



NORTH PARK PLANNING COMMITTEE (NPPC)


Meeting Minutes

March 19, 2019; 7:15 pm

2901 North Park Way, 2nd Floor

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All times listed are estimates only, an item may be heard earlier or later than the estimated time:

I. Parliamentary Items

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Attendance Report

| Member | Steve Billings | Kate Callen | Steve Doster | Daniel Gebreselassie | Marc Gould | Peter Hill | Megan Kucharski | Sarah McAlear | Dang Nguyen | Chelsi Sparti | Melissa Stayner | Tim Taylor | Eduardo Velasquez | René Vidales | Randy Wilde |
|----------------|----------------|-------------|--------------|----------------------|------------|------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Attendance | 1 | | 2 | | 3 | | | | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Counting Votes | | | | 1 | | | 2 | 3 | | | | | | | |
| Absences | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | | 1 | 1 | 1 | | |

2. **Minutes:** Approval of the February 19, 2019 Minutes. **MOTION: To approve February 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes. Nguyen/Wilde 10-0-0**

3. **Treasurer's Report:** Chelsi Sparti/Randy Wilde – Account balance \$931.26, includes deposit of city reimbursement check.

II. Non-Agenda Public Comment: None

III. Announcements & Event Notices: Limited to One minute each.

1. **North Park Thursday Market (Farmers Market).** Every Thursday 3pm-7:30pm year-round. More info at: <https://northparkmainstreet.com/events/farmers-market/>

2. **SDSU Water Days.** Fostering partnerships for science and solutions. Tuesday, April 23rd at San Diego State University. 1st annual all-day event. FREE event includes: presentation on the future of SDSU at Mission Valley; breakout groups to identify research priorities and visions for the Mission Valley campus; opportunities to meet and interact with researchers, stakeholders, and water professionals; boxed lunch. RSVP at <http://sdsuwaterdays.com/>

3. **Adams Avenue Unplugged.** Saturday, April 27 noon-10pm. Unplugged, formerly the Roots Festival, is a musical walk-about. Acoustic performances are held on 24 stages inside businesses on Adams Avenue. This is one of the best times to experience all that Adams Avenue has to offer. More info at: <https://www.adamsavenuebusiness.com/event-info/adams-avenue-unplugged/>

4. **2019 SDCCU Festival of Arts in North Park.** Saturday, May 11th from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM. This unique and vibrant neighborhood festival brings live music, art, crafts, food and Craft Beers. More info at: <https://www.explorenorthpark.com/festival-of-arts>

5. **Hess Fest – Hess Brewing Anniversary Party.** June 22, 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., Grim Ave. between University Ave. and North Park Way.
6. **First Annual Scoop San Diego Ice Cream Festival.** June 23, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., North Park Way between Granada Ave. and 30th St.
7. **Bird Park Summer Concerts.** July 6 & 20, and August 3 & 17, 3-8 p.m. at the northeastern portion of Balboa Park. More info at: <http://www.northparksd.org>
8. **Housing the next 1 million.** Group starting online meetings. www.hn1m.org
9. **Normal School Ed Center Property Visioning Workshop,** Wednesday, April 3, 6 to 8 pm. Eugene Brucker Education Center Auditorium at 4100 Normal Street in University Heights.
10. **North Park Projects to receive American Society of Civil Engineer Awards.** Projects include: (1) Seismic Retrofit and Rehab of Georgia Street (Historical Renovation) - Outstanding Project Winner; (2) AT&T North Park Water Tower Cell Site – Award of Merit; (3) Upas Street Pipeline Replacement Project (Water Project) – Outstanding Project winner; (4) University Avenue Pipeline – Award of Merit. Awards ceremony to be held on April 26.
11. **Spreckels Organ Society Event.** Saturday, May 11 at 9 a.m. Insider’s brunch & tour. Brunch catered by The Prado; on stage seating for special Saturday concert. Tour of the inside of the organ, including access to the air chest to see how the organ works. Cost: \$75/person, May 6 deadline for purchase. Tickets/info: www.spreckelsorgan.org

IV. **Election Results.** (occurred at 7:40 p.m.)

- a. Elected candidates:
 1. Jen Sabo Spencer, 43 votes (2-year seat)
 2. Eduardo Velasquez, 43 votes (2-year seat)
 3. René Vidales, 42 votes (2-year seat)
 4. Tim Taylor, 37 votes (2-year seat)
 5. Arash Kahvazadeh, 35 votes (2-year seat)
 6. Steve Billings, 34 votes (2-year seat)
 7. Aria Pounaki, 34 votes (2-year seat)
 8. Matt Stucky, 34 votes (2-year seat)
- b. Candidates not elected:
 1. Michael Bagnas, 18 votes
 2. Bob Dennis, 17 votes

Chair Vidales thanked everyone who participated

V. **Elected Official & Planner Reports**

- a. **Jawad Albaghdadi, Hon. Susan Davis, US Congress Dist. 53,** 619-208-5353, jawad.albaghdadi@mail.house.gov. (1) The House voted to pass H.R. 8, the Universal Background Checks Act, a bill which Susan cosponsored. Susan believes that this bill is a strong first step toward making our schools, workplaces, homes, and public spaces safer. (2) The House also voted to uphold the constitution and end President Trump’s national emergency declaration to fund his border wall. Susan is concerned that this move would raid funding from our military and military families. (3) Susan and her colleagues sent a letter to the Appropriations Committee requesting funding to address trans-border environmental issues across the 200 mile US-Mexico border. Through continued advocacy, 15 million dollars was allocated to the Environmental Protection Agency’s Border Water Infrastructure Program, which will go to priority projects like the sewage crisis in the Tijuana River Valley. (4) Last month was Black History Month. Susan was honored to celebrate the incredible women of our community during the Indivisible Women of Color Roar breakfast. Susan spoke about the great accomplishments of women who have entered government and the continued need for representation for women of color. Susan also signed onto the bipartisan civil rights bill, the Emmet Till Anti-Lynching Act, which would make lynching a federal hate crime. Susan continues to push for legislation towards equality for her constituents and all Americans. (5) We are hosting our next event in the Global Policy Speaker Series this Saturday on March 23rd at San Diego City College. This event will focus on the cyber industry, global cyber domain, and cyber security. There will be a Cyber Resource Fair from 9:15am-10am and from 11:30am-12:00pm. The panel will be

between 10am -11:30am. There will be free parking in Lot 8. For more information and to RSVP, please call our office at 619-280-5353.

- b. **Mathew Gordon, Hon. Todd Gloria, State Assembly Dist. 78**, 619-645-3090, Mathew.Gordon@asm.ca.gov. (1) Assemblymembers and Senators have already introduced their bills for the next legislative year and right now we're gathering feedback from the community on what they want to see in the State Budget for next year. Some examples of this include \$33m we were able to secure for San Diego to help address homelessness. Another example is additional money for the DMV in terms of staffing and technology upgrades. (2) Last week during Sunshine week, which is a national initiative that highlights the importance of government transparency, Assemblymember Gloria introduced AB 1184 to require public agencies to retain and preserve e-mails for at least 2 years and AB 1555 would affirm the right of news media to access police radio communications. (3) In honor of Women's History Month, our office is recognizing women who have made an impact in our Assembly District at tomorrow's Women of Distinction event at the Women's Museum of CA in NTC Point Loma. (4) Mathew Gordon will be the new field representative for Assemblymember Gloria covering North Park and can be contacted at Mathew.Gordon@asm.ca.gov.
- c. **Toni Duran, Hon. Toni Atkins, State Senate Dist. 39**, 619-645-3133, Toni.Duran@sen.ca.gov.
- d. **Tyler Renner, Hon. Chris Ward, City Council Dist. 3**, 619-236-6633 TRenner@sandiego.gov. Council Member Christopher Ward was in attendance and thanked Dang Nguyen and Peter Hill with a special commendation from the City of San Diego for their 8 years of service as outstanding board members on the NPPC. (1) When Councilmember Ward took office San Diego's core neighborhoods were in the midst of a homelessness crisis with no clear strategy to tackle the issue. He has made it his highest priority to use his position on the City Council as NPPC's advocate and his role as the new chair of the Regional Task Force on the Homeless to focus on improving the City's and our region's approach to ending chronic homelessness. Councilmember Ward is focusing on bringing attainable, affordable housing to San Diego, updating our outreach efforts with targeted programs in heavily impacted neighborhoods, and utilizing state funding to enhance and build our existing homelessness programs. Here in North Park, through the organizing efforts of North Park Main Street and City Heights community groups, the City has hired a Mid-City Homeless Outreach Coordinator. Jessie is our full-time homeless outreach coordinator, hired through PATH: People Assisting the Homeless. He's been able to make dozens of connections with individuals living on our streets and connect them to vital resources. Councilmember Ward was happy to provide \$20,000 in discretionary funding to get this project off the ground and his office will be exploring ways to secure more state dollars to continue these neighborhood outreach programs. (2) Last week, the City Council voted to support adding curfews to our neighborhood parks in North Park, which include North Park Community Park, the future North Park Mini-Park, Cedar Point Pocket Park and Montclair Neighborhood Park. The curfew will be from Midnight to 6AM and will give our police officers another resource to address criminal activity in our parks. Councilmember Ward acknowledged that NPPC did not support such curfews and wants to be very clear, this isn't being enforced to criminalize homeless individuals but will give officers the ability to approach individuals that are disturbing the peace. This is meant to address drug use and drug selling and vandalism. It will also help Park and Recreation staff feel safe when coming and going to work. (3) Another big project Councilmember Ward's office is working on is adding bike lanes to 30th Street. The City is currently working on the 30th Street Pipeline replacement project. This is a major infrastructure project that is replacing pipes that are 100 years old. After the construction is complete city crews will resurface the streets along the project area which presents to us a very unique opportunity: to add bike lanes and create a major North-South connector for cyclist and scooter riders. This means compromise. There simply isn't enough space on the street to accommodate parked cars, buffered bike lanes, and center turn lanes. Councilmember Ward's office brought fact sheets and encouraged all to attend the next NPPC meeting on April 16th to provide design feedback. (4) Councilmember Ward has requested a pilot program for a bus-only lane on El Cajon Blvd. City engineers and MTS are meeting to come up with a design, budget and outreach plan. This would be a year-long pilot program for a transit only lane with an MTS study to examine how we can improve

trip speed and ridership. (5) The city will be going through the budget process in the coming weeks and feedback is needed. Councilmember Ward has sent the Mayor his budget priorities and will be fighting to keep neighborhood services intact.

- e. **Lisa Lind, Planning Department.** 619-236-6531 llind@sandiego.gov. provided an update on current projects, including ongoing community plan updates for Mission Valley, Kearny Mesa, and Clairemont. There is also outreach started and subcommittees working on the two newest updates that kicked off this fall: University and Mira Mesa. The Long Range Planning division is also working on annual reporting of housing data and taking the 12th update to the Land Development Code and the new proposed Mixed-use Zones through the process for approval.

VI. NPPC Reports

1. Chair's Report

- a. **Community Planners Committee (CPC).** Tuesday, March 26, 2019, 7-9 pm. 202 C St Civic Concourse. Terrace Level Silver Room. For more info:
<http://www.sandiego.gov/planning/community/cpc/agendas/index.shtml>
 - i. Enhanced Infrastructure Benefit District (EIBD). Mechanism already in place in Otay Mesa. It is similar to the previous Redevelopment Agency mechanism that uses property tax increments to be set aside and spent on improvements within the area.
 - ii. 12th Update to the Land Development Code. First phase of changes approved by CPC in February. Second phase of changes will be heard in the coming months.
 - iii. Mayoral proposals made at State of the City address. The Mayor will bring forward policies that will create more housing by removing height limits outside the coastal zone, eliminate barriers to building by allowing affordable housing and units intended for the homeless to be built 'by right', reducing the number of hearings and appeals that slow things down, and lower costs of housing by eliminating expensive parking requirements for multi-family projects in Transit Priority Areas.
 - iv. Mixed Use Regulations, this item coming in March to CPC.
 - v. Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Projects Prioritization. This item coming in April to CPC.
 - vi. Canyon Enhancement Plan. Coming in April to CPC

- 2. **Social Media.** Chelsi Sparti/Randy Wilde. There were social media posting on NPPC election eligibility information and a call for nominations for assembly district 78 women of distinction

- 3. **NPPC Website Update.** Chelsi Sparti/Randy Wilde. Added candidate biographies for March election, and reviewed technical aspects of the request to add SD Uptown News link and calendar to NPPC website

4. Subcommittee Reports

- a. Urban Design/Project Review (UDPR): Peter Hill Chair, Melissa Stayner Vice Chair – NP Adult Center, 6:00 pm 1st Monday. No March meeting. Next meeting April 1, 2019
- b. Public Facilities & Transportation (PF&T): Eduardo Velasquez Chair, Steve Doster Vice Chair – NP Adult Center, 6:00 pm, 2nd Wednesday. Reviewed the proposal to add bike lanes on 30th St. as a result of the pipeline replacement project. A lot of interested stakeholders attended the meeting. Next meeting April 10, 2019.

5. Liaisons Reports

- a. **Balboa Park Committee,** Vicki Granowitz. No March Meeting
- b. **Maintenance Assessment District,** Peter Hill. - At the March MAD meeting, we approved an \$8200 renovation of the Anne Mudge art project. The project consists of the small plazas with trellises on each side of University Ave. west of the 805. Renovation will include wood treatment, cleaning and repainting as needed, and reactivating a lighting system. All renovations will be per original documentation, and there will be a future ceremony when completed.
- c. **North Park Main Street,** Tim Taylor. (1) The Board heard an informational presentation by the City's Mobility Program Manager on the bike path proposed for the 30th Street Pipeline Project. The Board moved to support the proposal for a class 2 bike path (which is a bike lane on both sides, with the loss of the center turn lane mid-block) from El Cajon Blvd. to Upas St.; and a Class 4 design (a bike lane on one or both sides, with the loss of on-street parking on one or

both sides) from Upas Str. south to Juniper St. The Board recommended that the bike path go along Dale Street, instead of 30th St., south of Upas St. (2) The Board approved the North Park Property and Business Improvement District FY20 Budget. (3) The Board voted to approve a request to the City for a Memorandum of Understanding regarding the North Park Mini Park. This stems from the Board's concerns with maintenance & programming. The MOU proposes that Main Street be given the opportunity to activate the park with events and use any funds accrued to perform maintenance of the park. The next NPMS meeting is April 11th.

- d. **Adams Avenue Business Association**, Chelsi Sparti. Next Wednesday the 5-week process of painting the light posts will begin. Adams Avenue Unplugged is Saturday, April 27.
- e. **El Cajon Boulevard Business Improvement Assoc.**, Randy Wilde. No report
- f. **Florida Canyon Enhancement Planning**, Chelsi Sparti. The group not able to walk the canyon due to rain, onsite meeting event to be rescheduled.

VII. **Action Items:**

- 1) **Request from San Diego Uptown News (SDUN).** Possible increased exposure of NPPC to SDUN readers. Offer to list NPPC website link in SDUN in return for NPPC website to show a link to the SDCNN. Offer to use SDCNN calendar of events in NPPC website.

Board member comments:

Wilde - The calendar will not be as easy to implement as we may have originally discussed
Nguyen – There could be a conflict of interest if outside vendors are advertising on the calendar.
The consensus of the board is to move forward with the link but the calendar may cause other issues.

MOTION: To accept the offer from The SDCNN to list the NPPC website link in the SDCNN website and in return list the SDCNN link on the NPPC website, and to also include other organizations who distribute in North Park. Gould/Nguyen 13-0-0

- 2) **White Paper on adding Multi-Family Housing to solve the Housing Crisis.** Presenter Peter Hill was not available. Item was tabled for the April meeting.

VIII. **Future NPPC Meeting Dates & Agenda Items:** Next meeting is Tuesday, April 16, 2019

IX. **Adjournment.** Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.