

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

October 28, 2013
6:30 p.m.
City Hall

CONTENTS

13/1028.1 – Proposed Rotary Project for the Installation of a Petanque Court..... 1
13/1028.3 – Discussion of a Skateboard Park..... 3
13/1028.2 – Presentation of the City of Manhattan Beach Dial-A-Ride Program.....4

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Rothans, Cajka, Allard, Allen, Manna, Miketa.

Absent: Commissioner Hersman.

Others Present: Director of Parks and Recreation Mark Leyman and Recording Secretary Susan Blanco.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Miketa led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Commissioner Cajka motioned to approve the September 23, 2013 minutes with a correction to remove the age of Commissioner Rothans Birthday and, page 5, 3rd paragraph, to read Mr. McAulay instead of Commissioner McAulay. The motioned was seconded by Commissioner Allard.

CEREMONIAL

None.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

GENERAL BUSINESS

13/1028.1 – Proposed Rotary Project for the Installation of a Petanque Court

Commissioner Manna asked Parks and Recreation Director, Mark Leyman if he had copies of the plan showing the Petanque Court. Mr. Leyman distributed copies of the proposed plan to the Commission and to the audience.

Commissioner Manna asked if the Rotary Club has a budget for the Petanque court and Ms. Jan Buike, Rotary Club representative, stated the project is currently a proposal and funds would have to be negotiated between the Rotary Club and the City. Ms. Buike stated, prior to that, the Rotary Club is first seeking approval by the Parks and Recreation Commission to proceed with the project. She stated staff will then work with Public Works to determine, materials, and estimated costs for installation.

Mr. Leyman, thanked the Rotary Club for proposing the project to the City and introduced the Rotary Club representatives, Susan Adams, Director of Community Services, Contractor Vinny Fazzino, Jan Buike, Rotarian and also an employee of the City of Manhattan Beach. He stated he also wanted to acknowledge two local neighbors in the audience, Mr. Salcedo and Mr. Greenberg.

Mr. Leyman stated when the project was proposed, City staff, Rotarians, and Councilmember Burton walked the site of the proposed Petanque Court and, since the initial meeting, a formal letter was mailed to neighborhood residents inviting them to a public meeting on October 23rd to discuss the project. The attendees included Councilmember Burton, Commissioners Manna and Allard, Commissioner Allard's wife Sue, Rotary President, Kathleen Terry, Jan Buike, two neighborhood residents, Vinny Fazzino, and himself. Also, an email was received from a resident. He stated the general consensus from the group was removing the BBQ grill from the proposal, improving the landscape around the perimeter, replace or improve the existing fencing, no permanent seating area, protection for the gas meter, accessibility to the area as there is a step, and fencing or a barrier to secure the south end. Mr. Leyman stated that cost estimates will be determined in a staff report to City Council.

Commissioner Rothans asked Mr. Leyman if the site will have ADA accessibility and Mr. Leyman stated that is correct.

Commissioner Manna opened for public comments.

Mr. Ed Salcedo, neighborhood resident stated he is in favor of the project, but had concern with the trees in the area and if they would be replaced if they are sick. He stated there is one particular large tree with exposed roots. Mr. Leyman stated a meeting will be held on site to determine the best landscaping plan.

Mr. Bruce Greenberg, neighborhood resident stated he fully supports the project and thinks it's a productive use of space for the seniors. The one caveat he has is the removal of the large rusting shipping container at Live Oak Park. He stated it is a danger to children, very unsightly and a public health hazard. He understands it is used to store emergency supplies and would like the supplies relocated perhaps behind the Scout House at the Joslyn Center. He raised his concern the week prior at a Town Hall meeting and there was general discussion as to where the emergency supplies should be located. Mr. Greenberg stated he would like the shipping container removed from Live Oak Park.

Commissioner Manna closed public comment.

Commissioner Manna stated he would like an inventory of what is in the container and stated that will help determine what to do with the items. Mr. Leyman stated staff is working with the Fire Department and have been looking at alternative locations, the open space between Police and Fire in the parking lot, and possibly pouring a concrete pad behind or next to the Scout House. He stated there were two other sheds that have been removed in the City and staff is working on this third container, however, there are several issues and moving such a large container to another site would be extremely cost prohibitive.

Commissioner Cajka asked how long the container has been at that location and Mr. Leyman stated approximately 15 years.

MOTION: Commissioner Allard motioned that the Parks and Recreation Commission support the proposed Petanque Court and have staff proceed with cost estimates, size, dimensions and shape of the court, determine who will perform the work, determine funds born by the Rotary Club and the City, and request staff provide this information to the Commission in the form of a staff report prior to approving the project going forward to City Council. The motioned was seconded by Commissioner Cajka.

Ayes: Commissioners Cajka, Manna, Allard, Allen, Rothans and Miketa.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: Commissioners Hersman.

13/1028.3 – Discussion of a Skateboard Park

Mr. Idris Al-Oboudi, Recreation Services Manager, introduced Mr. Andrew Berg, Acting Recreation Supervisor at Manhattan Heights and stated Mr. Berg has participated in the Playground Program and the Teen Center as a youth, received his degree in Parks and Recreation and privileged to be working with him in the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mr. Al-Oboudi stated the Commission was recently sent documentation regarding the history of the proposed Skateboard Park. This proposal was first brought to the Parks and Recreation Commission in 2001 as part of a potential Capital Improvement Project Plan and also part of the Facilities Strategic Plan with signatures from hundreds of parents and youth desiring a Skateboard Park. At that time, the Facilities Strategic Plan looked at the Skateboard Park as part of renovations east of the entrance to Premier Field next to Polliwog Park to build a Teen Center with an adjacent Skateboard Park and stated that the Facilities Strategic Plan is no longer a viable option.

Mr. Al-Oboudi stated the map provided proposes a location at Marine Avenue Park. He noted several locations had been studied for the Skateboard Park that included specific criteria that included noise issues, size, security, safety and operational concerns. In 2011, this project was discussed and proposed at Marine Avenue Park and at that time a presentation was given by Aaron Spohn, of Spohn Ranch, regarding modern Skateboard Park design, desired elements, and also using the park for bicycles.

Additionally, by comparison, the cost of the 11,000 square foot Skateboard Park in Hermosa Beach, built in 1998, was \$150K. Now, based on the same square footage, the cost would be \$400K or depending on the design, approximately \$35 to \$50 a square foot. This cost would be without additional amenities such as fencing, lighting, artwork, creating a walkway, and landscaping. He stated this project will require revisiting new design concepts, looking at websites to determine what the skateboard community would be interested in, taking input from the community, and holding public meetings.

He requested the Commission please review the history and direct staff with their recommendations regarding a proposed Skateboard Park in the City of Manhattan Beach and asked if the Commission had any questions.

Commissioner Allard reported that the Commission has done a great deal of work on this project and stated former Chair, Commissioner Cajka, wrote a letter to City Council on this

subject and wonders if that is the route the Commission would like to take again. There was a meeting with City Council requesting direction, but the Commission did not receive any.

Commissioner Manna stated he would like to see the Skateboard Park project move forward and recommends implementing a timeframe for completion. Commissioner Manna suggested the end of the school year 2015 as a possible goal for completion. This would allow a fair amount of time to hold public meetings and receive public input. Commissioner Manna reported that he compiled a list of things to do which includes identifying and meeting with the stakeholders such as parents, skaters, neighbors, the Ed Foundation, PTA, seniors, police, vendors, and contractors. The meetings can be held with all the stakeholders and an Ad Hoc Committee who can report back to the Commission with their findings. The Commission could provide City Council with an outline that includes a completion date, estimated costs, suggested locations, accessibility, financing, and security.

Commissioner Cajka stated the Commission previously provided the City Council a map, a plan with deadlines, and asked the City Council for approval to gather information. The Council took what the Commission provided and placed it into an overall Master Plan that never happened. He stated based on what Mr. Al-Oboudi provided in his presentation outlining all the work that has been done he feels time shouldn't be wasted. He also stated City Council did not give the Commission direction regarding the project at the joint meeting.

Commissioner Rothans described several occasions where he has ran into groups of skateboarders and stated the City definitely needs a Skateboard Park and suggested the original letter be updated and presented to City Council.

MOTION: Commissioner Rothans moved that Chairperson Manna draft a letter, similar to the letter to City Council dated June 25, 2012, requesting permission to proceed with Ad Hoc Subcommittees of the Parks and Recreation Commission, identify stakeholders, permission to hold public meetings, and explore the possibility of building a Skateboard Park in the City of Manhattan Beach. The motioned was seconded by Commissioner Allard.

Ayes: Commissioners Cajka, Manna, Allard, Allen, Rothans and Miketa.
Noes: None.
Abstain: None.
Absent: Commissioner Hersman.

13/1028.2 – Presentation of the City of Manhattan Beach Dial-A-Ride Program

Ms. Eve Kelso, Recreation Services Manager, stated she oversees the Dial-A-Ride Transportation Program, Older Adults Program, and volunteers for the City and gave a Power Point Presentation (attached) describing the programs that included the top 10 reasons to use Dial-A-Ride.

Commissioner Manna stated he just signed up for Dial-A-Ride today and thinks the program is great and very useful and stated in looking at the pie charts it speaks well of the program.

The Commission all agreed the Dial-A-Ride Program is excellent and thanked Ms. Kelso for her hard work.

Mr. Leyman stated he would like each Division of the Parks and Recreation Department to provide an overview of their programs to the Commission throughout the year depending on the Commission's Agenda workload.

COMMISSION ITEMS

None.

STAFF ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.