

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH  
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**

October 22, 2012  
6:30 p.m.  
City Hall

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**ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Rothans, Hersman, Manna, Allard, Allen,  
and Roth.

Absent: Commissioner Cajka.

Others Present: Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill and Recording  
Secretary Mary Kirchwehm.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The August 27, 2012 minutes were approved as written.

**CEREMONIAL**

None.

**AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

None.

**GENERAL BUSINESS**

12/1022 – 1 Parks Master Plan

Director Gill reviewed some of the highlights of the draft Request for Proposals for the Parks Master Plan. Director Gill reported that the goal of the Master Plan is to work with staff and the community to identify City park locations where outdoor active and passive recreational amenities and activities can be located. He stated that the overall goal is to analyze all the play equipment for compliance codes, maintenance, play value and recommend upgrades, if needed, as well as to work with the Public Works Department and environmental programs manager to develop sustainable and environmentally friendly and aesthetically pleasing landscape policy for each park. This would also include reviewing the 2008 Strategic Plan to see if recommendations from that plan can be incorporated into the new Master Plan; and analyze park infrastructure such as tennis courts, lighting, security, irrigation, pathways, and recommend improvements as needed.

Director Gill reported that this Master Plan does not address any of the buildings, only open space and seeks recommendations for locations for future park amenities and activities. The City is desirous to find locations within its parks boundaries to implement new activities and install new amenities for activities such as petanque, shuffleboard, horseshoes, a picnic and shade area for the older adults program, and a skateboard park. Veterans Parkway is not included in the Master Plan. Director Gill, however, reported that he would like to see a nicer restroom and an arts and crafts room at Sand Dune Park.

He reported that when the City had the playground program there, it was very well attended.

Director Gill reported that although the Parks and Recreation Commission reviewed a possible location at Marine Avenue Park (the outside perimeter area of the baseball center field fence) for a future skateboard park, he did not specifically list a location for the skateboard park on the Request for Proposals because the 2008 Facilities Strategic Plan suggests a skateboard park be located at Polliwog Park near Premier Field. Director Gill reported that he thought it would be best for an outside consultant to review the locations with a fresh set of eyes.

Director Gill stated that the coordinated landscaping policy would include landscaping, irrigation and drainage. A coordinated drought tolerant policy for every park would include a theme, color palette, and an irrigation system designed around the landscaping.

Director Gill reported that the 2008 Facilities Strategic Plan is quite comprehensive and some components of the Facilities Strategic Plan might be applicable to the Parks Master Plan.

Commissioner Hersman inquired about the outcome of the 2008 Facilities Strategic Plan. Director Gill reported that due to the economy at the time, it was completed but not implemented.

Commissioner Hersman inquired if it is mandatory to adhere to the recommendations of the Facilities Strategic Plan. Director Gill reported although it is not mandatory to adhere to the recommendations, it may be worthwhile reviewing since so many people were involved in it.

Commissioner Manna inquired about the City's current financial status regarding the Parks Master Plan. Director Gill reported last year City Council said they wanted to put approximately \$2-\$3 million each year into the capital improvement project fund in order to build a nest egg to start replacing old city facilities.

Commissioner Rothans inquired how an independent consultant would decide on what the priorities are for the City. Director Gill reported that he believes it would be a result of working with staff and the community.

Commissioner Hersman reported that although the draft Request for Proposal gives descriptions of each park, it leaves an impression that what is listed is what needs to be fixed or replaced. Director Gill stated this was not the intention but will adjust the description to reflect what staff thinks should be considered in the Parks Master Plan.

Director Gill reported that he will also include, as part of the outreach, two meetings with the Commission, two City Council meetings, two general community wide meetings, and four stakeholder meetings (two with the older adults, one with teens and youth, and one with the dog owner community).

Commissioner Manna inquired of the cost of the consultant. Director Gill reported that \$100,000 has been budgeted.

**COMMISSION ITEMS**

None.

**STAFF ITEMS**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m.