool constantly fluctuated with the ebb and flow of the tide. “A strong suction pull caused by the water running into the sluiceways and then receding” made it difficult for the pool to have an even sandbar. To remedy this problem, he decided to close the four wooden grillages. This prevented the sand in the pool from moving west through the sluiceways. On March 27, workers sealed the grillages. The pool’s floor immediately lowered one and a half feet. Three days later, a sand beach formed at “the corner between the bluff and the inside of the breakwater,” which Savage saw as beneficial “for children bathing in the pool.” If it ever seemed desirable to reopen the gates, Savage proposed hand excavating the sluiceways at low tide and raising the frames and gates at low tide. After dealing with these obstacles, work was finally finished on the Children’s Pool and it was ready for the public’s use.”

- Trustee John Shannon pointed out that the word “slippery” is misspelled on the sign by the stairs at Bird Rock.

President’s Report –

President Ann Dynes announced that Vice President Bill Robbins had resigned effective immediately, due to his having moved to Kansas permanently. Thus, a vacancy now exists in the office of Vice President.

President Dynes then thanked *La Jolla Light* Reporter and Guest, Ashley Mackin-Solomon, for the recent Union Circle Flagpole Dedication Article in the *La Jolla Light*. There were 40 people in attendance at the Dedication. She reported that one resident of Park Row had requested a trimming of plants that are blocking the view corridor at the north end of Park Row along Prospect Place.

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President Dynes announced that there is a new City of San Diego maintenance supervisor in charge at Whale View Point and commended her, Anna, for the diligence which she is applying to her new assignment. She reported that Anna is going to ask Parks and Rec management if it can arrange to trim the palm trees at the wedding bowl as they are both unsightly and potentially dangerous. A discussion ensued about the several City employees who do a great job of maintaining coastal parks and Judy agreed to head up a brief project to determine if some form of recognition for such employees is legal under City regulations.

Action Items

1. ***Open new U.S. Bank account to accommodate La Jolla Open Water Swim receipts and expenses*** – Bob Evans explained the desirability of opening a separate account for the La Jolla Parks and Beaches Open Water Swim. The event already has \$3,244.30 accumulated and earmarked to pay specifically for expenses of this new event. Following discussion, a motion was made by Jane Reldan to approve the opening of a new La Jolla Parks & Beaches, Inc. account at US Bank to accommodate the La Jolla Open Water Swim receipts and expenses. Officers' names on the account to include Ann Dynes, Bob Evans, and John Shannon. The motion was seconded by Judy Halter. The motion passed 17-0 with Sally Miller abstaining.
2. ***Open new U.S. Bank savings account for funds on hand*** – Bob Evans proposed to close the current La Jolla Parks & Beaches Inc. checking account, in order for LJPB to open an interest-earning Savings Account. Dan Allen stated that the interest generated via the new Savings Account must go to the General Fund. After considerable discussion, this issue was deferred until the August 26 meeting.
3. ***Challenged Athletes Foundation event October 20, 2019*** -- Guest Katie Hubert brought a flyer containing details about the upcoming 26th Annual Challenged Athletes Foundation Community Weekend event, to be held from October 18 – 20, 2019 in La Jolla. On October 18, the events will take place at La Jolla Shores, and on October 20, the events will be taking place at the La Jolla Cove as well as Ellen Browning Scripps Park. A motion was made by Jane Reldan to approve the 26th Annual Challenged Athletes Foundation Community Weekend event, to be held from October 18 – 20, 2019. The motion was seconded by Patrick Ahern. The vote was 18-0 to approve.

1A. ***RE: La Jolla Open Water Swim receipts and expenses*** – President Ann Dynes noted that the next agenda item was not noticed but that, with a unanimous attendance the board could unanimously waive notice of the following action on an emergency basis. In light of the fact that normal operations require approval of disbursements at monthly meetings and the Swim is incurring expenses on a much more frequent basis, a motion was made by Bob Evans, explained by President Dynes, waive notice of this action and to authorize the Treasurer to issue checks for expenses related to the La Jolla Open Water Swim, in total

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amount not to exceed \$5,000.00 prior to the August meeting. The motion was seconded by Jane Reldan. The vote was 18-0 to approve. Judy will present an accounting of expenses incurred, paid and remaining unpaid at the August meeting and all reimbursements will be ratified at that time.

4. **Vote to fill vacancy of Vice President** – A nominating committee was assembled in order to suggest possible candidates for the following officers of La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc.
 - A. Vice President, and
 - B. Secretary (if such office is potentially vacated by the vice president nomination)

The Committee consists of Trustees Dan Allen, Janet Collins, and President Ann Dynes.

5. **Plastic Slats for public benches** – Guest Doug Burleigh spoke about the issue of missing and/or broken slats on public benches. Ann Dynes stated that she would put Doug Burleigh in contact with Vince from the City of San Diego to see if there is a process which LJPB might use to engage in repairs. Melinda Merryweather suggested that bench repairs might be financed by the families of people honored in the plaques on the benches if they could be located. It was decided that an inventory of all shoreline benches would be undertaken by volunteer Debbie Adams, noting the names on the donor plaques of especially the benches that have missing and/or broken slats. Melinda will then contact the dedicators of the plaques of the benches in question, to solicit them for donations which it is hoped will total enough to offset the cost of the repairs. Guest Doug Burleigh suggested that the current six slats that are broken or missing and/or are otherwise in need of replacement at a given bench would cost approximately \$200.00 to replace, but only if plastic slats are used. Mr. Burleigh stressed that plastic slats are much more durable than the old wooden slats. However, the question was raised about the potential problem of the plastic slats possibly overheating after prolonged exposure to the sun. Doug will provide research about the heat concern for plastic as, otherwise, they seem likely to be cheaper and more durable than the current wood slats.
6. **Working group to restore trees and picnic area in Scripps Park/related question of use of remains of the fallen “Lorax” tree** – Bob Evans stated that Andy Field and Dan Daneri are working on a plan that will address this issue. As to the related question about the use of the remains of the fallen Lorax Tree, the majority of the trunk might be re-purposed by the City. It is possible that the City will replace the recently-deceased Lorax Tree with three Monterrey Cyprus Trees, which are natural to Northern California, and therefore might survive at the Cove with the marine layer that is so often a part of its climate.

It was stated the death of the Lorax Tree has resulted in compromising the irrigation of

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the grass at Scripps Park. This is why the lawn has recently started to turn brown. The City has plans to repair/replace/resume proper irrigation of the grass after the summer.

Melinda Merryweather suggested planting seedlings, to include protective fencing around the seedlings. An official working group was created to determine how to best re-purpose the wood from the recently-deceased Lorax Tree. The working group is comprised of John Shannon, Phyllis Minnick, Bob Evans, Melinda Merryweather. Furthermore, the working intends to invite Jodi Rudick from the La Jolla Village Merchants Association, to join the group.

7. **Meeting Schedule for the remainder of 2019:** Jane Reldan moved to cancel the meeting in August. The motion died for lack of a second. Therefore, a regular meeting will take place on Monday, August 26, 2019. It was then decided that the November and December Meetings will be combined into a single meeting, to be held on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 4pm at the La Jolla Recreation Center. Jane Reldan moved to approve the adoption of the proposed schedule. The motion was seconded by Ken Hunrichs. The motion was then approved unanimously 18-0.
8. **Sponsorship of beach clean-up program** – John Leek announced that he would be cleaning the sand at Children’s Pool Beach on Friday, July 26, 2019 starting at 10am. He invited all in attendance to join him. He stated that the purpose of the beach cleaning would include picking up paper and raking the sand, and that he has rakes and buckets available for volunteers to use. A motion was made by John to endorse his personal plans to clean Children’s Pool beach, seconded by Phyllis Minnick. Debbie Beacham stated that the June 13, 2019 decision by the California Coastal Commission ordered the City to clean the sand at the Children’s Pool beach. John stated that although wrack removal is prohibited by the California Coastal Commission, the La Jolla Beach and Tennis Club continues to regularly remove the wrack at its beach (the southern portion of La Jolla Shores).

Patrick Ahern suggested cleaning the wrack at the Children’s Pool beach of seal feces, and then putting the wrack back. Dan Allen stated that the City of San Diego requires a permit for this activity. John stated that he does not have a permit for the cleanup planned for July 26, 2019 but plans to do it anyway.

Jane Reldan then read in to the record the final paragraph from a December 13, 2012 letter written by Coastal Program Analyst Kanani Brown of the California Coastal Commission, to Stacey LoMedico (then) Director of the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department:

Finally, the City requested our input as to whether the removal of natural wrack, or marine vegetation (i.e., dried seaweed and kelp), is permitted at La Jolla beaches as part of organized clean-ups. The removal of wrack has significant impacts on the natural

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ecology of sandy beaches, including on invertebrates and foraging seabirds. Given the importance of wrack in beach habitats, it should not be removed from beaches during clean-up activities by private citizens, with the exception that debris that is entangled in the wrack, and which poses a clear threat to public safety, may be removed by hand as needed. The removal of wrack is only permitted by City personnel as part of historical beach maintenance activities.

In addition, Jane also read in to the record a paragraph from a second letter dated December 9, 2013, written by Marsha Venegas, San Diego District Enforcement Officer for the California Coastal Commission, to Dan Daneri, District Manager of the City of San Diego Parks and Recreation Department:

On December 12, 2012, Commission staff wrote a letter addressed to Stacey LoMedico from your department that briefly explained Commission staff's position regarding beach wrack removal as part of the City of San Diego's historical practice of beach maintenance and/or grooming undertaken by Parks & Recreation. As explained in that letter, the removal of beach wrack undertaken as part of beach maintenance/grooming on beaches that historically have been groomed by the City does not require a coastal development permit ("CDP"). However, the Children's Pool beach is not one of the beaches historically groomed by the City, and beach grooming by public groups and/or individuals is not authorized.

Melinda Merryweather expressed her recollection that in fact, the Children's Pool Beach was cleaned by the City of San Diego in the past. Debbie Beacham stated that she, too, shared this recollection. Furthermore, Debbie also expressed her view that the letters shared by Jane are "old". John again moved to endorse the beach cleanup program. The motion was seconded by Melinda Merryweather. The final vote was 15-3 in favor of the motion, with members Ahern, Allen, and Reldan dissenting.

9. **Revision of LJPB bylaws** – John Leek talked about certain conditions in the 2016 by-laws, and some provisions which are subject to City approval which never happened. Thus, he contends that the 2011 by-laws are still in effect. Ann pointed out that a complexity is created by LJPB's status as a 501c3 which can accept private funding and its historic status as a community-based advisory group to the City Parks & Rec Department which is subject to the Brown Act, etc. Discussion ensued among members as to whether new by-laws are needed. John withdrew his proposal to rewrite the bylaws at this time and Ann acknowledged that the current bylaws, whichever is applicable, are ambiguous as long as City policy for recreation advisory groups remains unresolved. She will continue to operate under the 2016 version.

Discussion Items

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10. Updated Wish list to be refined into the annual CIP List later this year – Dan Allen is editing the list, with the plan to submit a priority listing of projects to City later this year. He requested help from other members as to the various parts of the LJ coastline, such that they can provide him with prioritized list for each area (i.e. Goldfish Point, Whale View Point, Bird Rock, etc.)
11. Update on SB 946 – Bob Evans will be attending and commenting at the upcoming City Council meeting on the new draft regulations on sidewalk vending. He has reviewed the current City draft; the important point is to request that vending be prohibited at Children’s Pool and Scripps Park year-round—all in the best interest for preserving the natural and scenic beauty of the coastline parks, and ensuring access for all in these heavily-trafficked parks.
12. Update on Children’s Pool Closure Permit/Hearing/Next Steps—Ken Hunrichs/Jane Reldan – nothing new to report
13. Marine Street Mural update – Patrick Ahern reported that the mural project is now on hold because, per a City Art Manager, it is not permissible because it is in a Coastal Overlay Zone with certain residential zoning restrictions. His team is working on it, but there is no known timeline yet.
14. Vegetation overgrowth on Coast Walk – Melinda Merryweather asked to be on the agenda next month, to get a vote to write a letter to City asking that the bushes on Coast Walk in the old parking lot need to be cut to the 3 feet that is required by the city for bushes that are in a PROW on the bluff over the ocean with a view. Melinda says the view is in our Community Plan on page 35 as a View Cone, and also is in our Community Plan as a Major Viewshed on page 145. Says the bushes in some places are 7 feet tall and are blocking the View from Coast Walk to Del Mar and need to be brought into compliance. There was a discussion as to whether the area of overgrowth is on public or private property and Ann reported that the Coast Trail residents had reported to her (no one was able to attend today’s meeting) that it no longer has a permit to maintain the area.
15. Description of LJPB in La Jolla Light – Ann Dynes mentioned the description of LJP&B in the Light is ambiguous, and brief discussion ensued about best way to accurately describe our role. Ann said that the web site has a better description and she will work on it.

Information Items/Working Group reports

16. Open Water Swim Working Group -- Judy Halter mentioned race entries and donations are continuing to come in. Nothing else to mention, other than in items #1 and #2.
17. Corrals for scooters update – Janet Collins/Tom Brady/Mauricio Medina. Tom summarized the LJCPA meeting about recommendations including; limiting number of corrals, updating the City’s Get it Done app for scooter problems, better geo-fencing for improved user responsibility, problematic red zone areas, and requiring City to evaluate after 1 year.
18. Gold Fish Point Working Group – Janet Collins/Doug Burleigh – nothing to report
19. Windansea Working Group -- Melinda Merryweather – nothing to report
20. Bird Rock Outlook Working Group – Melinda Merryweather/Mary Lynn Hyde – nothing to report.

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21. Bicycle Racks Project – Janet Collins – nothing to report.
22. Marine Coastal Management Plan periodic update – John Leek- nothing to report

The meeting adjourned at 6:20 p.m. on motion of Patrick Ahern.

Bob Evans (signed) 
Bob Evans, Secretary/Jane Reldan assisting

Ann Parode Dynes, President

Adjourn to August 26, 2019 at the La Jolla Recreation Center at 4 p.m.

If accommodations for a disability, including a sign language interpreter, aids for the visually impaired, or assisted listening devices (ALDs) are required, please contact the City's Disability Services Coordinator at 619-321-3208 at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting date to insure availability.