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CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

May 23, 2005
6:30 P.M.

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ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Bohner, Guirguis, Lamb, Lear and Weber

Absent: Commissioner Cohen

Others Present: Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill and Recording Secretary Jane Grace

AGENDA CHANGES

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the April 25, 2005 Commission were approved as written.

CEREMONIAL

Plaques were presented to outgoing Commissioners Bohner, Guirguis and Weber.

Commissioner Weber thanked Commissioner Bohner for his service on the Parks and Recreation Commission and reported that he has now been appointed to the Planning Commission.

Commissioner Weber thanked Commissioner Guirguis for her service on the Parks and Recreation Commission and Mr. Gill suggested that of all the high school student representatives that have served on the Commission, Ms. Guirguis was the most involved.

Mr. Gill thanked Commissioner Weber for his years of service on the Parks and Recreation Commission and for this past year of service as Commission Chair.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

05/0425.2 – Selection of 2005 Youth Services Award Recipient

Mr. Gill reported that in February, a letter from the Manhattan Beach Parks and Recreation Commission was sent to local organizations and the School District, as well as the Beach Reporter, Easy Reader and Daily Breeze, seeking nominees for the Annual Manhattan Beach Recreation and Youth Services Award. The purpose of the award is to honor an individual who has made significant contributions to youth services in Manhattan Beach. It allows local organizations an opportunity to publicly recognize the leadership qualities of volunteers, board members or professional staff.

Mr. Gill reported that since July is “Parks and Recreation Month” throughout California, the award was tentatively scheduled for presentation at a July City Council meeting. The deadline for nominations was April 15. No nominations were received at that time and the deadline was extended to May 20. One nomination has been received: Richard John, representing Manhattan Little League and AYSO, nominated Bonnie Harkenrider.

During a discussion among the Commissioners, the following points were made:

1. Commissioner Weber indicated that Bonnie Harkenrider has put more time into youth sports than anyone in our community over the last five years and, in his opinion, very deserving of the award.
2. Commission Lear reported that Neil Erickson, President of Manhattan Little League, has suggested that he had a name for submission; however, the deadline has passed and no other nominations have been submitted to staff.

A motion was made to select Bonnie Harkenrider as the recipient of the 2005 Manhattan Beach Recreation and Youth Services Award. (MSC: Lamb/Bohner – Unanimous)

REPORTS

None

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Lear requested that his comments be directed to City Council. Commissioner Lear reported that he has served as a Commissioner for over two years and believes that he has served well. He indicated that he was barely reappointed to a second term; two Commissioners, on other Commissions, were not reappointed. Commissioner Lear suggested that there is no precedent for Commissioners who seek reappointed to not be reappointed. Commissioner Lear is seeking from the City Council standards by which they judge sitting Commissioners so that the Commissioners can be guided in terms of service that they provide to the City, so that they are not put in a position of being ousted from the Commission where they have done their jobs as well and competently as they should.

Commissioner Weber suggested that some people who ran for Council, but not elected, were not reappointed to their Commission. He questioned whether running for Council should be held against a person.

Commissioner Lamb suggested that Council relies on the Commissioners to provide advice; if it wouldn't please the Council to reappoint me, I would accept that.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6.50 p.m. to the next scheduled meeting on June 27, 2005