

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

Virtual – Zoom meeting

October 5, 2020

4:00 PM

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL**

Present: Commissioners Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, McCarthy, Turkmany, and Cullen

Absent: Commissioner Nicholson

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Weiner moved to approve the August 24, 2020 minutes as written.

Commissioner Karger seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, McCarthy, Turkmany, Cullen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Nicholson

**D. CEREMONIAL**

None

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

Chair Greenberg opened the floor to audience participation. Seeing none, the floor was closed.

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

None

**G. STAFF ITEMS**

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

Director Leyman reported that the Polliwog Park Playground designer, SWA is finishing up the 60% plans. This means that the preliminary plans have been presented to the project engineer to gather staff input. The next iteration will be 90%, and once approved will go to plan check. The project will go back to the City Council once the bid docs are finalized. Bid documents are estimated to go out early 2021. Best case scenario for construction completion would be the beginning of summer, realistically the end of summer 2021, due to the number of existing capital improvement projects in progress.

Sr. Recreation Manager, Jessica Vincent updated the commission on department programs:

LA County has eased some restrictions and released new protocols for opening amenities. As a result:

As of the new school year, the Rec program launched an afterschool childcare program, as well as the Rec Learning Center, for facilitated online learning. Both programs are at two-thirds capacity (max 30 participants). These programs were prioritized for essential workers at first, and are now open to all residents. Registrations are expected to increase. Joslyn Center and Manhattan Heights will be used as voting centers, which will affect the programs, so we will not be increasing the capacity until after the election.

The department has partnered with the youth sports organizations to provide drill-based training for youth. Scrimages are still not allowed. School district fields remain closed.

Staff has been working with Public Works on the Begg Field renovation. Begg Field will likely be used to stage the Peck Reservoir project, and may benefit from the association. The project will include new irrigation, sod and lighting.

Tennis and pickleball have expanded to doubles and instructors are teaching lessons at Live Oak and Mira Costa. Swim programs have been expanded and are at capacity.

Sand Dune and Skate Spot reservations are available.

Parks are open for businesses to provide fitness classes, and some art and music classes are being offered outdoors as well.

Pumpkin Races and Holiday Open House have been cancelled. A virtual pumpkin contest will be held in partnership with the Downtown Business Association in the hopes that people will come, drop off their pumpkins and stay to shop or eat at a downtown business.

Virtual options for the Holiday Fireworks are being discussed. The event is currently on hold until mid-November to see if restrictions will ease and an event will be allowed.

## **H. COMMISSION ITEMS**

Discussion of work plan items and updates for joint meeting:

Commissioner Weiner reported that the Parks Master Plan ad-hoc committee has met several times. The report is being put in a formatted document to be presented to the commission for feedback before presenting to City Council in November. The goal is to produce a plan that will be used as a working document to plan future Parks and Rec projects.

Commissioner McCarthy – Older Adults Program update – Staff has spent a lot of time working to provide online and zoom programs, including a virtual National Parks Tour to keep our older adults engaged. There will be a flu shot clinic at the Joslyn Center on November 18<sup>th</sup>. They are also working with the surrounding cities and Beach Cities Health District to provide a second clinic at the Redondo Beach Performing Arts Center and a mobile flu shot clinic. It is being recommended that the clinic be held outside (to be verified).

Steve De Baets is putting together a candidates' forum to introduce the City Council candidates to the older adults.

Commissioner Cullen – Student report – Students are adapting to online learning and are still looking for volunteer opportunities. He has referred some students to David Ibarra, Rec Program Supervisor. Commissioner Cullen is able to include announcements into the Mira Costa communications channels. He will look into communicating volunteer opportunities.

Donation Policy update – Commissioner Karger reported that the Donation Policy ad-hoc committee had visited the site of the potential Military Recognition Wall, next to the Veterans Memorial, and mock ups are being produced and will be shared with the commission at the next meeting. Director Leyman added that there have been conversations with Public Works to order benches for four people who have submitted applications and payment. Both the bench and tree programs have once again been placed on a temporary hold while an inventory is put together, so that donors can choose from available locations.

Chair Greenberg – School District report – The Fall sports season was cancelled and sports were rescheduled for Winter and Spring. Training is starting but no games yet. The Mira Costa High School gym is scheduled for completion in October. Superintendent Matthews sent out an update for a 5-stage reopening plan. Phase 1 will be to bring back special needs students, in a hybrid model beginning October 12, 2020.

Additionally, Ryan Beaupain, who raised funds and completed his project to plant trees in Polliwog Park and Pacific Elementary will be recognized by City Council.

Commissioner McCarthy asked if the Parks and Recreation Commission would be involved with the Bruce’s Beach Task Force. Director Leyman stated that at this time, it is solely City Council led unless they decide that some aspect needs to be reviewed by a commission.

Commissioner Weiner asked for a clarification of the Parks and Recreation workplan items that were approved by the City Council. It was clarified that the Department workplan and the commission work plans are separate, but do overlap on some projects. Linda Robb will send out a link to the staff report presented to the City Council to approve the City-wide workplan.

## I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Turkmany moved to adjourn. Commissioner Cullen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, McCarthy, Turkmany, Cullen

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Nicholson

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03 pm to Monday, October 26, 2020.