

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
Virtual – Zoom meeting
October 25, 2021
4:00 PM

CONTENTS

A. CALL TO ORDER

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

B. ROLL CALL

Present: Vice-Chair McCarthy, Greenberg, Weiner, Turkmany, Doran, and Grampp

Absent: Karger

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Weiner moved to approve the September 27, 2021 minutes as written.

Commissioner Doran seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Ayes: McCarthy, Greenberg, Weiner, Turkmany, Doran, Grampp

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Karger

D. CEREMONIAL

None

E. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION (3-Minute Limit)

Vice-Chair McCarthy opened the floor to audience participation, seeing none the floor was closed.

F. GENERAL BUSINESS

Discussion of 2021 Workplan Items:

El Porto Family Park (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) – Commissioner Greenberg reported that the subcommittee is still waiting for staff to create the community survey.

Nature Areas and Trails – (Greenberg, McCarthy, Turkmany) Commissioner Greenberg gave the following update: There is a gate (#2) that is welded shut that shouldn't be a big job for Public Works to get that open. Director Leyman will submit a work order. Gate #3 to the south is not locked. South of Gate #4 near Grand View Elementary, there is a fence up for construction and that has created some foot traffic in the area creating an ad-hoc trail. Signs have not yet been ordered. The Risk Manager needs to do another walkthrough to view the progress of the clean up. Director Leyman acknowledged the hard work of Commissioner Greenberg and the rest of the subcommittee. He wants to make sure that the sensitivities of and concerns of everyone involved are addressed. The short term goal is to open the gates and monitor the pilot program. The long term goal is to master plan the area for landscaping, trails and pathways. Commissioner Greenberg expressed his frustration with the process and

the delays and feels that the previous work of the subcommittee has been disrespected by Director Leyman's desire to have the Risk Manager and Police Department reexamine the area. He is concerned that the input from one citizen, while legitimate, is being given undue weight when considering that this project came from the Parks Master Plan survey indicating that residents want more nature trails. Commissioner McCarthy stated that the areas in question are already accessible. She feels that it is so open now that the gates don't even make a difference. Director Leyman stated that after a walk through, there were some areas of concern and he would like to run them by Risk Management and the Police Department for their final blessing. Sr. Recreation Manager Vincent added that the signs being requested are part of a comprehensive signage program for Sand Dune Park and not a one-off order. She added that once the Risk Manager approves the opening, temporary signage can be put up.

Dog Runs/Parkettes – Commissioner Weiner stated there is nothing new on this. Public Works has some work scheduled for the Live Oak Dog Run. The City Building Official is reviewing plans for a shade structure at the Live Oak Dog Run as one of the posts would need to be in the public right of way.

Sand Dune Building Replacement – This project is currently in staffs hands. Several quotes have been gathered for different sizes and scopes of a new building. The quotes will be included in the Parks Master Plan cost analysis.

Exploring Repurposing the Pay N Play Racquetball Courts – (Karger, Turkmany, Greenberg) Director Leyman reported that there are no further updates at this time. The matter is being handled by the legal department.

Exploring Acquisition of the Armory – Director Leyman reported that there are no further updates at this time. No response has been received from the National Guard.

Exploring the feasibility of developing an aquatics center – (McCarthy, Weiner, Doran) Commissioner McCarthy gave the following report: a meeting has been scheduled with Gensler to look at the two locations, Begg and Manhattan Village.

PMP Project Cost Estimates; P&R Maintenance and Replacement Budgeting – (Weiner, McCarthy) Commissioner Weiner stated that this project will come together as the joint meeting presentation is created. Cost information from each subcommittee will be presented by Director Leyman along with possible funding options. Maintenance and replacement costs will also be included in Director Leyman's report. SRM Vincent reported that she has been working with Coordinator Robbie Hoag to develop a maintenance and replacement schedule for equipment, turf fields and courts, and to work with Public Works to include those expenses in a supplemental for next year's budget.

Donation Policy and Programs – (Turkmany, Karger) Commissioner Turkmany shared the following updates: the subcommittee is looking at the possibility of creating a 501c3. They would like to gauge the interest of the City Council.

Legacy donation program- gift acceptance policy. The City legal team would need to create an airtight legacy type program to accept gifts, examples include gift annuities, charitable remainder trust retirement plan beneficiary. This could be a part of the proposed Parks Foundation.

G. STAFF ITEMS

Director Leyman gave the following updates:

SRM Vincent is transitioning to her role as Communications Manager and is working in her new role about 50% of the time. There is a reorg in the works but has not yet been approved. Details of the reorg will be shared as soon as possible.

City Council approved the Polliwog Park Playground project. The engineer leading this project is leaving the City so that will be a challenge. The shade structure and bioswale add alternates are included in the approved project. The goal is to have the project completed by the end of May, 2022.

The John Van Hamersveld mural frieze repair was approved. The vinyl frieze will be removed and used as a stencil for the designed to be repainted.

After deciding not to move forward with an artist designed mural for the City Hall lobby, the City Council approved a digital wall for the space.

They also gave some direction on moving forward with a pavilion or band shell for Polliwog Park. Staff will be working on gathering some design options that will ultimately be vetted through the Cultural Arts Commission before going back to City Council.

Lastly, up to \$20,000 was approved for the installation of a rainbow crosswalk at Manhattan Beach Boulevard and The Strand, and a secondary location within Polliwog Park.

The joint Council/Commission Work Plan meeting will be held on January 11th, 6:00 p.m.

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

Pumpkin Races were held with about 700 pumpkins racing.

A fee will be introduced in December for use of pickleball courts.

The City's first pickleball tournament will be held the weekend after Thanksgiving and staff have been working closely with the pickleball community to introduce the event.

Live Oak Park Senior Tennis card has been reintroduced for purchase, allowing residents 55 and over to utilize tennis courts at no charge Monday – Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. or noon to 2:00 p.m.

Swim classes and REC after school program are at capacity.

Veterans Day, November 11th, 11:00 a.m.

Pier Lighting and Holiday Open House – November 17th, 6:00 p.m.

H. COMMISSION ITEMS

The December commission meeting has been rescheduled to December 14, 2021.

Older Adult Program update – Commissioner McCarthy reported that many of the events are being held in person with precautions. The Older Adults Program is making a lot of efforts to reengage the seniors. One concern is that the library is not open for a lot of things and the seniors are missing the library. She mentioned that Dale Eisenhower, who teaches technology classes for the older adults, is collecting old cell phones and computers to send them to Puerto Rico to help out those affected by the hurricanes.

Commissioner McCarthy added that he had sent an email to Recreation Services Manager Jan Buike and Recreation Program Supervisor Adela Cornejo to introduce Commissioner Grampp and his Students to Seniors program. Commissioner Grampp has sent an email and is waiting for a response.

District update – Commissioner Greenberg had no update

Student update – Commissioner Grampp reported that 1100 tickets were sold for the Homecoming. Drama Tech sold out their Alice in Wonderland performance. The PSAT was administered and the Great Shakeout drill was held.

Mira Costa raised an \$18,015 donation for the Skechers Friendship Walk.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Weiner moved to adjourn. Commissioner Doran seconded the motion. Seeing no opposition, the meeting was adjourned at 5:19 PM to Monday, November 22, 2021.

Ayes: McCarthy, Greenberg, Weiner, Turkmany, Doran, Grampp

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Karger