

La Jolla Town Council Parks and Beaches Committee

A sub-committee of La Jolla Town Council

Regular Meetings: 4th Monday of the Month

Monday, 22 February 2010 – 4:00PM

La Jolla Recreation Center, 615 Prospect Street, Room 1

AGENDA – REGULAR MEETING

1. Welcome and Call to Order: **Michele Addington**, Community Representative
2. Adopt the Agenda
3. **Meeting Minutes Review and Approval**
 - 25 January 2010
4. **Non-Agenda Public Comment**
 - Issues not on the agenda and within LJPB jurisdiction, two (2) minutes or less.
5. **Chair's Report – Action Items Where Indicated**
 - A. **Item to be voted - Kate Sessions Park** (see page 3 for information)
Do we support an alcohol Ban at the Park? Letter to Parks & Recreation?
 - B. **Item for discussion - Motor Car Classic** – Should the organizer come before us for further debriefing? They have sent 2 emails – see page 4.
 - C. **Item for discussion - Stairway & Walkway Maintenance – Beach Public Access & Stairway (see attached photos)** Project Manager, Joe Diab, at (619)533-4615. Darren Genova Environmental and Permit Support, Engineering and Capital Projects Department, City of San Diego 600 B Street, San Diego, CA 92101 MS 908A (619) 533-4659
Do we want to invite the above parties for a discussion on proposed maintenance?
 - D. **Item for discussion – Beach access request from individuals for Calumet Park**
“Issues would be with if it complies with the PDO, if it complies with the Community Plan for coastal access, if it complies with the Coastal Plan.
Other issues to discuss could include a discussion of if there is interest in doing private fundraising to move this forward quickly, or if we want to move it through the City and wait for funding to become available (which could be a long time).
Any safety concerns, is the beach below a good spot for an access?”
Do we invite the applicants to make a presentation?
6. **Report from other advisory Committees**
 - A. **Ellen Browning Scripps Park – Patrick Ahern Chair:**
General Plan for this Park is close to completion. Comments were sought by Friday February 20, 2010 from community groups or their representatives.

PRESENTATION – Ellen Browning Scripps Park Guidelines – please allow 45 minutes.

B. Coastal Benches – Esther Viti Chair – (written list of benches to be presented).

7. Parks & Beaches Committee Status vis a vis City of San Diego

- Continued discussion –
La Jolla Town Council position finalized – If City of San Diego accepts the proposal then our Committee will need to have *Bylaws* and follow *the Brown Act*, this will no longer be a choice but a condition.

8. Events scheduled on public property in District 1 Telephone: (619) 685-1331

<http://www.sandiego.gov/specialevents/secal/district1currentyear.pdf>

(if the link does not work copy and paste it into your URL)

ADJOURNMENT

Next Regular Meeting: Monday, 22 March, 2010

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Item 5.A. Kate Sessions Park:

A proposed change from Kate Sessions Park's 12-hour alcohol ban to a 24-hour alcohol ban was on the Santa Clara/Pacific Beach Recreation Council's agenda on Tuesday, January 19, 2010.

Some of the reasons given for the proposition included: public urination, binge drinking, dogs off leashes, noise, broken glass, and drunk drivers. Presentations were made by both supporting and opposing parties.

Richard Kiser, president of Friends of Kate Sessions, said, "We're here because of unintended consequences of Proposition D; 26 miles of shoreline have been reduced to 17 acres of legal area for drinking."

Kiser addressed the park's inability to handle the volume of visitors it regularly attracts: "There are 140 parking spaces inside the park. About 300 permits are issued daily. On weekends, 600 to 1000 people are using it."

An eight-year resident named Mike said, "The facility can't handle something like over-the-line every weekend. There are fraternity guys running around in wigs and skirts. It's unpoliced bedlam as a direct result of the ban. I think Kate Sessions would turn over in her grave if she saw how the park was being used."

One resident claimed that 65 calls were placed to the SDPD between August and December of 2009. It was stated that the police don't have the manpower to handle park-related calls and that response times can range from one-and-a-half to three hours.

Those opposed to the ban argued their right to have a beer on a blanket while watching the sunset, in addition to their right to have office picnics, weddings, and other responsible parties. Some did not feel the issue should be in the hands of the Santa Clara/PB Park and Recreation Department.

While many disagreed about the imposition of a 24-hour ban, most agreed that taking alcohol off the beaches caused this problem and that taking alcohol out of the park will cause yet another. The consensus was that a designated, and perhaps monitored, alternative area for responsible public drinking is necessary.

According to a Friends of Kate Sessions Park handout provided during the meeting, in San Diego County there are 174 community and neighborhood parks; 153 have a 24-hour alcohol ban. The council voted to recommend the ban.

Friends of Kate Sessions meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 5 p.m. at the Soledad Club on 5000 Soledad Rd. For more information, call Michelle Youngers at (858) 625-9261 ext. 107

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Item 5.B. Motor Car Classic Show update:

#1. Email from Trip Bennett II

Michelle,

John forwarded this email to me last week. I am not only a member of the LJHS Board of Directors, I was also Co-Chair of this years' event. I welcome the opportunity to come to the Parks and Beaches Committee to review the event. However, I will be out of town all next week on business and there is a LJHS Board Meeting that night. My request is to be re-scheduled on an agenda for the next or near future meeting so that I may attend.

Regarding the damaged grass patch, please note we are committed to being good stewards of the Park. In the years past a financial "donation" out of the proceeds has been made to the City Parks and Rec.; specifically earmarked for "aerating" the lawn at this park after the event. Through our event coordinator, Laurel McFarlane, we are working with the City Parks and Rec. to provide funds to do this work on the grounds. I expect this to be resolved this next week and will keep you informed of the progress on this issue.

If you have any other questions, concerns, or otherwise regarding the La Jolla Motor Car Classic please forward to my attention and I will be able to address them accordingly.

Sincerely,

F.H. "Trip" Bennett, III
Bennett & Associates
7755 Fay Avenue Suite C
La Jolla, California 92037
858-454-4555 / fax: 858-454-9164
tripb@balajolla.com

#2. Email from Michael Ruiz

... I wanted to provide you with some feedback.

- Overall, I believe the event has improved greatly since I first became involved with the event. I also feel it is one of the better run car events for the host park and the attendee experience.
- The car ramp works very well and continues to resolve the load in and out issues in the past.
- The short fence is a nice addition and I believe it creates more interest than deters attendees.
- Food stations seem to be working well and I did not see any issues with the various caterers.
- I believe you have optimized your access points and it flowed well throughout the day.
- I did not see any turf damage yesterday, but I will go by this morning to double check.
- I agree with you that the stage works well in that corner, but the sound system did seem to cut out on the far side where the inside Shelly cars were located. That seemed like the sound company issue. The volume was fine; people seemed to still be able to have a conversation.

As I said, in general, I believe it was a successful event.

Michael F. Ruiz
Grounds Maintenance Manager, Shoreline Parks
Developed Regional Parks, Park & Recreation