

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Manhattan Beach City Hall
1400 Highland Ave.
Manhattan Beach, CA 90266
June 23, 2014
6:30 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Manna, Rothans, Allard, Jones, Paralusz and Zaun
Absent: Commissioner Allen

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Rothans moved to approve the May 19, 2014 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allard.

Ayes: Commissioners Manna, Rothans, Allard, Jones, Paralusz and Zaun

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

D. CEREMONIAL

Self-introduction of new commissioners

Adam Zaun is the Student representative from Mira Costa High School. He plays water polo, soccer, was previously on the baseball team and is a member of the Mira Costa Jazz Band. He heard about the Commission from the past representative and would like to make a difference.

Janet Jones is very passionate about Manhattan Beach and Parks and Recreation. She participated in Leadership Manhattan Beach.

Kathleen Paralusz is the Manhattan Beach Unified School District appointee. She just finished serving six years on the Planning Commission.

Commissioners Rothans, Allard and Manna gave short introductions of themselves.

Certificate of recognition – Jeff Nicosia – Parks and Recreation Director Mark Leyman gave a short talk about Mr. Nicosia all he has done for youth sports in the City. Mr. Leyman thanked and recognized Jeff for all of his important work in the community.

Change of Chair – Commissioner Allard nominated Commissioner Rothans to serve as Chairperson through May 31, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paralusz.

Ayes: Commissioners Allard, Paralusz, Manna, Jones and Zaun

Nays: None

Abstain: Commissioner Rothans
Absent: Commissioner Allen

Commissioner Paralusz nominated Commissioner Allard to serve as Vice Chair through May 31, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rothans.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nays: None

Abstain: Commissioner Allard

Absent: Commissioner Allen

Certificate of recognition – Fred Manna – Chairperson Rothans thanked Commissioner Manna for serving as chair for two years with distinction, respect and admiration.

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Chairperson Rothans opened the floor to audience participation.

George Bordokas, resident, thanked the Commission for their contributions to the City and stated that he is very passionate about representation in the City. He stated that having a skate park for the sake of having a park is not the point. We need the skate park to be successful. Mr. Bordokas would like the Polliwog Park locations to be reexamined. He stated that a Skate park does not have to be ugly, it can be beautiful and it would take only 12,000 of the 783,000 square feet in Polliwog Park. The location west of Redondo and across from the teen center is ideal.

Chairperson Rothans closed the floor to audience participation.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

none

G. COMMISSION ITEMS

Commissioner Paralusz attended the Concert in the Park and thought that it was wonderful. Concerts in the Park have started and will continue every Sunday through August 31st.

Commissioner Allard reported that the ribbon cutting for the Petanque court, a joint project between the Rotary Club and the City of Manhattan Beach will be held Wednesday, June 25, 2014 at 4:30 PM. The City Council has been invited. There is a heat issue at the petanque court. The sun is radiating off the back of Joslyn Center so a sail shade may be appropriate.

Chairperson Rothans requested the following items be added to the next agenda:

1. Pledge to Flag – Chairperson Rothans made a motion to have the Pledge of Allegiance added to the monthly meeting Agenda from this point forward. Commissioner Paralusz seconded the motion.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Allard, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

2. Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Department participation statistics. Chairperson Rothans made a motion requesting Parks and Recreation participation statistics broken down by facility/park be supplied to the Commission on a quarterly basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allard.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Allard, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

3. "Picnic to Salute our Troops" – Commissioner Rothans made a motion to agendize a discussion of a Picnic to Salute our Troops and Veterans on Memorial Day Weekend 2015 at Polliwog Park as a way for the city to thank the returning members of our military and possibly veterans for their service to our country. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paralusz.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Allard, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

4. Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation Commission Recognition(s) – A motion was made by Commissioner Rothans agendize a discussion to establish a program that would allow the Commission to recognize employees on a monthly, quarterly and/or annual basis. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Paralusz.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Allard, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

5. Manhattan Beach Parks & Recreation Commission Recognition(s) – A motion was made by Commissioner Rothans to agendize a discussion of the re-establishment of an annual staff recognition event/reception. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Manna.

Ayes: Commissioners Rothans, Allard, Manna, Paralusz, Jones and Zaun

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Allen

Chairperson Rothans asked if any of the Summer meetings could be held in the Parks to give the Commissioners and the public an opportunity to tour and familiarize themselves with the parks and the condition of the facilities. Commissioner Manna added that the Commissioners should also visit the proposed skate park locations when they are determined. Chairperson Rothans suggested these tours may begin in August and go into the Fall and requested Director Leyman to suggest the first location. Commissioner Jones would like this to be a vehicle for suggested improvements to the parks. Commissioner Allard suggested that this would be a great idea when the agenda is light. Director Leyman stated that the Skateboard Park discussions will be based upon the City council

direction. It was clarified the park tour will function as the scheduled Commission meetings when they occur.

Commissioner Paralusz attended the Kickoff Party at Begg Pool and it was a lot of fun. She encouraged everyone to attend the July 4th pool party which is \$5.00 per person.

H. STAFF ITEMS

Director Leyman stated that staff and the Commission will receive direction from the City Council on July 15th, on how to move forward with the skateboard park discussion. If the City Council decides to continue with the Skateboard Park Ad-hoc Committee, three new ad hoc committee members will need to be appointed. Staff is preparing a report consolidating all the notes from the ad-hoc committee meetings to present at the July 15th City Council meeting. Commissioner Rothans asked that the Commission be able to review the report before it is presented to the City Council. Commissioner Paralusz stated that any and all comments should be given directly to Director Leyman and not to each other, so that it is not a Brown Act violation.

Director Leyman reported that the summer recreation programs have begun. The attendance numbers are very good this summer. Director Leyman will bring the registration reports that he finds most useful to the next meeting to talk about how the Commission would like to receive the statistical information requested. ActiveNet has a snapshot of numbers, or “Dashboard” and Registration Manager Gina Allen is working on some different reporting options. The Dashboard report will allow staff to evaluate registration trends.

Director Leyman advised the Commission that July is Parks and Recreation Month – Anyone can try one class free for almost any offered contract class in the month of July.

Director Leyman visited the City of Fremont’s skate park with Commissioner Allard at the invitation of new City Manager Mark Danaj who, at the time, was still employed by the City of Fremont. Director Leyman stated that it was interesting to speak with the City of Fremont about the public process leading up to the completion of the skate park. The City of Fremont has a much larger population than Manhattan Beach and a lot of open space. Even though the City of Fremont had a lot of space, they encountered similar concerns from the public regarding noise. In the end, it has been well received. The City of Fremont incorporated an art element using Public Art Trust funds. The park is about 40,000 square feet. The City of Fremont brought in a consultant to facilitate the process with the public.

Commissioner Manna asked if City Manager Danaj has given any input as far as the noise levels and concerns of Fremont residents. Director Leyman reported that the park has been well received and most of the concerns that the residents had, have not materialized. The Fremont park does not allow scooters and BMX bikes due to liability concerns. Director Leyman and Commissioner Allard also visited the City of San Jose skate park which is a \$7M, 70,000 sq.ft. park. The San Jose park was mostly utilized by scooter riders. Scooters, pads and helmets are rented and sold at the park and an admission fee is charged. Commissioner Manna stated that Lake Forest has a large facility and they just added 25,000 sq. ft.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Paralusz moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Allard. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.