

DRAFT

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

April 28, 2008
6:30 P.M.

CONTENTS

	Page
08/0428.1 – Selection of 2008 Youth Services Award Recipient.....	1
08/0428.1 – Topics for Discussion at the May 13, 2008 City Council/Parks & Recreation Commission Joint Meeting.....	2

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Fitzpatrick, Gill, Harris, Lear, Murray and Shambaugh

Absent: Commissioner Nicholson

Others Present: Director of Parks and Recreation Richard Gill and recording secretary Jane Grace

AGENDA CHANGES

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the March 24, 2008 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting were approved as written. (MSC: Lear/Murray – Unanimous)

CEREMONIAL

None

GENERAL BUSINESS

08/0428.1 – Selection of 2008 Youth Services Award Recipient

Mr. Gill reported that since 1972 the Commission has annually presented the Manhattan Beach Recreation and Youth Services Award to a local citizen who has made significant contributions in promoting leisure services for the youth of Manhattan Beach. The Youth Services Award is presented in July, which is recognized as “Parks and Recreation Month” statewide.

Mr. Gill reported that staff sent a letter to all known youth agencies soliciting nominations; three nominations were received, including one nominee that has been given the award in the past few years. Therefore, only two nominees were considered by the Commission (Johnnie Morgan and Tammy Choy).

After a discussion among the Commissioners, it was agreed that both nominees were worthy of the award.

A motion was made to nominate Johnnie Morgan and Tammy Choy as co-recipients of the 2008 Youth Services Award (MSC: Lear/Gill).

08/0428.1 – Topics for Discussion at the May 13, 2008 City Council/Parks & Recreation Commission Joint Meeting

Mr. Gill reported that the joint meeting with City Council is generally an occasion for the Council to thank the Commissioners for their service but also an opportunity for the Commission to discuss or ask questions regarding topics of interest.

Commissioner Lear asked Director Gill if he could suggest topics that the City Council might be interested in. Mr. Gill indicated that the Commission should bring up topics that they are interested in and suggested that they might have questions regarding the results of the FSP studies and the outcome for the poor condition of facilities (i.e. Begg Pool, Scout House, Live Oak Park Hall).

Commissioner Murray suggested that the discussions with City Council should focus on the Parks and Recreation Department mission and vision statements:

- Continue to attend the various events as set forth by the Parks and Recreation Department
- Dog Issues
- Continue to promote upcoming events throughout our neighborhoods, chamber affiliations, Kiwanis, Leadership Manhattan Beach and other similar organizations
- Work with City Council on establishing and promoting awareness with regard to “Green Issues” for our parks and recreational facilities
- Help to promote awareness throughout our community for Concerts in the Park/Sunday afternoon concerts/art shows @ Metlox
- Promote awareness and attend the annual City of Manhattan Beach Senior Health Fair

During a discussion among the commissioners, the following suggestions for discussion with City Council were made:

- Commissioner Gill reported that he spoke to the School Board regarding their upcoming bond issue and inquired whether they would consider the refurbishment of Begg Pool as part of the bond. He reported that the School Board was very receptive to the suggestion, under the condition that their polling would indicate interest in the refurbishment of the pool. Suggestions were made that the School District could build a pool and lease to the City or enter into a partnership on the construction of a new pool with the City. Commissioner Gill suggested that the Begg Pool facility is in extreme need of repair and Commissioner Fitzpatrick suggested that a pool for swim lessons is a top priority in a beach community.
- Commissioner Murray suggested that the Commission should ask Council what they could do to enhance the City’s “green” efforts.
- Commission Harris suggested that the City’s Tree Donation Program should be clear and easy to understand and trees used should be California native and drought tolerant. She

would like to recommend to Council that the City “Green Team” include representatives from all City Commissions.

- Commissioner Lear would like to discuss Council’s thoughts about a skatepark. Commissioner Gill agreed that there is still a need for a skatepark in Manhattan Beach.
- Commissioner Murray would like to discuss our “Community Image and Sense of Place” and ask City Council if they would like the Commission and staff to pursue the addition of more special events, i.e. Pumpkin Races. Commissioner Fitzpatrick suggested that a community movie night might be well received by the public and indicated that they have been very successful in other communities.
- Commissioner Murray suggested that the current condition of our recreation facilities be discussed and what can be done to improve them.
- Commissioner Shambaugh could report on the importance of a Mira Costa High School Student on the Commission.
- Commissioner Fitzpatrick suggested that discussions on dog access should be continued and Commissioner Harris agreed to bring up the subject with City Council.

OTHER COMMISSION BUSINESS

Commissioner Murray reported that the Annual Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce/Mayor’s Golf Tournament will be held on May 12; \$50,000 has been raised for the School District and various charities. Volunteers are still needed if any of the Commissioners are interested.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

REPORTS

Commissioner Fitzpatrick attended the Earth Day in Polliwog Park. She suggested that the event was well done and, therefore, surprised that the attendance was not high. Commissioner Harris suggested that might be due to competing events in other local communities.

Commissioner Lear reported that an artist at the Metlox Plaza “Local Artists” series in April was disappointed in the attendance, suggesting that it is not the best venue to draw in the public.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.