

**CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE JOINT CITY COUNCIL AND
PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
JULY 8, 2008**

The Joint Meeting of the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission of the City of Manhattan Beach, California, was held on the 8th day of July, 2008, at the hour of 6:30 p.m., in the Police/Fire Conference Room, 400/420 15th Street, in said City.

ROLL CALL

Present: City Council: Ward, Tell, Aldinger, Cohen and Mayor Montgomery.
 Parks and Recreation Commission: Cajka, Fitzpatrick, Gill, Harris, Murray,
 Nicholson and Rhodes
 Staff: City Manager Dolan and Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill

Absent: None

Clerk: Geoff Dolan (Acting).

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

There was no public comment.

SCHEDULED

08/0708.1 Discussion Regarding Parks & Recreation Commission Issues

Mayor Richard Montgomery opened the meeting thanking the Commissioners for attending and for their hard work during the past year. He stated that each Commissioner wanted two to three minutes to update Council on general issues and request direction from the Council.

Commissioner Steve Nicholson indicated a need for a new community center to replace the Joslyn/Live Oak/Scout House. He stated that the Commissioners took a tour of the facilities recently and agreed that the facilities are in poor condition. Commissioner Nicholson also stated that the Commission was concerned because the City was no longer interested in a bond measure for the replacement of the facilities because the School District was going for a bond measure in November.

Commissioner Lynn Harris spoke about needs for dogs and suggested changes for the tree and bench donation policy. She suggested that the tree policy should contain drought tolerant trees that are native to California. The Council stated that once the Environmental Task Force was formed, this issue could be considered by the Task Force with the help of Juan Price, the City's Public Works Superintendent. Commissioner Harris also requested clarification from Council as to what was needed for the Commission to pursue dog runs along Veterans parkway. The Council stated that the Commission should work with the Dog Issues Committee to get "buy in" (acceptance) from the neighbors impacted most by its location.

Commissioner Marianne Fitzpatrick spoke about implementing Movie Nights at different venues throughout the City and looking into the feasibility of buying, leasing or renting equipment. Council unanimously agreed that showing movies on the beach, in the Metlox Plaza/13th Street and Polliwog Park was a great idea. The Commission was directed to work with staff to implement a movie night by renting equipment by late August/early September. The Council was open to buying, renting or leasing the equipment for future movie nights.

Commissioner Max Rhodes spoke about what it is like to be a student representative and how students are selected for the Commission. He stated that unless you are in A.S.B. (Associated Student Body) at Mira Costa, most students don't know about the position. He also stated that movie nights would be a big hit.

Commissioner Ned Gill stated that he was the School District representative and how critical it was for the City and School District to get together and develop a plan for the replacement of Begg Pool. He stated that the pool was totally inadequate and the locker rooms were in deplorable condition. He was concerned that the School District's bond measure may not contain a provision to upgrade Begg Pool and inquired as to the Council's thoughts for replacing the pool. He reminded those in attendance that the pool replacement was rated highly during the Facility Strategic Plan (FSP) process.

Commissioner Deirdre Murray distributed a handout showing the need to develop a foundation for the City through which potential sponsors of activities could donate money. She stated the need to market the department's program, increase sponsorships and pursue grants.

Commission Tom Cajka stated that he was speaking for former Commissioner Ed Lear and himself regarding the need to build a skatepark. He stated that there are many children in town that skateboard and they have no place to go. City Council stated that although a skatepark polled low during the FSP process, it would be the cheapest of the facilities to build.

The City Council thanked the Commission for their ideas and concerns and reassured the Commission that they are highly aware of the need to replace the facilities identified in the FSP. Council also stated that the issue of how to move forward with the FSP was identified in the City Council's Work Plan for future discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:07 p.m. the meeting was adjourned to the 5:30 p.m. Adjourned Regular Meeting to be followed by the 6:30 p.m. Regular City Council Meeting on Tuesday, July 15, 2008, in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 1400 Highland Avenue, in said City.

Richard Gill
Recording Secretary

Richard Montgomery
Mayor

ATTEST:

Liza Tamura
City Clerk