

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Manhattan Beach City Hall**  
**1400 Highland Ave.**  
**Manhattan Beach, CA 90266**  
**October 2, 2017**  
**6:00 PM**

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Allen, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg, Tuffli  
Absent: None

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Allard moved to approve the August 28, 2017 minutes as written.  
Commissioner Weiner seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Allen, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg, Tuffli  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None

**E. CEREMONIAL**

The Commission observed a moment of silence after the Pledge to the Flag and before the roll call to honor the victims and all affected by the events that occurred in Las Vegas on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)**

Commissioner Karger opened the floor to audience participation.  
Seeing none, the floor was closed to public comment.

**G. GENERAL BUSINESS –**

**Salute to the Troops** – Commissioner Allard reported that she sent an email to Dennis McNeil to book him and asked if the Band has been secured. Mgr. Betz will contact James Gill. Management Analyst, Linda Robb will reach out for a Navy Color Guard.

Commissioner Karger clarified that commissioners are welcome to pursue sponsorships if they have contacts, but the concert is included in the budget of the Summer Concert Series.

Commissioner Turkmany asked how the Salute to the Troops attendance compares to the other concerts in the series. Director Leyman replied that attendance has been about 3,000 people, which is about the average for the concerts.

Commissioner Weiner stated that it is key to have it as the first concert of the series. He wanted to see if the bands have a known soloist. He would like to put together a calendar to hit all the milestones to be done by May. Commissioner Karger mentioned that having a celebrity would be great to increase attendance. Director Leyman mentioned that the Commission had looked into the Lt. Dan Band for the first concert and it was cost prohibitive at the time. He also stated

that a couple of local celebrities had been considered to emcee the event but they had not shown much interest.

Commissioner Allard mentioned that it would be good to find a band that will work with Dennis McNeil on the performance. Commissioner Turkmany stated that it would be great to find a celebrity or athlete that is a veteran.

**Special Event Policy discussion** – Director Leyman stated that the special event committee will be providing more input so this subject will be coming back at the next meeting. The City Council date for this is being pushed back.

Commissioner Greenberg asked how many new applications for non-legacy events we receive per year. Ms. Robb replied that we receive approximately 40 inquiries per year resulting in about five applications. Many decide not to hold their events in Manhattan Beach based on initial conversations. Usually organizations will not submit an application unless it looks like an event can be accommodated.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that the commission may want to consider limits and whether they make sense or should be adjusted. He also stated that there should be defined criteria for approval and definitions for types of events. He inquired about the Special Events committee. Director Leyman stated that the Special Events committee consists of representatives from each department. Each event is reviewed to ensure that City resources are available to hold a safe event. New events are reviewed very carefully as we are limited by staff resources. Director Leyman stated that the City gets many calls for commercial activations, which are not allowed. The concept of Legacy events requires review to consider a process for becoming a legacy event. Ms. Robb distributed a copy of Hermosa Beach's Special event policy to show an example of classification criteria that may be useful to include in our City policy.

Commissioner Greenberg inquired about the application timelines and if the vision was that new applications would appear on the Commission agenda twice per year. Director Leyman replied that ideally, large new events requiring City Council approval would appear on the City Council agenda once per year and that events requiring Commission level approval would appear on the agenda twice per year. There would still be a process for considering events that do not fall within this timeline. This process is all subject to discussion and approval by City Council. Commissioner Greenberg asked why an event on private property might require a special event permit. Ms. Robb replied that if City services (reserved public parking, police presence, etc.) are requested, a special events permit is required. Commissioner Greenberg inquired if filming permits are covered by the special events permit. Director Leyman replied that filming permits are separate. The proposed special events policy will also address requests for parking for County permitted events on the beach.

Discussion was tabled pending additional information

**Parks Master Plan discussion** – Director Leyman informed the Commission that he had a meeting with Corey Linder, Director of Parks and Recreation, Rancho Palos Verdes (RPV). RPV has just completed their Master Plan. The questions asked were:

- Where were we?
- Where are we?
- Where do we want to be?

Director Leyman stated that during public outreach, priorities will present themselves. The first step in this process is to do a statistically valid survey looking at amenities, facilities and programs. The key will be public engagement and outreach. Outreach will be done online and at on-site meetings. There will be two meetings at each site. At the first meetings, we'll talk about the history of the site and ask what the public likes, doesn't like and would like to

change. The second meeting at each site will be a follow up to recap the first meeting and ask for additional input. Online input will be ongoing. The expectation is that 2-3 commissioners would be present at each of the site meetings.

January is a realistic timeline to get going with the survey. The department currently has a vacant manager position so the department does not have the staffing to support this before then. The survey vendor should be on board by January/February 2018. Public outreach at sites may be done concurrently with the survey. Commissioner Greenberg asked about the RPV timeline. He suggested that a calendar be set with milestones. Commissioner Weiner asked if the survey would deal with user fee issues. Director Leyman replied that it would not, however, a survey could be put online regarding the user fees.

Commissioner Allard shared that as she was reading the Parks Master Plan, she discovered that there was a parkette she had never knew existed. She went to visit the 8<sup>th</sup> St. Parkette and was pleased to see that it was occupied by several families.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that one of the objectives of the Park Master Plan was to acquire more parkland if possible. Driving past the National Guard Armory, he wondered who owns that and whether it could be acquired and converted to park space. Director Leyman will look into the matter.

Director Leyman stated that a reasonable goal to bring the new Park Master Plan to Council is Fall 2018. He will prepare a working timeline for the next meeting.

#### H. **COMMISSION ITEMS –**

Commissioner Karger raised the subject of the Pumpkin Race and suggested a skater pumpkin. There was discussion of the design and how to build the pumpkin without breaking any of the rules. Commissioner Tuffli suggested a Cinderella theme if the skateboard theme falls through.

Commissioner Turkmany reported that he will be attending the Veterans Day event.

Commissioner Greenberg stated that there will be discussion on the Bicycle Master Plan at the City Council on October 3. He asked if the Commission could put forward support for the plan. Director Leyman stated that commissioners are free to support the plan individually as residents.

Commissioner Greenberg raised the subject of the 2028 Olympics – The beach volleyball event is slated for Santa Monica Beach and he would like to suggest an initiative to get the 2028 beach volleyball Olympic games relocated to Manhattan Beach. Director Leyman stated that staff has already been thinking about and pursuing. As far as commission involvement, the directive would need to come from the City Council. Mark will follow up with City Manager and City Council. The Commission as a whole stated that they would be open to participating in the process if the City Council approves. Commissioner Greenberg volunteered to participate. Commissioner Weiner mentioned it may be beneficial to pair up with Hermosa Beach to increase the infrastructure needs.

#### I. **STAFF ITEMS – None**

#### J. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Turkmany moved to adjourn. Commissioner Weiner seconded the motion. The

motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm to October 23, 2017 in the City Council Chambers.

Ayes: Commissioners Karger, Turkmany, Allen, Allard, Weiner, Greenberg, Tuffli  
Noes: None  
Abstain: None  
Absent: None