**Rancho Bernardo Community Planning Board**
12463 Rancho Bernardo Road #523, San Diego, CA 92128
www.rbplanningboard.com

**Thursday, March 20, 2024, 6:30PM**

**Meeting Minutes**

**InPerson: Bernardo Heights Community Center, 16150 Bernardo Heights Pkwy San Diego 92128**
***Please note new address***

| 2024 RB Planning Board | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| P = present | | | | A = absent | | | | ARC = arrived after roll call | |
| Robin Kaufman | P | June Smith | P | Steve Dow | A | | | | |
| Benjamin Wier | P | Vicki Touchstone | A | Rebecca Rapp | P | James Nadlonek | P | | |
| Gary Long | A | Hugh Rothman | P | Sujata Yellaepeddi | A | Alfredt Ortiz | A | | |
| | | | | | | | | Total Seated | 11 |
| | | | | | | | | Total in Attendance | 6 |

**ITEM #1** **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Meeting called to order at 6:48 PM by Chair, Robin Kaufman.

**ITEM #2** **Chair Remarks:** None

**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

No items were presented at the meeting.

**ITEM #4** **Government Staff Reports:** Information Item

Various government staff have an opportunity to present updates to the Board.

Ekaterina Pavlova presented a report from San Diego County Supervisor Joel Anderson's office.

- Senate Bill 99, to address shortage of child care for military. Supervisor Anderson supports this bill.
- Senate Bill 554 would prohibit local jurisdictions, such as San Diego County, from limiting law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration authorities. Supervisor Anderson supports this bill.

- Supervisor Anderson's Unsafe Camping ordinance advanced to next step. Will return to the full Board of Supervisors for a full reading in about 2 months.
- Last fiscal year, Supervisor Anderson awards over 4 million to small businesses and non-profits in District 2.
- The office is always looking for interns. The office invites you to apply.

Gonzalo Rocha-Vazquez, from Assemblymember Darshana Patel office, gave a brief report:

- The board was informed on what committees the Assemblymember is a member of.
- The Assemblymember proposed a bill AB 237, which closes a loophole in that it would now be a crime to threaten a school, library, or place of worship.
- The office is taking nominations for Small Business of the Year in AD 76.
- The Assemblymember will be hosting a Distinguished Women's Event on Saturday April 5th at 10am.

**ITEM #5** **Modification and Adoption of Agenda:** Action Items

Jim Nadlonek made a motion to accept the agenda as presented, June Smith seconded the motion. Motion passed, 6-0-0.

**ITEM #6** **Administrative Items:** Action Items

a. Approve February 2025 Meeting minutes: Ben Wier made the motion to approve the February meeting minutes, Jim Nadlonek seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0-1. One (1) Board member, Rebecca Rapp, was ineligible to vote as she missed that meeting.

b. Approve Treasurer's report: We currently have $322.95 in our checking account; our city account has $403.83. Upcoming expenses will be $48. June Smith made the motion to pass the Treasurer report as presented, seconded by Hugh Rothman. The Motion passed 6-0-0.

**ITEM #7** **San Diego County Water Authority's planned Ramona Pipeline Improvements Project** Information Item

Rebecca Cole, Director – Public Affairs & Community Relations with Adurra, provided an overview of the San Diego County Water Authority's planned Ramona Pipeline improvements Project. She was assisted by Gabriella Dow.

The Ramona pipeline is an 8 mile east-west pipeline. Work will only be on Rancho Bernardo Rd and Espola Rd. There will be 11 buried valves in new vaults, for new 54-inch turnout valves. There will be other notable improvements to the pipeline, getting it up to date with modern engineering practices.

The project is currently in design. It is targeted to begin implementation in 2026 and last through late 2027.

One lane on various sections of the road will be closed, causing increased delays. Soundwalls be installed to reduce nouse. The work will be done 24 hours a day/7 days a week. The project will be divided into nine sections East of highway 15 and two sections West of highway 15. Project will be done in 3 different stages.

The Project is fully funded.

**ITEM #8** **Dish Wireless LLC PRJ-1120671** Action Item

This is for a new wireless communication facility at the Rancho Bernardo Community Park located at 18448 West Bernardo Dr. San Diego 92127. The project is for the installation of a wireless facility with equipment mounted to a field light pole at the location of an existing field light pole.

Alex Tsaturov presented. Dish has no coverage in our community at all, so this would be the initial site to get some coverage. Approval has been given from the Community Recreation Group, the Park and Recreation Department and from the Planning Subcommittee.

A motion was made by Ben Wier, seconded by Rebecca Rapp to approve the project. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**ITEM #9** **Update from Election Committee** Informational Item

Hugh Rothman, chair of the Ad Hoc Election Subcommittee, gave a report of the election results. There are five who were elected. The full report is attached.

**ITEM #10** **City of San Diego Trash Collection Proposed Fee** Action Item

The board discussed the proposed letter that would be sent to all city officials stating that the proposed fee for trash collection is not what was stated on the ballot that was voted on in the last election. Ben Wier made a motion to send the letter as is, Jim Nadlonek seconded. The motion passed 6-0-0.

**ITEM #11** **OLD BUSINESS ITEMS**

The website is up. It's still in a very rough draft form. Ben Wier welcomes comments and feedback.

**ITEM #10** **NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

**Adjournment** Ben Wier made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Jim Nadlonek. The motion passed 6-0-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:38pm.

Respectfully submitted by Hugh Rothman

**SANDAG Update**
(Steve Dow; 2025-03-12)

- March 2025 highlights
    - Survey for Community Climate Priorities:
        - Provide feedback concerning protecting the environment
        - Survey closes on March 26
        - https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/environment/climate/regional-climate-action-planning?
    - SANDAG's LOSSAN (Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo) Rail progress:
        - On Feb 28th, SANDAG Board approved move forward into environmental document process
        - See link for alignment alternatives: https://www.sandag.org/railrealignment?
    - Hillcrest roadway construction
        - Roadways affected on Normal Street between University Ave and Washington Street
        - Impact will last through 2025
        - https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/bikeways-and-walkways/bikeway-and-walkway-projects/

**Traffic and Transportation committee:** Via Robin Kaufman
-Due to lack of agenda items, this meeting was cancelled.

**Community Council:** Via Robin Kaufman
-Councilwoman Marni von Wilpert made a surprise guest appearance. She commented on
- the 10 hour meeting earlier in the week where ADUs were discussed;
- the meeting she had with the Chairs/Presidents of the Community/Town Councils as well as Planning Boards in District 5. Each had an opportunity to address concerns in

their community.
-she commented on the community meetings to discuss trash costs and that households will be receiving notification from the city on how they can oppose it.
-she discussed projects in the works will continue, but all others are being put on hold.
-she commented on the higher freeze right now throughout the city.

-Gatwood Hills Pump Station presentation took place after the Councilwoman's comments.
- Discussion and vote transpired on a student volunteer appreciation recognition throughout the community.
-Discussion and vote took place regarding possible grant/scholarship for Community Council student members.
-An update was given on the Earth Day Fair scheduled for April 6th, 10 a.m. through 1 p.m.

**Community Recreation Group:** Via Robin Kaufman
-Due to lack of action items, the March 19th meeting was cancelled.

**San Dieguito River Park Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting**
**Notes from the March 7, 2025 CAC Meeting**
**Discussion/Action:**
1. 2. A new property owner was appointed to the CAC.
San Diego LOSSAN Rail Replacement Project: SANDAG has proposed several new potential realignments for the railroad line that currently following the top of the cliffs in Del Mar. More information at: https://www.sandag.org/projects-and-programs/featured-projects/lossan-corridor-improvements/lossan-rail-realignment. The additional alignment options were developed aer receiving over 1,400 public comments on the Notice of Preparation (NOP) to Prepare an Environmental Impact Report issued in June 2024. A new NOP will be issued in Spring 2025 that addresses the additional alignment alternatives. The JPA will provide additional input at that me.
Watershed Explores Program Presentation: JPA staff presented information about the Watershed Explorers outdoor education program. This program provides youth an opportunity to travel and experience the length of the San Dieguito Watershed. The explorers journey includes the headwaters of the San Dieguito River on Volcan Mountain, Lake Hodges, the San Diego Archaeological Center, Sikes Adobe HistoricFarmstead, and the award-winning Birdwing Open Air Classroom at the San Dieguito Lagoon. Each visit focuses on a different theme providing a unique opportunity for participants to experience and learn about the many facets of the watershed from the natural world to its history and cultural significance. The program focuses on youth who do not have opportunities to explore and learn about the natural environment. For some, this program to takes them to the beach for the first me. More information is available at: https://sdrp.org/watershed-explorer-program/.

**Committee Reports:**
Updates from the Project Review Committee, Trails Committee and Interpretation Committee were provided. The Project Review Committee is not currently reviewing any projects in the Rancho Bernardo area. The Trails Committee is looking for volunteers to conduct a trail user

survey. Survey data will be utilized by the SDRP staff to quantify the users and activities in the park for grant wring and other purposes. They are looking for volunteers for Thursday, April 3, 1-3 PM (rain date May 1) and Sunday, April 6, 10AM-12PM (rain date May 4). Locations are Volcan Mountain trailhead; Pamo Valley staging area; San Pasqual Valley staging area; Lake Hodges north shore trail at the David Kreitzer bridge; West Bernardo Drive Bernardo Bay Staging Area (Piedras Pintadas trailhead); and the Lagoon Trailhead at San Andres. For more information, email Jennifer Disser at jennifer.disser@gmail.com. There will be a Zoom call for all survey takers a couple days ahead of the survey to get everyone on the same page. The Interpretation Committee is currently reviewing and considering updating of the existing interpretive panels present in the area east of Sikes Adobe along the Coast to Crest Trail.

**Information:**
Coordination of the Horsepark Trails Repairs project is ongoing with the 22nd Agricultural District, which manages the fairgrounds, as well as with the manager of the Horsepark.
Osuna Trail Segment – Work on this trail continues.

**<u>Community Planners Committee</u>**
**Meeting Notes for the February 25, 2025 Meeting – Not the Official Minutes**
**Prepared by V. Touchstone for the RB Planning Board**
**NOTE:** CPC Meetings are being broadcast live on zoom by the Normal Heights CPG (https://normalheightscpg.org/).
**NON-AGENDA PUBLIC COMMENT:**
The Peninsula Community Planning Board sent a letter to the City uniformly opposing the abuse of the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) Density Bonus program, asking the Council and City administration to eliminate the Density Bonus program and align it with State Law. They also sent a letter regarding the need for a formal Emergency Response and Evacuation Plan for the Point Loma Peninsula.
The Pacific Beach CPG discussed their actions to try to stop the Turquoise Tower.
Normal Heights CPG sent a letter of support for limiting the number of ADUs permitted on single family lot. Paul also informed the members of the San Diego Urban Wildfire website (https://www.sdurbanwildfire.org/). The site, “Smart Growth Solutions for Wildfire Safety,” states a commitment to ensure community safety while promoting Smart Growth principles by maintaining a focus on wildfire risk and its relationship to urban planning and policy.
Scripps Ranch CPG stated that the Mayor agreed to work on changing the Land Development Code to eliminate the zero setback and replace it with the 4-foot setback established for ADUs at the State level.
**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:** The January 28, 2024 draft minutes were not distributed, so approval was postponed until the next meeting.
**AGENDA ITEMS:**
**Ad Hoc Committee to Strengthen CPGs Communications and Community Outreach (Action Item) –** Bob Link, Downtown CPG, requested that an Ad Hoc committee be formed to specifically address how CPGs can improve communication and outreach. He gave a ppt

presentation, which is attached. The CPC approved the formation of a committee to explore the proposal.

**Child and Teen-Friendly Public Spaces Design Manual Effort (Information Item)** – Marlon gave the presentation, as City staff was unavailable. The City is currently seeking input regarding policies and design guidelines for public and private efforts to create public spaces to support the needs of children, teens, and their caregivers. Time line includes issuing an Existing Conditions Report in spring, with a public workshop to be held after that. Survey available until March 7. This effort is funded by the County and Calfresh – no City money. More information at: https://www.sandiego.gov/planning/child-teen-friendly-city.

Comments from CPC members: identifying and providing safe ways to kids to get to parks is also important; Park and Recreation Board has not heard a presentation on this subject, coordinate with SDSU on recommendations, will the design manual address fixing existing spaces or just discuss new spaces.

**REPORTS TO CPC**

**Staff Report –** Revisions to the Street Design Manual have been initiated.

**Chair's Report –** Minutes from last month's meeting will be provided at the next meeting.

**CPC Member Comments** – The CPC should address the trash fee.

**<u>Election results:</u>**

**April 7, 2025**

The Rancho Bernardo Planning Board election process for 2025 has been completed. Five individuals submitted applications this year. Since there were no contested races, in accordance to our bylaws, the election committee agreed all qualified candidates be elected by acclimation without balloting. The results were unanimously approved at the March 20, 2025 Rancho Bernardo Planning Board meeting.

*Article VI, §6.12 Election by Acclamation*

*As of the deadline for submitting nominations, the number of qualified candidates within a District is not more than the number of vacancies to be elected in that District (non-contested election), as determined by the Chairperson of the Election Committee, the Committee may, but is not required to, consider the qualified candidates elected by acclamation without balloting.*

The candidates elected were:

**Sujata Yellaepeddi** – District A (Westwood)
**Linda Hickman** – District C (Oaks North)
**Ben Wier** – District D (Swim and Tennis)
**Jim Nadlonek** – District E (Seven Oaks)
**Gary Long** – District G (High Country West)

Sincerely,

Hugh Rothman
Chair, Rancho Bernardo Planning Board 2025 Election Committee