La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc.
October 5, 2026 - Meeting Minutes
La Jolla/Riford Library

Directors in Attendance: Ann Parode Dynes, Beth Murray, Chas. Dye, Rev. Tim Seery, Tom Brady, Seonaid McArthur, Diane Kane, Sally Miller, Melinda Merryweather, Kurt Hoffman, Brenda Fake, Alexandra Corsi

Directors Absent: Ken Hunrichs, Marie Hunrichs

Guests Present: Joaquin Quintero (Council Member La Cava's Office), Elisabeth Frausto (media), Patrick Ahern, Debbie Adams, Barbara Dunbar, Noah Lyons (media), Daryl Hantsbarger, Kathleen Neil, Samantha Garcia, Tricia Riha, Valerie O'Sullivan

Meeting Called to Order by President Ann Parode Dynes at 4:09 pm with a quorum of 12 directors present.

Approval of Meeting Agenda & Minutes

Ann Parode Dynes mentioned that we will not approve last month's minutes due to the lack of Secretary at that meeting and the need to compile notes taken by other board members. She also mentioned that the agenda will be approved later on because there are changes that need to be made. Approval of September minutes delayed until November meeting due to the Secretary's absence at last meeting and the need to review the minutes that were submitted to him.

Financial Report

Chas. Dye presented the financial report, highlighting the month's expenses. Chas. Talked about the money market account that was recently opened that increased our monthly interest from less than a dollar a month to over $700. He mentioned that funds from restricted accounts now sits in the money market account. **Diane Kane made a motion for the approval and it was seconded by Kurt Hoffman, it was approved 11-0.**

Report of Council Member Joe La Cava

Joaquin talked about the Torrey Pines guardrail project will begin October 12, which will impact traffic flow for the next 6-8 months. He mentioned the City is still in conversation with the Coastal Commission to talk about what pinniped interaction enforcement at the Cove will look like. He promised future updates. After further questioning he said that Council Member La Cava believes in an open Cove and that this is the City's position as well. It was mentioned that the President of LJPB should have a seat at that table when such conversations take place. Joaquin didn't offer a direct response on this, rather saying, "we welcome your participation when appropriate." Further discussion was had regarding the City's enforcement (or lack thereof) of the vending ordnance in coastline parks in addition to parking issues in the Cove that are due to the high volume of construction vehicles and vendors taking up available spaces from sun-up to sun-down.

Presidents Report - Ann Parode Dynes

Ann Parode Dynes mentioned the resignation of Bob Evans from the board. Ann asked to add to the agenda that the Nominations Committee look at the terms that are vacant or expiring and to come with a list of nominees for joining the board in January. Ann also stated that she would also add a Capital Projects List approval item to the agenda. She also thanked the La Jolla Light for publishing the guest commentary that was published on behalf of LJPB to discuss the pinniped controversy. She thanked Brenda Fake for her help in writing the article. Ann mentioned that for public comment we will be using a 2 minute rule with no consolidation. Ann also mentioned the additions to the meeting agenda.

Brenda Fake moved that we approve the updated agenda and move public comment back to its normal position on our agenda due to the light number of public commenters present. It was seconded by Melinda Merryweather. It passed 12-0.

Non-Agenda Public Comment

Tricia Riha spoke passionately in favor of beach access and the importance of not loosing another beach.

Valerie O'Sullivan voiced concern and questions about the Coastal Commission and their power and that the history of San Diego is being extinguished because of this flurry of mis-information regarding pinnipeds. The idea of closing the Cove is an example of this. She was encouraged by LJPB to write letters to the Commissioners of the Coastal Commission.

Agenda Items

1. Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with La Jolla Coastal Conservancy pertaining to Whale View Point stairs, Seonaid McArthur

Seonaid mentioned that Alan Conin is set to be the contractor for this project. Construction is set to begin October 16. It is a historic stairway dating from the 1920s. The project had to be approved by the Historic Resources Board due to the fact that it is on the National Register. It was noted this is a historic moment for LJPB in getting this project across the finish line. **The motion to approve the Memorandum of Understanding was made by Seonaid McArthur and seconded by Brenda Fake and was approved 12-0**

2. Action Item 2. Letter to City calling for elimination of plants in the public easement above Charlotte Park, Melinda Merryweather & Patrick Ahern

Melinda provided photographs of the site in question. Melinda began by reviewing her own efforts to provide maintenance to this area. Recently, Melinda noticed that the plastic netting over the fence remained even after the conclusion of construction. Additionally, new trees are blocking the view corridor. The property owner had also added a sprinkler and drip system. The homeowners ultimately took the plastic netting away and planted agave in the view corridor. Melinda was told that if further correction was needed, the homeowners requested to be addressed by the City. Patrick Ahern offered a presentation detailing this particular view corridor, the issues of erosion that could arise and mentioned this is one of 100 protected view corridors in La Jolla. This particular view corridor is 50 ft in width. **Ann Dynes made a motion to approve the letter written by Patrick Ahern on behalf of LJPB and it was seconded by Sally Miller, it was approved 12-0**

Action Item 3. Approval of Diane Kane's letter to the National Trust for Historic Preservation nominating La Jolla Park Coastal Historic District for A

Diane Kane reviewed the process of applying for this designation and how this year she has time to seek letters of support. She reviewed all of the other organizations and community groups that have lended their support to this effort. It is important to show that all of the La Jolla groups support this. **Seonaid McArthur made the motion to support the letter and Kurt Hoffman seconded it. It was approved 12-0.**

Action Item 4. Capital Improvements Project List - Diane Kane

Diane explained the history and purpose of a CIP list and how it is used by the City in creation of the budget. Diane circulated a 5 year list. There is not much to add. We are of the understanding that what we previously submitted remains to be what we would still submit today, therefore no action is needed at this time.

Action Item 5. Nominations Committee

Ann stated that we need to create a committee to examine whose terms are coming to an end and who to recruit for membership. The team will consist of of Ann Parode Dynes, Tim Seery, and Kurt Hoffman. **It was acclaimed and affirmed unanimously without a formal motion.**

LJPB Working Group Updates

1. La Jolla Coastal Conservancy – Brenda Fake

Brenda offered an overview of the work of the La Jolla Coastal Conservancy. She outlined the history of how this organization came to be and how she was able to condense down a multi year permitting process to 5 months, due in part to the City's increased appetite for this work in the face of the extra-tax revenue ballot measure failing. LJCC has raised $200,000 in funds and completed 16 projects in 2026. She reviewed the origin of the South Casa Stairs project, the design proposal sent to the City which was approved by City staff in May. LJCC is now a co-applicant to repair South Casa Stairs. She mentioned that there are $1.6 billion of Prop 4 money available for grants form the Commission and LJCC has grant writers working with them on pursuing these funds. She is working on creating relationships with Commissioners so that there is a conversation and partnership between both entities. She showed a design approved by Asset Management of Scripps Park that will manage pedestrian flow for a park that receives 3 million visitors a year. Moving on, she covered the South Casa Stairs project repair. Brenda reviewed all of the projects on deck that are shovel ready.

2. Windansea Slope Barrier & Belvedere Project – Melinda Merryweather, Jim Neri

No report, Melinda stated they keep charging fees…

3. Fay Ave Path – Debbie Adams

More plants installed at Starkey Park, and the relationship with City Parks and Recreation has been a fruitful relationship. Also, dry brush continues to be removed. She reviewed a list of priorities and requests that are especially timely due to the coming El Niño.

4. Scripps Park Picnic Grove II Working Group – Alexandra Corsi, Tim Seery

Ann Dynes wanted to mention a special thanks to Andy Field for supporting this project even when there was concern that it should be delayed due to the presence of wildlife. Alexandra then updated everyone that construction is underway, and mentioned that next week the Granitecrete will be poured. It will take one day of installation. City Walk Through will be either October 12th or 13th. Alexandra mentioned that we had an understanding with Parks & Recreation that they would donate an accessible picnic table and barbecue however it was informed that due to budget constraints none were available. Alexandra mentioned this project is about making a difference and persistence.

5. La Jolla Coastal Trail Work Group – Chas. Dye

Chas. provided an update on where the project stands. He had a meeting with City staff and they said that they need a product/concept to react to. Chas is seeking graphic designers to acquire a design proposal that can be submitted for conversation.

6. La Jolla Park Historic District/ Whale View Point Stairs Project – Seonaid McArthur

No report necessary due to earlier action taken.

7. Commercial Use of City Parks Policy Work Group – Brenda Fake, Ann Dynes, Beth Murray

Ann reviewed the aims of the working group. Beth spoke about conversations that were had with City officials about a fee structure for events etc and updated us that something of this nature would be years in the making. And then Beth mentioned the relational nature of these events, and how these organizations would be well served in their community relations to fund a project or to contribute to a community asset. It was mentioned that that we could have conversations with these event organizers directly to discuss this. Ann and Beth will pursue further.

8. LJPB Bylaws Work Group – Ken Hunrichs, Marie Hunrichs, Kurt Hoffman

No report

Adjourned at 5:55 pm to Monday, November 23, 2026 at 4 pm, La Jolla Riford Library