

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Tim <fishandgametim@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 2:22 PM
To: Richard Montgomery; Steve Napolitano; Amy Thomas Howorth; David Lesser; Joe Franklin
Cc: Alexandria Latragna; Liza Tamura, MMC; Martha Alvarez, MMC
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Consideration of the City Sponsoring a Juneteenth Celebration Event at Bruce's Beach Park

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council,

I'll be brief...

- 1) Please do not conflate the Juneteenth celebration event with the former contentious and divisive Bruce's Beach debate. Bruce's Beach should be a settled issue for MB;

- 2) Please do not overlook the significance and opportunity to control the narrative by sponsoring and supporting a Juneteenth event, aka "Freedom Day". To host and acknowledge the emancipation of previously enslaved people following the war that claimed the most American military lives in history at our park in Manhattan Beach, California, USA may be reason enough. But within our community men and women from varied backgrounds came together to determine the outcome of what many saw as a racial injustice -- yes, with disagreement, but without lasting malice or violence.

- 3) Please take this opportunity to **support our City words with our City actions**. Show who Manhattan Beach is now. In so doing, I pledge to split a strawberry soda pop (cultural icon) with the Honorable Mayor Pro Tem Joe Franklin!

Tim Jones



"It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men", Frederick Douglass

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Birkel, Julia L. <jbirkel@hfbllp.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:16 PM
To: List - City Council
Cc: City Clerk
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for City-sponsored Juneteenth celebration

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Dear Esteemed Council,

I am so proud to be a resident of Manhattan Beach.

Thank you again to Councilman Steve Napolitano for opening a pathway to healing with his speech at the Bruce's Beach Plaque presentation.

Thank you to the City Council for (almost unanimously) apologizing to the Bruce Family for the indisputably racist acts the City engaged in 100 years ago, acts that resulted in Black families being excluded from home ownership, which in turn perpetuated over the past century a hostile environment for Black residents and visitors alike.

These are lovely steps towards making Manhattan Beach a truly welcoming city to all.

I am now so pleased to see that the City is considering sponsoring a Juneteenth celebration. It is, after all, a federal holiday now, and I'm sure the entire city can unit in celebrating the official end of slavery in the United States, along with the steps we are taking to heal the racial divides in Manhattan Beach.

I support 100% a City-sponsored Juneteenth Celebration.

Regards,

Julie Birkel

(30 year Manhattan beach resident)



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Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Gary McAulay <gary.mcaulay@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:44 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City event at Bruce's Beach

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Hi Council

I just want to point out that annual events invariably grow larger every year.

It's predictable that the proposed Juneteenth event will grow.

I strongly urge you to move it to another location if, indeed, the City needs to make this an annual event.

Respectfully

Gary D.. McAulay

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: JERRY KINNAN <jkinnan436@aol.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 4:01 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Bruce's Beach Events

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear City Council Members:

We respectfully ask that you not consider funding special events at Bruce's Beach.

The surrounding neighborhood would be terribly impacted with traffic, noise, crime, graffiti and other pollution. Have you seriously discussed these implications with our Chief Johnson?

In today's climate of "smash and grab", is it wise to invite more crowds to our small city? Please consider the impact on our residents and our respective lives. We deserve to be safe!

Patricia and Jerry Kinnan
MB Residents since 1974

Sent from my iPhone

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: James Conner <jkconner@earthlink.net>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 3:18 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Large events

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I live a block away — please no large events —my car has been burgled recently by out of area persons— mb crime is worse than ever and I've lived here for 50 years

Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Bruce Greenberg <bruce.h.greenberg@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 2:18 PM
To: List - City Council
Cc: Mark Leyman
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item // Replacement Turf for the Marine Avenue Athletic Field

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Dear Mayor Montgomery and Members of City Council:

I am writing to you regarding Item #7 on the Consent Calendar for this evening's CC meeting: Consideration of Authorization to Solicit Bids for Replacement Turf for the Marine Avenue Athletic Field.

Yes, you should certainly approve this item. The current turf is in need of replacement, as anticipated.

However, I encourage you to pull the item from the consent calendar and use the opportunity to begin a meaningful discussion regarding changing how the City pays for routine turf field replacement in the future.

Background:

- My understanding is that the estimated cost of re-turfing a field is ~\$1M and has an expected useful life of ~10 years. Per the staff report: "Project contributions totaling \$400,000 from various user groups have been identified in exchange for dedicated field use."
- When Ken Weiner and I joined the P&R Commission nearly 6 years ago, our first project was updating the City's field allocation policy and user fees. We worked closely with staff and the leadership from all of the local youth sports organizations (e.g., AYSO, MBLL, BCS, etc.) in designing this policy to optimize field utilization and maximize fairness and equity in field allocation assignments. By most accounts, the updated policy has been very successful. However, the policy always faced a significant limitation in that the vast majority of "premier" field time on turf fields for practice and games cannot be allocated by staff via execution of the policy. Rather, the turf fields in MB are pre-reserved 10 years in advance by the "user groups" that contributed towards the installation of those fields.

Problem:

- Through our work with staff and the user groups, we came to understand the benefits and problems with such a "public-private partnership" model for financing the turf fields. The benefit to the City is that it minimizes the amount of capital that needs to be reserved and allocated towards routine field replacement. The benefit for the user groups that participate in the "partnership" is that they have guaranteed practice/game time on these fields for the next 10 years.
- The problem with this model is the lack of flexibility. The turf field allocation schedule is locked down in a 10-year contract. And, as we learned over the last 10 years, things change. A prime example is lacrosse. Ten years ago, lacrosse was just being introduced to MB. Nobody would have predicted that, over the next 10 years, lacrosse would become one of the fastest growing sports in MB and California. However, the growth of the sport in MB was limited not by lack of interest but by lack of access to fields for practice and games. Budding lacrosse clubs and leagues would contact City staff, seeking to rent field time, only to be told that none was available. (After a long period, the lacrosse clubs were able to reserve some field time but how that came about is another story for another day).
- Nobody has a crystal ball that can accurately forecast what will change over the next 10 years. If soccer wanes in popularity and flag football increases in popularity (they recently added a girls flag football program), would the City have the flexibility to shift field allocation time from AYSO to BCS? No. What is the next sport that will explode in popularity, like lacrosse and pickleball, and will the City have the flexibility to address the new demand? No.

The Current Financial Model for Youth Sports Leagues in MB:

Before I get to a proposed solution, it's important to understand the current financial model for youth sports leagues in MB.

- The City currently under-charges the youth sports leagues with respect to field user fees. The current fee structure is sufficient to cover field maintenance but not sufficient to build up an enterprise fund for field replacement. So, the City and leagues have fallen into a routine of replacing turf fields every 10 years through "public-private partnerships."
- The leadership of the youth sports leagues are sophisticated and they have come to understand this routine and use it to their advantage. So, their league registration fees quietly incorporate a sizable allocation to build up a 6-figure reserve fund within their accounts for field replacement.
- Then, when City staff approach the leagues for contributions for turf replacement, the well-managed sports leagues have each built up a sizable war chest and are prepared to negotiate from a position of power with City staff. Newer leagues and clubs that have not built up a sizable field fund are placed at a significant disadvantage. Is this a fair model for field allocation?

Proposed Solution:

I would like to propose a solution that will (a) give the City more control over scheduling these scarce public resources, (b) NOT adversely impact the City's finances, and (c) cost no more to the end users (i.e., families paying league registration fees).

1. For the field replacement project being contemplated tonight, the City should move forward with the public-private partnership as contemplated but also incorporate the following guidance: since the user groups are "contributing" ~40% of the cost of the new field, they should be able to reserve no more than 40% of the "premier" field hours (e.g., weekends and weekdays 3pm - 9pm) and the remainder of the field availability should be allocated by staff per the field allocation policy.
2. Marine Ave Field 2023 should be the last field that the City ever replaces using the public-private partnership model. We should migrate to a new model that will cost no more to the City, the youth sports leagues, or the families of MB.
3. Going forward, the City should:
 - a. Increase user fees to cover the cost of maintenance AND build an enterprise fund in anticipation of turf replacement every 10 years,
 - b. Commit to the leagues that (a) the increased fees will be used to fund turf replacement and (b) the City will not ask the league to contribute to such projects in the future.
4. The leagues will balk about the dramatic increase in field use fees but, in reality, it should have no impact on the registration fees charged to players/families. The funds that are currently building up in the leagues' field replacement war chests will, instead, be flowing directly to the City's field replacement enterprise fund.

The end result will be that the City will, once again, maintain control over the allocation of these scarce public resources (via the City's Field Allocation Policy) for the best use rather than locking up the fields in long-term rental deals based on financial contributions.

Please consider.

Thank you for your service to the community.

Best regards,
BG

p.s. I don't have a dog in this fight. No member of my family is/was a lacrosse player. My boys (ages 16 and 19) play indoor and beach volleyball.

=====
Bruce Greenberg
310.897.4695 M
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Martha Alvarez, MMC

From: Jane Franklin <janehomemail@gmail.com>
Sent: Tuesday, April 18, 2023 1:30 PM
To: List - City Council
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Please no events at Bruce beach

EXTERNAL EMAIL: Do not click links or open attachments unless you trust the sender and know the content is safe.

Please no events at this venue. There is no parking. At this time in our country even small events can spin out of control. We do not have staffing to manage an event. Your responsibility is to the City and its current residents. Please keep the city safe.

Margaret Jane Franklin
1009 street