

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Virtual – Zoom meeting
July 27, 2020
4:00 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM.

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Greenberg, Karger, McCarthy, Nicholson, Turkmany, Weiner, Cullen*

Absent: None

*Commissioner Cullen joined the meeting at 4:30 PM.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Karger moved to approve the February 24, 2020 minutes as written.

Commissioner McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion passed.

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

Abstain: None

Absent: Commissioner Nicholson

D. CEREMONIAL – This item was held after Item H

The commissioners welcomed new student representative, Matthew Cullen. Commissioner Cullen gave a short introduction of himself.

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

None.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

None.

G. STAFF ITEMS

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

Recreation Supervisor Michael Hudak gave an update on park and facility operations. Facilities are still closed but parks are open. Reservations are required and available for tennis/pickleball (singles), sand dune, skate spot and the Dorsey Field batting cage.

Recreation Program Manager Archie Sherman - Manhattan Heights, Marine Park basketball courts, Polliwog Park amphitheater and Bruce's Beach, are being made available, by reservation, to local fitness and personal training businesses. Preapproved protocols, a business license and insurance are required. This is not meant to encourage rogue group use of the parks for training. The State of California and LA County have not yet authorized organized youth sports. Once LA County authorizes youth sports, the City will work towards allowing activities and ensuring that proper protocols are followed.

Summer Camps are running with four contractors, Soccer, Campsurf, TGA multisports and

Skatedogs. The contracts were amended to include COVID-19 protocols. The camp sizes are smaller and the parents appreciate being able to have activities for the kids. Beach Aquatics participation was reduced to 200, from 400, with no more than 12 kids in a pod. Parents are asking for the program to be extended and offered after school zoom sessions end.

Recreation Program Manager Jesus Sandoval – The REC camp is operating at the Joslyn Center and Manhattan Heights and is currently serving 60 children. Due to COVID-19, the program is operating on a three-week schedule instead of weekly. The Teen Center is operating on Fridays from 11:00-4:00 with 10-15 teens attending. For aquatics, Begg pool is being utilized, and there is limited use at the Mira Costa pool for the swim team. Two people per lane maximum for lap swim.

Commissioner Weiner asked for an update on the Donation Policy. Director Leyman reported that the City Council approved the community pavers, park amenities catalog and the military recognition wall. There is work to be done to get the system set up. Commissioner Karger mentioned that the City Council really liked the idea of the military recognition wall.

Commissioner Weiner gave an update that Ryan Beaupain had completed his fundraising/tree planting project and had three trees planted at Polliwog Park and three trees planted at Pacific Elementary. Commissioner Karger recommended honoring Ryan at a meeting. Director Leyman stated that the City Council has first right for recognition and that they may delegate to the commission.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

Parks Master Plan – Sr. Recreation Manager Vincent reported that the bulk of the work has been done and the report is ready for the design phase. Work has been delayed as the department design team is part of the Public Information team for the Emergency Operations Center and has been heavily called upon to produce ever changing COVID-19 related messaging. Commissioner Greenberg recommended that the ad-hoc committee have a chance to review the content before the design is done. Commissioner Weiner wondered if the Urban Forest Tree Master Plan will have some overlap to the Parks Master Plan. Director Leyman said that it should be referenced and may contain some overlap.

Polliwog Park Playground project – no update since the July 22, 2020 special meeting. Director Leyman will give an update at the August meeting.

Older Adult Programs – Commissioner McCarthy reported that she had signed up to volunteer for hot line requests but had only been called a couple of times. It appears that the older adults have figured out how to effectively use available resources. Director Leyman reported that the hot line calls have declined, most likely because people have been paired up with those who can help them. Other zoom programming has been offered: Gary Hartzell, zoom bingo, etc.

School District updates: Commission Greenberg reported that schools will be opening remotely and the district has put together working groups and subcommittees that have been working diligently to plan for the school year. CIF made the decision that no sports would be starting before December. Construction of the gym is on schedule for completion in the summer.

Commissioner Weiner asked if it is possible to move any of the projects identified in the preparation of the Parks Master Plan forward, before the plan is approved. Director Leyman recommended presenting those projects as the highest need when the Parks Master Plan is up

for approval.

Election of new Chair and Vice-chair – Commissioner Karger moved to install Commissioner Greenberg as Chair and Commissioner Nicholson as Vice-chair for the period July 27, 2020 – May 31, 2021. Commissioner Turkmany seconded the motion. Seeing no objection, the motion passed.

Commissioners Greenberg and McCarthy, and Director Leyman thanked Commissioner Weiner for his leadership as Chair.

I. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:05 PM, Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. Commissioner Nicholson seconded the motion. Seeing no objection, the meeting was adjourned to Monday, August 24, 2020, 4:00 PM via Zoom.