

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH**  
**MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION**  
**Manhattan Beach City Hall**  
**1400 Highland Ave.**  
**Manhattan Beach, CA 90266**  
**July 22, 2019**  
**6:00 PM**

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 PM.

**B. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG**

**C. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, Nicholson, McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

Absent: None

**D. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Karger moved to approve the June 24, 2019 minutes with the following corrections:

P. 4, paragraph 6 – correct name from Bruce Moe to read Bruce Greenberg

P. 4, Item J – correct Aye vote to read: Commissioners Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, Nicholson, McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

Commissioner Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Commissioners Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, Nicholson, McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

**E. CEREMONIAL**

None

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

Commissioner Weiner opened the floor to audience participation.

Michael Chang, Play Share – Michael and his friend created a locker equipment system to check out play equipment, effectively turning any grassy area into a play area. They are working with cities and have had great feedback. Commissioner Weiner asked about loss. Customer enters credit card information in case of loss. Can be pay per play or free. City would purchase the locker and receive the revenue. Maintenance would be provided with the equipment. City would purchase locker, lockers would be opened by unique QR codes. Cost depends on options but is in the ballpark of \$6,000-10,000. Starting pilot programs. Director Leyman stated that he has seen this product and has passed along to the sports team.

Lee Barr, resident and member of the Homelessness Task Force - Mr. Barr gave an update on the taskforce. The taskforce has two main goals which are to assist staff to develop a proposal to obtain Measure H funding and to develop an educational process for the public about homelessness. \$330,000 has been obtained jointly by the Beach Cities. The City is preparing an RFP to find a provider of homeless services to the beach cities. In addition, the task force is preparing a brochure. Originally task force was 5 people and has been expanded to 10 people.

The floor was closed to public comment.

#### **G. GENERAL BUSINESS**

None

#### **H. STAFF ITEMS**

Director Leyman updated the Commission on recent City Council actions and upcoming events.

Items related to Parks and Recreation include:

- The Lights for Liberty event was discussed and has prompted a need for a process to handle First Amendment events
- Public Hearing to allow the department to move forward with grant application for Dial-a-Ride replacement vehicles.
- Review of Department work plan including Donation Policy, Sand Dune/Tennis reservations, Park Master Plan, Community Grants Program, Public Art Conservation Assessment, Assessment of historical artifacts and historical Beach Cottage, Sculpture Garden, Merchandising Licensing and Branding, Pop up store launching in August, Public Art at City Hall, Fitness Court, Polliwog Park Play equipment met today, MB Murals 5 locations approved, Utility box beautification installations to begin in August.

Program highlights – Stomping Grounds, a teen centric music event, was held with attendance of about 100 people at its peak. A number of complaints for sound were received. Alternate locations for future events will be examined.

Manhattan Beach Grand Prix – Commissioner Greenberg asked if we had any sense of what percentage of riders are from Manhattan Beach. He requested that staff ask the organizers for data regarding the number of cyclists participating and the % of those cyclists that are Manhattan Beach residents. He stated that the event has significant impact on the City, but is not sure of the net benefit of the event to the City. Director Leyman stated that the organizers have made efforts to incorporate community events with kids' race and mile run.

Commissioner Greenberg praised the organizers for a well-run event.

International Surf Fest –will be held August 2-4, and will feature 6-Man, Jr. 6-Man, Dory races and sandcastle contest.

USAV Jr. Beach National Championship – Commissioner Greenberg commented that the event was very well run and that they were great about telling people where to drive in, to use uber/lyft and had water stations set up. He added that the families loved the event being in Manhattan Beach.

Discover Manhattan Beach – Commissioner Nicholson complimented the new exhibition and

the opening, which was a great event for all ages. Director Leyman added that this is a true collaboration and a true community event.

## **I. COMMISSION ITEMS**

Commissioner Weiner – Salute to the Troops debrief – thanked Commissioner Jackson for arranging the National Anthem singer. Commissioner Weiner stated that everyone had a great time with the Satin Dollz, so we can evaluate whether to have a military band at future concerts. Commissioner Karger stated that the people she spoke with would welcome the Satin Dollz back. The announcements were not heard by the audience. There were not as many Vets as in years past so we need to do better marketing to vets. The trash is a problem.

For concerts in general, Commissioner Weiner stated that he had been approached by a resident that said that events as big as Queen Nation shouldn't happen and that the talent should be moderated to mitigate the large crowds. There was no visible donation bucket at the Pettybreakers show.

Commissioner Karger thinks the acoustics are off and it may be because there is no back to the stage. Commissioner Nicholson added that the volume is so loud, especially with the teen bands, that they can't have conversations. He thinks the volume should be turned down and that the sound system seems to be volume without precision. Director Leyman stated that technology is available to improve, but costs will go up. For next year, the department may bring it as a budget supplemental to ask for more funds. When the new stage is built, the sound board will be relocated.

Polliwog Park Playground equipment – Commissioner Weiner called for the commission to submit ideas for changes to the selected design. Commissioner McCarthy talked about the possibility of combining designs. She likes elements that more kids can play on.

Director Leyman stated that input is desired but we don't want to reinvent the design after doing all the public input. Input will be used to talk to the designer. He asked the commissioners to give their individual input. We're moving forward and have heard from the community.

Park Master Plan survey – the ad hoc committee have been meeting and are in the process of developing a modern day Park Master Plan that can actually be used to make some changes. The charge is to produce a survey that will give an idea of what people want to do in the parks and what improvements need to be made. The goal is for the survey to go out in September, followed by community meetings and focus groups to get as much information as possible and prepare a report for the City Council. Commissioner Weiner stated that in his opinion, the report has to be realistic as far as something that can actually be achieved. Director Leyman added that significant capital projects are three years out with engineering on projects they can work on.

Commissioner McCarthy spoke of the unintended consequences of going green as discussed by the Senior Advisory Committee. The Older Adult program holds two lunches per week, and one night a month for dinners. The new City mandate to not use single-use plastic, means that plastic cutlery cannot be provided. Reusable cutlery sets will be distributed to the attendees who will be expected to bring them. Director Leyman reported that Eve Kelso has met with the environmental services manager to discuss alternatives and everything needs to be budgeted.

**J. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. Commissioner Nicholson seconded the motion. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at 7:29 pm.

Ayes: Commissioners Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, Nicholson, McCarthy, Turkmany and Jackson

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None