



**Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board**  
12463 Rancho Bernardo Road #523, San Diego, CA 92198  
[www.rbplanningboard.com](http://www.rbplanningboard.com)

**May 16, 2024, 7:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes**

**InPerson: 7 Oaks Community Center 16789 Bernardo Oaks Dr, San Diego, CA 92128**

<b>2024 RB PLANNING BOARD</b>									
<b>P = present</b>		<b>A = absent</b>		<b>ARC = arrived after roll call</b>					
Robin Kaufman	A	Sara Nucci	A	Steve Dow	P	June Smith	P		
Benjamin Wier	P	Vicki Touchstone	P	Hugh Rothman	P	Sujata Yellaepeddi	P		
Gary Long	P	Donald Bertsch	P	Sonny Googins	A	Keith Mikas	A		
Rebecca Rapp	P	Steve Gallant	A	Alfredo Ortiz	P			<b>Total Seated</b>	<b>15</b>
								<b>Total in Attendance</b>	<b>10</b>

**ITEM #1      Call to Order/Roll Call:**

**ITEM #2      Chair Remarks:**

**ITEM #3      Non-agenda public comment (3 minutes per speaker):** To discuss items not on the agenda, yet within the jurisdiction of the RB Planning Board. Board members should limit discussion of non-agenda items so as not to detract from the time available for agenda items.

- Larry Webb spoke about mayoral candidate Larry Turner. He urged everyone to take a sincere look at Larry Turner as he has a lot of great plans for development.
- Jim Nadlonek spoke about Lake Hodges and the plans about the future of this lake.
- Mary Nelson who is a resident of Seven Oaks has expressed interest in joining the committee as she is retired and wants to help the community. She is a retired accountant with around 20 years of experience.
- Jan Stewart, a retired resident of oaks north and has been a resident of this community for last 10 years. She is a long time resident of California. She has expressed interest in joining the committee.
- Board member Rebecca Rapp spoke about about the city budget and city decisions about Cannabis. She explained that Mayor does acknowledge that Cannabis is not helping the city. She urged all the members to send a letter to Marni Von Wilpert , Member of the San Diego City Council urging support for Mayor Gloria's decision to pass on accepting grant money to fund more cannabis shops. A member from mayor's office mentioned that the deadline to get these letters to Mayor's office is June 11 which is too close for the board to take an action. Board decided to put it on agenda for next meeting. Board member Benjamin Weir will talk to board member Robin Kaufman to find out if we can do something before this deadline. The new tobacco shop near Vons shopping center is openly selling tobacco products. Board member Rebecca Rapp asked Marni Von Wilpert , Member of the San Diego City Council's office to look into this issue asap but at this time it seems like we can do nothing at this point.

**ITEM #4      Government Staff Reports:** **Information Item**  
Various government staff have an opportunity to present updates to the Board.

- Randy Reyes with Mayor Gloria's is the new representative for District 5 . He is replacing Emily . He informed that Scott Wahl is our next police chief. City council approved it unanimously.
- Mayor Gloria submitted a new budget for 2024-2025. There are additional meetings to discuss the funding on June 7 regarding the budget. The budget will be finalized on June 11,2024. City council approved EV vehicle chargers across the city. They will be providing additional chargers

across the city, parks, libraries and outside homes. Negotiations are ongoing for Kettner and Vine homeless shelters between city officials and private contractors.

- Angela Dang, from the San Diego County Planning office discussed Land Development plans and their progress.
- Benjamin Crooks from County Supervisor's office came to give an update. He expressed that Supervisor is hiring 7 more employees to work on planning projects, He gave us a printed copy of county projects and issues. He also shared that grants are closed for now. Internship program is currently open . Opioid overdose prevention budget of 1 mil will be accepted by the Supervisor's office to help with media advertisement and helping with opioid prevention.

- ITEM #5**      **Modification and Adoption of Agenda:**      **Action Item**  
Motion made by Benjamin Weir/Gary Long to adopt the agenda as presented 10-0-0
- ITEM #6**      **Administrative Items:**      **Action Items**  
a. Approve April 2024 Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Vicki Touchstone/June Smith to approve the meeting minutes 10-0-0  
b. Approve Treasurer's Report: \$48.49 Its an outstanding Invoice, Total of \$25.24 left in our account which we might lose by the end of this month.  
Motion made by Gary Long/Rebecca Rapp to approve treasurer's report 10-0-0
- ITEM #7**      **UCSD's Rancho Bernardo Healthcare Center Medical Office Building Project**      **Action Item**  
**Draft Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND)**  
Review the proposed project and environmental analysis presented in the draft MND. Consider approving some or all of the comments prepared by members of the Board in a draft letter that addresses the adequacy and accuracy of the analysis in the draft MND. Draft letter attached.  
Board Member Vicki Touchstone presented notes about the draft. Vicki shared that she worked with the members of the committee to prepare the draft and is asking board to approve in the meeting today. She shared major points about bike lanes, side walks etc. and asking UCSD to consider extending side walks up to west Bernardo dr so that people can use them for walk or bike. UCSD is proposing to provide side lane to get into UCSD center so that the traffic doesn't cause congestion for their patients. The committee is proposing to add additional 200 feet to that lane. Committe is asking them to use non business hours for construction work and not do any construction 7 pm – 7 am. UCSD is not proposing to add any landscape at this point but committee is asking to ensure they have landscape when they touch any area in the nearby and use native shrubs.  
Motion made by Vicki Touchstone/Gary to email the draft to UCSD 10-0-0
- ITEM #8**      **Blueprint San Diego**      **Action Item**  
Review the draft Blueprint San Diego document, consider issues raised by the Community Planners Committee (CPC), and discuss possible recommendations to forward to the City Planning Department. For more details, see the attached CPC notes.  
Board member Vicki Touchstone gave a presentation on Blueprint San Diego. City of San Diego has updated the Blueprint San Diego. Draft relies on outdated information. Blue print is causing upzoning of the RB Area that is causing the prices of units to go up. Transition from electric vehicle might happen faster than the waiting for transit to happen. CPC has done a good job of pointing out all the issues. Board will send a letter with the attached notes.  
Motion made by Vicki Touchstone/Rebecca Rapp to email the proposed suggestions/changes 10-0-0
- ITEM #9**      **Grand Jury Report**      **Action Item**  
Review the work completed to date by the CPC's Grand Jury Ad Hoc Committee and discuss possible recommendations to forward to the CPC. For more details, see the attached CPC notes.  
Board Member Benjamin Weir made a presentation on the possible recommendations of CPC's Grand Jury Ad Hoc Committee.  
Motion passed by Vicki Touchstone/Benjamin Weir to email the possible recommendations 10-0-0
- ITEM #10**      **4th of July Parade**      **Action Item**  
Discussion and action needed for volunteers to participate in the RB 4th of July Parade.  
Board is discussing on ways to do RB 4<sup>th</sup> July Parade. The ideas shared were walking or bikes as we do not have a convertible. Board Member Gary Long mentioned that we have to submit an entry by a certain date if we are interested. Benjamin Weir will talk to Robin Kaufman and see what can be done. Board is discussing putting up a table at the community fair. Members are willing to be present.

Motion passed to put a table at the fair Benjamin Weir/Vicki Touchstone 10-0-0

<b>ITEM #11</b>	<b><u>Sub-Committee Reports:</u></b>	<b>Information Item</b>
	Development Review..... Benjamin Wier	
	Regional Issues..... Vicki Touchstone	
	Traffic & Transportation.....Robin Kaufman	

<b>ITEM #12</b>	<b><u>Liaison Reports:</u></b>	<b>Information Item</b>
	Community Council.....Robin Kaufman (Report Attached)*	
	Community Planners Committee (CPC).....Vicki Touchstone (Report Attached)*	
	Community Recreation Group (CRG).....Robin Kaufman	
	SANDAG..... Steve Dow	
	San Dieguito River Park .....Vicki Touchstone – Lots of discussion about Lake Hodges and water levels	
	San Pasqual/Lake Hodges Planning Group.....	
	Commercial Representative .....	

**ITEM #13      OLD BUSINESS ITEM:** KB Home and Latitude want to build a lot of new homes near US Bank area with 122 Townhomes 3 stories each with 2 car garages and 31 parking spots. No street parking is allowed. They do not plan on pool or any recreation is planned. This might affect the Webb park area and people using for walking etc. They plan to go to planning board soon to start working on the plan. Land owner is currently contracting with KB homes and city seems to be leaning towards getting the plan.

**ITEM #14      NEW BUSINESS:**  
Board Member Benjamin Weir posed a question - Can we start meeting at 6:30 PM instead of 7 PM? Most of the members liked the idea and are ready for the move. Board member Benjamin Weir will confirm by the next meeting. CAC meet on Fridays at San Rafael church, Board member Robin Kaufman requested a backup representative for CAC meeting. Currently it is board member Vicki Touchstone but going forward it will be board member Rebecca Rapp.

#### **ADJOURNMENT:**

Motion made to adjourn at 8:07 PM Gary Long/June Smith 10 -0 -0

Rancho Bernardo Community Council report:

The Board approved to submit a letter for a turkey trot 5K race next month.  
The Board approved to support the annual donut fun run on September 15th.  
The Board approved a nominating Ad hoc committee for election of officers next month.  
The Board approved to participate in the community July 4th parade.  
The Board approved the special insurance for the chili cook off/safety fair event October 6, in partnership with the RBCC Foundation.  
The Board approved a formation of a bylaws Ad hoc committee to review/make update suggestions. This is done approximately every two years.  
The Board approved a letter to the Mayor/City Council regarding the Kettner warehouse homeless proposal.  
The Board approved the annual placement of the 'congratulations graduate' lawn signs on the median outside of the RB High School.

#### **San Dieguito River Park - CAC Notes 5-3-24 Via Rebecca Rapp**

28 in attendance

**Chair's report** – Honoring Phil Pryde, founder of River Park, with a signed card appreciating his commitment. Maintaining Long-term relationship between river park and conservancy.

700 acres/10 legal parcels up for sale located along the Guejito Creek, Rancho Guejito people are asking 8 million. The county is interested in the property with efforts to protect wildlife and nature conservation. This is also a mountain lion corridor.

**Executive Directors Report-** An environmental planner was hired and will start in the next couple of months.

Ribbon cutting will take place along new trails in Sept. and they're looking to purchase an alternative vehicle for rangers.

Asking Supervisor to prioritize SD River Park pathway, and waiting on the engineering report needed to apply for the state grant.

Walkabout International – No one to replace Kathy Carr??

### **Reach the Beach Status- Coast to Crest trail**

The trail ends at Jimmy Durante Blvd. Possible plans to expand under the freeway at Dog Beach. Horses are allowed but Del Mar residents aren't happy. DMCC hasn't taken a position. –Coastal commission concerns..... sensitive wetlands and concerns over allowing equestrian near wetlands. Fair Grounds are building a train station/platform for special events. CAC is in support because they'd like the overflow parking to be converted to wetlands. They want to see fewer cars. (The original reason for horses on the beach was for jockeys to wash them.)

**Hodges Dam Replacement** – The State Dam Safety report stated an earthquake 7.0 and greater would break the dam. The Dam has the worst rating of all Dams in the state. Consequence report- with the level of the lake at 290, 2,000 potential residents would be affected with 15 potential deaths. With the water level at 280, 600 residents would be affected but no potential death deaths.

The water level is currently at 280- 10 ft. lower than 290, equaling 11 billion gallons of water which would provide water to residents for 2 years.

Consequences of lower water levels range from habitat impact. Birds are dying as well as vacating the area. Water rates going up possibly by 39% purchasing water from the Colorado River because of not being able to access Hodges, limiting our water source needed in a drought situation.

Members of CAC voiced concerns. They stated, they'd like to see a risk-benefit analysis as 11 billion gallons of water have been wasted. There's a higher probability of an asteroid hitting Rancho Bernardo than a 7.0 earthquake. The consequences are greater to have the water level lower as it's more important to have water reserves in a high drought area.

Motion was made for CAC to present to JPA asking the city of SD to do a cost-benefit analysis. The city already has lawsuits against them because of failure to maintain the dam.

**Trails Commission-** trails survey in June, June 20<sup>th</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>. – still looking for volunteers wanting to quantify the number of residents using trails.

**Horse Park Trail** – closed due to storm damage. Hoping to have it fixed before summer usage- need a contractor to get out there.