

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Manhattan Beach City Hall
1400 Highland Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
December 2, 2019
6:00 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 PM.

B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

C. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Greenberg, Karger, Nicholson and Weiner

Absent: Commissioners McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Nicholson moved to approve the October 28, 2019 minutes as written.

Commissioner Greenberg seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Greenberg, Karger, Nicholson and Weiner

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

E. CEREMONIAL

None

F. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Commissioner Weiner opened the floor to audience participation.

Lee Barr announced that the Homeless Count is coming up, please sign up. Official count for 2019 was 21 people.

The floor was closed.

G. GENERAL BUSINESS

None

H. STAFF ITEMS

Sr. Rec Manager, Jessica Vincent updated the Commission on recent City Council actions and upcoming events.

Department wide updates – Martin Betz, Cultural Arts Manager has retired. Eve Kelso, Community Programs Manager is retiring and Jan Buike has been appointed to assume her role. The City will be recruiting, and hopes to fill the Cultural Arts Manager position in early 2020.

Holiday Crafts Night will be held on December 7th with breakfast with Santa and crafts on December 8th. The Holiday Art Market will be held on December 7th.

Field allocations will take place on December 4th. The new allocation process has been a success. The fees were increased, effective January 1, 2020.

Senior Holiday party will be held on December 9th.

Scout House art auction fundraiser will be held at the Joslyn Center on March 21, 2020.

The Street Banner policy will be reviewed by the City Council in January. The Manhattan Beach Open agreement is being revised and will also go to the City Council in March.

Project updates –

National Fitness Court is currently in plan check and is moving along.

Polliwog Park timeline – bid process will begin in Fall 2020, with project completion in June 2021.

Pickleball courts have been completed at Manhattan Heights. There are now two dedicated pickleball courts and one Pickleball/Paddleboard court. There have been a few calls from concerned paddleball players.

Live Oak half basketball court is being resurfaced. The resurfacing is performed on a cycle so the full courts are not scheduled to be resurfaced at this time.

We are testing a new resurfacing process on the tennis courts. If successful, it will be used on all tennis courts.

Parks Master Plan community outreach has been completed. The Library Commission would like to incorporate more literacy into the parks. The Cultural Arts Commission wanted to incorporate more arts into the Downtown area with additional exhibition space and explore ways to bring in Community Theater. Staff will work to formalize recommendations based on the OpenGov survey and will discuss with the Ad-hoc committee before bringing them back to the Commission. The goal is to bring the plan to the City Council in March, 2020. Initial findings are that we need to do some additional marketing to make sure people know about our parks and facilities. Most respondents rated facilities favorably. 90% of the surveys were completed by residents. Respondents expressed interest in public art, playground improvement, nature trails and splash pads. The overarching theme was aquatics. The older adult community also expressed that they would utilize a new aquatics facility, if available. The older adults would also like a new senior center.

Commissioner Greenberg thought it would be a good exercise to have someone go through and look at the individual responses to categorize the households into age groups.

I. COMMISSION ITEMS

Discussion of workplan items and updates for joint meeting:

Donation Policy – need update and will go back to council.

Polliwog Park – Commissioner Weiner would like to make sure there will be a meeting to discuss possible exchanges for the equipment in the chosen design. Manager Vincent mentioned that after the designer is selected, changes may be considered. She also mentioned that the results of the playground design survey will be communicated to the public.

Regarding the joint meeting, Manager Vincent stressed that this is an opportunity to let the City Council know what the commission has been working on and that the commission has had a significant impact, have been instrumental in moving projects forward. The commission should also report on what they will continue to work on next year.

The Olympics should be mentioned in order to talk about hosting smaller international

qualifying events leading up to the Los Angeles Summer Olympics.

Donation Policy - Commissioner Karger will review and send information to commission.

Polliwog Park playground – Commissioner Greenberg asked if there is any way to speed up the project as it is hard to fathom why it would take so long. Manager Vincent replied that we would have to talk to the Public Works project manager to see what can be done. Public Works is currently going out to bid for a designer and then will have to go out to bid separately for an installer. Commissioner Greenberg would like for it to be stressed to Public Works that this job should be done quicker. Manager Vincent will talk to the project manager, ask for a project gantt chart and give an update.

Pickleball courts have been completed and will be first-come, first-served.

The pilot program for senior tennis courts for drop-in will begin on December 4th.

Salute to the Troops – Commission’s responsibility is to select the branch to be emphasized, make recommendations on the band, select the honor guard, arrange Scout volunteers, attend event and approve challenge coin design.

Commissioner Greenberg suggesting presenting the workplan as follows: Review what the commission has completed, talk about what the commission is working on now and report that the Parks Master Plan will determine the next priorities for the Commission.

Commissioner Weiner requested that Senior Updates, Student Updates, School District Updates and Future Events be added to future agendas.

Commissioner McCarthy reported via Commissioner Weiner on the Senior Advisory Council meeting – The Parks Master Plan presentation was made and was well received. Older Adults encouraged to fill out survey and encourage their friends to complete the survey as well. Pilot program for Senior Tennis was announced and will take place on Wednesdays from 1:00-3:00. The pilot will use one court and may expand to two courts if needed.

Commissioner Karger acknowledged the Parks and Receptions staff for the service received for the Kiwanis breakfast with Santa. Staff did a great job of setting up.

Commissioner Greenberg complimented the utility box wraps that he noticed as he drove down Manhattan Beach Boulevard. He added that the wrapped ones look so good that it makes you notice the ones that are not wrapped.

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. Commissioner Karger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Greenberg, Karger, Nicholson and Weiner

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioners McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

The meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.