

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Virtual – Zoom meeting

June 28, 2021

4:00 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Chair Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, Turkmany, McCarthy, and Grampp

Absent: None

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Weiner moved to approve the May 24, 2021 minutes as written.

Commissioner Turkmany seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

D. CEREMONIAL

None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

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

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

Chair Karger explained that moving forward, work plan items will not automatically appear on the agenda. Items will be added to the agenda as updated templates are received.

Discussion of 2021 Workplan Items:

El Porto Family Park (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) – Commissioner Greenberg reported that due to changes in staff availability, community outreach has been postponed. Three dates have been scheduled via zoom utilizing a local realtor database. The zoom meetings will consist of a maximum of 15 participants per meeting, to be held in the month of July. An update on the meetings will be given at the July meeting. The meetings are scheduled for July 13 at 10:00 a.m, July 20th at 5:00 p.m, and July 27th at 6:00 p.m. These are informal focus groups that can help shape the survey. Another round of community input is anticipated in early Fall, when things have slowed down for staff.

Nature Areas and Trails – (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) Chair Greenberg gave the following update: after the last walkthrough, it was concluded that additional cleanup is necessary. Commissioner Greenberg has reached out to three Scout groups that are interested in assisting with cleanup. The subcommittee anticipates doing two or three more cleanups before asking the Risk Manager to come back out to inspect and approve. The subcommittee developed alternative language for signs which has been approved by the Risk Manager. The next step is to order eight signs for the entry points. Commissioner Greenberg spoke with Mayor Hadley, who is supportive of the idea. Commissioner Turkmany added that he hopes this works out because it is a great area that kids could really enjoy. Commissioner McCarthy

stated that the subcommittee does not consider this to be a change to the park, as much as a continuation of service and clean up.

Dog Parks and Community Parkettes – (Weiner) Commissioner Weiner is looking at how to improve the existing dog runs. He met with Sr. Recreation Manager (SRM) Jessica Vincent and Recreation Program Manager Archie Sherman to determine what, if any, improvements can be made. At the Live Oak dog run there is fencing and shade in disrepair. The next step is to set up a walk through with Public Works to get some maintenance done. The location at 6th and Aviation will be examined for use as a parkette as soon as staff is ramped up. The Village parking area is ideal for a many different projects but is held under several lease agreements that limit access. The aquatics subcommittee will review the lot contract and work with staff to understand the details.

Sand Dune Park Building- (Turkmany, Weiner, Grampp) Commissioner Turkmany stated that he has not had a chance to do a deep dive into the project as he received the notes from prior Commissioner Nicholson only recently.

He stated that the estimated costs are very high and that this project may need to be a refurbishing project rather than a replacement.

Commissioner Weiner added that the project will require Public Works input and staff is not available currently.

Commissioner McCarthy suggested presenting cost to replace vs. cost to refurbish, so City Council can see their range of options.

Commissioner Weiner suggested that the commission should look at the workplan update that was presented to Council and use the dates in the document to develop timelines for each project.

PMP Project Cost Estimates: P&R Maintenance and Replacement Budgeting – (Weiner, McCarthy) Commissioner Weiner proposed meeting with each subcommittee lead to develop a framework, scope and cost as well as possible funding sources. He would also like to meet with Public Works and Finance. The goal is to put together a template to gather information and try to have something to present to City Council in December. The subcommittee will arrange for individual meetings with subcommittee leads in July. No attempt has been made yet to put together the costs, as the subcommittees are still in their exploratory phase. Commissioner Greenberg asked if Director Leyman had received any feedback on the work plan report that was presented to City Council. Director Leyman replied that the City Council appreciated the update but no direction or changes were received. SRM Vincent added that she has had preliminary conversations with the Public Works Engineering Division to keep them aware of the projects. There are engineering resources dedicated to existing Parks and Recreation projects. The Engineering Division would appreciate receiving a list of projects for future planning. Engineers are currently committed to projects through 2023 so any additional projects added now and in the near future, the oversight of the projects would need to be contracted out, significantly increasing the costs.

NFC Fitness Equipment – SRM Vincent reported that engineering is trying to determine whether the design can be done in-house or needs to go back out to bid. She should have an update next meeting.

Exploring Repurposing the Pay N Play Racquetball Courts – (Karger, Turkmany, Greenberg) Chair Karger reported that pickleball players who came to evaluate the site determined that it is not suitable for use for pickleball. As a result, that revenue option can

not be presented to the lessee. Director Leyman met with the City Attorney and maintenance requirement options will be presented to the lessee. Ultimately, the lessee will need to decide if he would like to make the improvements. Commissioner Greenberg pointed out that it is the 28th of June and according to the lease agreement, the lessee has until June 30th to notify the City if he would like to continue. Commissioner Greenberg believes that the lessee should be held to the June 30th deadline. If he is not going to exercise his option, the City needs time to plan what will happen with the facility before the lease ends. Director Leyman will be drafting a letter to be sent to the lessee, for the City Attorney's review and edits. Commissioner Greenberg added that a July 30th deadline for the lessee to state his intention should be included in the letter.

Explore acquiring Armory land – (Greenberg, McCarthy) Commissioner Greenberg reported that the letter had gone out and a supportive response from one of our assembly members had been received, but nothing has been received from the National Guard.

Exploring the feasibility of developing an aquatics center – (McCarthy, Weiner, Doran) Commissioner McCarthy gave the following report: SRM Vincent is working on securing meetings with Finance Director Charelian, Manhattan Beach Unified School District, City of Redondo Beach and Beach Cities Health District. Chair Karger acknowledged the subcommittee for all the work they have done. SRM Vincent has been in touch with the City of Redondo Beach and their Deputy City Manager is talking with their City Council to see if there is interest in developing an exploratory committee for an aquatics facility.

Donation Policy and Programs – (Turkmany, Karger)

Commissioner Turkmany has been gathering legacy donation templates to customize, for review by the City Attorney.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Director Leyman informed the commission that SRM Vincent, Graphic Artist Kristin Yamauchi and Social Media Coordinator Jojo Cortez will be moving to Management Services so Parks and Recreation will be going through some major changes. Management is taking this opportunity to examine the existing department structure and how to best transition. He reiterated that this will add to the staffing challenges for some time. The transition is expected to occur in September.

Special Events tentative dates:

International Surf Festival & 6-Man Tournament July 30- July 31, 2021

MBO Volleyball Tournament August 19 – August 22, 2021

Concerts in the Park – There will be four concerts in August.

SRM Vincent gave the following updates:

Registration is now open for summer activities.

Registration has opened for the 6-Man Volleyball Tournament, July 30th and 31st.

The Manhattan Beach Open Volleyball Tournament will be held August 19th – 22nd.

The Joslyn Center has reopened for limited in-person programs.

Park and picnic reservations for groups have also reopened

Staff continues to meet with the pickleball and racquet sports subcommittee to develop a balanced program.

July is Parks and Rec month and we'll be kicking off with a community art exhibition at the Art Center. The department is also celebrating its 80th birthday.

H. **COMMISSION ITEMS**

Older Adult Program update – Commissioner McCarthy reported that the Senior Advisory Committee met but it was before protocols were relaxed so there will be a better update next month. 99% of senior residents are vaccinated. Dial a Ride is struggling with 2 drivers retiring and vehicles that need replacing.

MBUSD update – Commissioner Greenberg reported that the Principal position at Mira Costa High School has been filled and the District Superintendent position is still open.

Student update – Commissioner Grampp had no updates at this time as school is out for the summer.

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Greenberg moved to adjourn. Commissioner Turkmany, seeing no opposition, the meeting was adjourned at 5:11PM to Monday, July 26, 2021.