

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Manhattan Beach City Hall
1400 Highland Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
June 25, 2018
6:05 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Nicholson, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg

Absent: Commissioner Apostol

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Weiner moved to approve the May 21, 2018 minutes with the correction of one typo. Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Nicholson, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Apostol

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Commissioner Turkmany opened the floor to audience participation.

Seeing none, the floor was closed.

*Recreation Manager Jessica Vincent gave her staff updates during this time. Please see staff items below.

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

Salute to the Troops July 1, 2018 – Michele Stoll from Cultural Arts reviewed some of the major changes in Concerts in the park. The logistics schedule has been changed a bit to make things smoother. There will be barricades on the median of Manhattan Beach Boulevard between Redondo and Peck Avenues to keep people from crossing outside of the crosswalks.

Teen bands will be playing before the main show (except for Salute). We have a volunteer handling the teen bands.

An Uber/Lyft zone will be staffed by a CSC security officer. The Historical Society lot will be for band loading/unloading. Handicap parking will be at Begg Field.

Commissioner Nicholson inquired about the announcements. Ms. Stoll explained that the

sponsors require mentions throughout the concerts and that the format will be slightly different for Salute to the Troops. Essentia water and Kind will be there handing out free water and Kind Bars. Providence merged with City of Hope and will have a similar set up as last year and will have a booth at all concerts.

Timing and logistics for the event were discussed.

Commissioner Turkmany opened the floor to public comment:

Gary McAulay, Manhattan Beach Historical Society. Mr. McAulay requested that one spot be made available in the Historical Society parking lot for the elderly docent. The Historical society will be open from 12:00-3:00.

Lee Barr, resident – recommends having all military called out at the same time for recognition instead of each branch separately, due to the size of the event. He thanked the commission for all of their work organizing the event.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS – Donation policy – Commissioner Turkmany gave an update on the ad-hoc committee's progress on the donation policy. These are guidelines that City Council asked the Commission to review.

Tiles and Pavers – these would be smaller items to get the community involved, perhaps in a plaza area. The Public Arts Trust Fund may be used if the project incorporates an art piece such as a mural.

The sub-committee talked about different existing locations around town that could accommodate a donor wall. Other ideas that came up were a community paint-by-number mural and some ideas for larger donations of \$10,000 or more. A new fitness court was used as an example of an area that could be supported by larger donations for the build and maintenance, as well as donor recognition around the perimeter.

Commissioner Greenberg recommended separating the policy from the programs. The policy will exist for an extended amount of time but the programs can change based on current needs.

Commissioner Weiner asked if the goal of the policy is community involvement, fundraising or sponsorship to cover specific projects. Commissioner Turkmany replied that options are being presented for many scenarios and the City Council will determine which options they would like to move forward with.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that his understanding is that the policy should be all encompassing of donations, large and small. He reiterated that it would be useful to separate the policy from the programs.

Director Leyman stated that they are two separate items to consider. There are community based, lower priced options that many people can get involved in and there are larger opportunities that may be centered around a particular project, trying to raise money. The sub-committee is looking at identifying all types of donations that will be made available. The document may be written, separated by program with the policy for the particular program directly following, along with possible locations for the donations.

Commissioner Karger stated that maybe the policy needs to to be written differently; more as an overarching policy with a separate document of specific ideas to present to City Council.

Commissioner Nicholson stated that new programs that may come up will be examined to make sure they conform to the policy. Commissioner Nicholson asked if this was separate

from the Public Art Trust Fund. Director Leyman clarified that the Trust Fund is separate but it is possible to utilize the Trust Fund if the project incorporates a piece of art.

Commissioner Greenberg referred back to the original scope of the project and asked about corporate sponsorship specifics. Director Leyman stated that he would like for corporate sponsorship opportunities to be addressed but that the language may be generic for now with more specifics to be addressed at a later date.

Commissioner Greenberg recommended adding in language regarding product activations as part of the sponsorship section. He suggested some formatting changes and adding a section called "Ownership Rights." Regarding plaques, there should be a general policy regarding language across the board, whether it be a tile, plaque, etc. He would also recommend adding wording "no additional language or dates will be incorporated on the plaque." Commissioner Greenberg asked that the policy be included in a staff report so that the commission can have time to review it before the meeting and discussion.

Commissioner Nicholson stated that the policy can address specific applications but it can also be general. He stated that he is alright with referring to specific examples now and later contemplate wording for future programs.

Commissioner Weiner asked if City planning needs to be involved and if there is a department that should be consulted before deciding locations. Director Leyman clarified that once preferred locations are identified, those locations would need to be vetted by Public Works for feasibility. Details such as length of term of the donation, maintenance details, etc. will also need to be addressed in the policy. He added that this model is similar to other municipalities and having generic language will be beneficial and provide some flexibility.

Commissioner Greenberg mentioned that the Strand Bench program had been put on hold and asked if the policy addressed the program or if there is a recommendation to restart the program. Director Leyman stated that the concern with going back to the existing model is the lack of diversity. There are 6 bench remaining locations available. Due to the price point of the bench choices, most donors choose the Stacy Duke wave. One thought is to leave the decision to City Council to fill those spots, possibly using the Public Arts Trust Fund to buy benches from different artists. This option will be in the staff report for City Council.

Commissioner Greenberg recommended adding a section that says that preexisting plaques are grandfathered in.

Commissioner Turkmany opened the floor to public comment.

Gary McAulay, Historical Society – Mr. McAulay feels that all remaining bench slots should be left blank. He feels that bench plaques should only say "Donated by _____" and include the artist's name. He stated that he doesn't think we should be using public spaces for private memorials. He makes an exception for the community tiles. He is very against naming rights for CIP projects as the City can afford to build its own projects. He disagrees with grandfathering in the wording on existing plaques. Commissioner Greenberg clarified that the wording shouldn't have to change now but when the bench is past its useful life, it would be removed along with the wording.

Director Leyman will look into rescheduling this item to the August 21, City Council meeting.

Commissioner Allard thanked Director Leyman for securing Steve Napolitano as emcee for the Salute to the Troops as Dennis McNeil will not be emceeding.

Commissioner Greenberg had the following updates, comments and questions:

- He reported that he has started putting some effort into bringing Olympic volleyball to Manhattan Beach and has spoken with David Lesser about contacts and challenges and whether or not this is even possible. He has reached out to a few community members who may have some relationships to leverage and has also reached out to Mayor Pro-tem Napolitano.
- Raquetball Courts at Marine Avenue Park - requested that Director Leyman locate the lease and share with the commission to see when it expires, so that planning may begin.
- Inquired if Automated External Defibrillators (AED) are available at each facility. Director Leyman stated that he believes that the risk manager is working on an inventory of AED devices and determining where they should be located.
- Storage sheds - Need a set of standards as far as maintenance of sheds, color. User groups should have an obligation to maintain the standards. Director Leyman agrees there should be a set of standards. Staff should also evaluate what the storage is being used for and how it is partitioned.
- Soda machines are inconsistent with the healthy lifestyle that we promote with our policies. Director Leyman stated that this is a good thing to talk about with the Park Master Plan and added that whenever this has been addressed in the past, people have requested it back.
- Manhappenings – great publication but very costly. Redondo has saved over \$100,000/year by eliminating the printed version, with little change to enrollment long term. Director Leyman stated that this is an ongoing consideration and conversation. Commissioner Greenberg stated that they're may be a happy medium by allowing people to opt-in and having a few available at key locations but not mailing one to every household.

Commissioner Nicholson asked about the third base dugout at Dorsey Field. There is an extended cage that was previously used to house a tractor. He asked if that would be available to other users. Director Leyman stated that it hadn't specifically been considered and there are many challenges with reallocating the space. Director Leyman and Commissioner Nicholson will discuss separately.

Commissioner Nicholson commented that a drinking fountain near the tennis courts was replaced with a water bottle filler but that doesn't work well if you don't have a water bottle. Director Leyman stated that he had spoken recently with Public Works and they are working on having the water bottle/drinking fountain combo be the standard.

I. STAFF ITEMS –

*With the approval of the commission, Jessica Vincent addressed her staff items before General Business items were discussed.

Capital Improvement projects – Dorsey field netting project is due for completion July 10.

The entire netting project will cost a little over \$125K and will include 4 different fields. Manhattan Village Field is being returfed and due to be complete August 18, with the ribbon cutting the first weekend after Labor day.

Field allocation policy – almost complete. There will be one more meeting with the sports committee. This item will be brought to the July Parks and Recreation commission meeting.

Commissioner Nicholson expressed frustration that he only received notice that Dorsey field

would be closed the night before.

In honor of Parks and Recreation month in July, Parks and Recreation is hosting an art show called A Day in the Life of Manhattan Beach. The opening reception will be June 29, 2018.

Director Leyman gave an update on City Council actions.

- June 5th City Council meeting – the wayfinding program was presented and will return at a future meeting to review fonts and renew agreement with consultant – the department is currently rebranding and creating a style guide for the department and city that will integrate with the wayfinding program
- City Council is exploring installation of retractable/removable bollards at various intersections for event safety. Commissioner Weiner offered that long term maintenance on retractable bollards is difficult; simple is better.
- June 19th meeting – City Council approved the CIP plan. Director Leyman will review with Public Works and bring the updated CIP back to the commission.
- June 19th meeting – City Council approved the budget. The Council wished there was more public input. The most significant change for the department was the reorganization saving about \$83,000 ongoing. The recruitment process will take a number of months. There will be a prioritization of recruitments citywide.
- Parking meter duration extended from 2 to 3 hours downtown after 6:00. Overflow parking will be allowed in the lower City Hall parking lot for downtown employees.
- The City Council discussed comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Report for desalinization plant. No action was taken and will be an ongoing discussion

Park Master Plan – to begin by the end of the year, late Fall contingent upon recruitments. Once there is a timeline, it will be revisited and next steps will be discussed.

The commissioners watched a short video showing a fitness court in action. The department is looking at the fitness court as an alternative to the current parcourse station on the Veterans Parkway as well as the fitness area at Polliwog Park. No action was taken. Director Leyman informed the commission that the department is applying for a \$30,000 grant to subsidize part of the this project.

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Allard moved to adjourn. Commissioner Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm to July 16, 2018, 6:00 p.m..

Ayes:	Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Nicholson, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg
Noes:	None
Abstain:	None
Absent:	Commissioner Apostol