

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

**Virtual – Zoom meeting**

**July 26, 2021**

**4:00 PM**

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**A. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 PM.

**B. ROLL CALL**

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

Absent: Turkmany

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Weiner moved to approve the June 28, 2021 minutes as written.  
Commissioner McCarthy seconded the motion. The motion carried unopposed.

**D. CEREMONIAL**

None

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

Chair Karger opened the floor to audience participation.

Layton Pace, resident, spoke regarding Sand Dune Park and the importance of maintaining it as a nature area for the many bird species that live in and frequent the area. He is also concerned that the construction of a new field at Grand View Elementary will drive more foot traffic and dog walkers to Sand Dune Park. Soccer balls coming over the fence into the park are also a concern.

The floor was closed to public comment.

**F. GENERAL BUSINESS**

Discussion of 2021 Workplan Items:

**El Porto Family Park** (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) – Commissioner Greenberg reported that three community outreach focus group meetings have been organized through Bob Siever, a local realtor with a large database of El Porto residents. Two people attended to the first meeting, four are scheduled for the second one and three have signed up for the third. There will be more opportunities for community input. Onsite community outreach is scheduled for August 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:00-8:00 pm. Findings will be summarized and shared at the August meeting.

**Nature Areas and Trails** – (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) Commissioner Greenberg gave the following update: He is working with some Scout troops to schedule additional clean ups. The Risk Manager will need to do a walk through after the clean up. Staff can order new signage but would like to have final approval from Risk Management and the Urban Forester before placing the order.

**Polliwog Park Enhancements** – Director Leyman reported that Public Works is moving forward with an amendment to the NFC design. The project appears to be within budget but needs to go back to City Council due to the new amount.

Polliwog Playground Replacement – Construction bids are now being accepted and will go to City Council for approval on September 9<sup>th</sup>, to award the contract. If awarded, construction is scheduled for October, 2021 through April 2022.

**Exploring Repurposing the Pay N Play Racquetball Courts** – (Karger, Turkmany, Greenberg) Chair Karger reported that Director Leyman has sent a letter to the City Attorney for review of requirements. Commissioner McCarthy added that the letter should at least acknowledge that he is not in compliance with the lease, at present.

**Exploring the feasibility of developing an aquatics center** – (McCarthy, Weiner, Doran) Commissioner McCarthy gave the following report: Commissioner Doran has been brought up to speed on the project and the sub-committee is now trying to get a solid understanding of the legal and financial aspects of the various possible locations. They are still trying to get meetings with Steve Charelian and Dawnalyn Murakawa-Leopard from MBUSD. The sub-committee will be visiting the Aviation Track site and will then try to set up a meeting with the City of Redondo Beach. Commissioner McCarthy would like to set up a meeting with Gensler for updated schematics. Commissioner Weiner added that the idea is to have two or three different options to present to City Council. Recreation Program Manager, Jesus Sandoval has done a great job keeping Begg pool running and the demand far exceeds capacity. Commissioner Weiner would like to talk about strategizing possible grant funding opportunities.

**Donation Policy and Programs** – (Turkmany, Karger)

Chair Karger reminded the commission that Public Works is having a major staff shortage and that affects the donation programs. Management Analyst Robb is working on a securing a contract with a third party vendor for bench orders and installation. The sub-committee continues to work with legal on wording for the legacy policy and will also be including the Cultural Arts Art Donation Policy as a part of the whole donation program.

## G. STAFF ITEMS

Director Leyman informed the commission that Erick Lee has been appointed as the new Director of Public Works.

The Concerts in the Park lineup has been set. Local bands have been secured for a four week series.

Senior Recreation Manager (SRM) Vincent gave the following updates:

Summer programs are running at nearly 2019 attendance levels.

120 participated in the MBO Tennis Tournament. LA Car Guy sponsored the event and provided cash prizes to the open divisions. Special thanks to the Downtown Business and Professional Association for providing prizes for the amateur division.

International Surf Fest starts Friday. 70 teams registered for the Charlie Saikley 6-Man Beach Volleyball Tournament. 30 teams are registered for Jr. 6-Man.

The Manhattan Beach Open Volleyball Tournament will be held August 19<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Bally's purchased AVP and will honor the current contract. The size of the event has been reduced to the size of the event two years ago. The event kick off on August 19th with the plaque

presentation to the 2019 winners.

Fall registration will begin on August 9<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Karger shared that the Mira Costa Girls each volleyball team will be recognized at a future City Council meeting for winning the State Championship.

#### H. **COMMISSION ITEMS**

Older Adult Program update – Commissioner McCarthy reported that most of the Older Adult Programs are coming back to in-person and should be back in full swing soon.

The Senior Advisory Committee discussed the renaming of the Scout House to Manhattan Beach Community Center. There is still work to be done to close the gap on funding.

99.5% of seniors in Manhattan Beach are now vaccinated. The seniors are concerned that the Clean Power Alliance is switching to 100% and seniors will now have to opt out if they want the lower rate.

Student update – Commissioner Grampp had no updates at this time as school is out for the summer. School starts on August 25<sup>th</sup>. Mira Costa has a new principal and a new superintendent has been hired.

#### I. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

Ayes: Chair Karger, Greenberg, Weiner, McCarthy, Doran and Grampp

Nays: none

Abstain: none

Absent: Turkmany