



Agenda Item #: _____

Staff Report

City of Manhattan Beach

TO: Honorable Mayor Ward and Members of the City Council

THROUGH: Richard Thompson, Interim City Manager

FROM: Richard Gill, Director of Parks and Recreation Department

DATE: September 7, 2010

SUBJECT: Consideration Of A Request From TEDxManhattanBeach to Serve Beer and Wine During Their Monthly Meetings at the City's Creative Arts Center

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss the request from TEDxManhattan Beach to serve beer and wine during their monthly meetings in the Creative Arts Center and provide direction.

FISCAL IMPLICATION:

TEDxManhattan Beach will be paying the City's rental fee of \$40.00/hr x 4hrs for a total of \$160 per month.

BACKGROUND:

TEDxManhattanBeach is a non profit organization consisting of volunteers from Leadership Manhattan Beach that independently organize TED like events in MB.

TEDxManhattanBeach is licensed by TED which is a non profit organization devoted to "Ideas Worth Spreading." TEDxManhattanBeach is requesting the use of the City's Creative Arts Center for their monthly meetings and they would like to serve beer and wine.

DISCUSSION:

TEDxManhattanBeach held their first conference February 27, 2010 at the Joslyn Community Center. This was a one day special event with a variety of speakers and TED Talks. On a monthly basis they get together and watch 2-3 Ted Talks and discuss them. Their last 5 monthly meetings have been on the subjects Energy, Food, Oil, Creativity and Urban Design. These monthly meetings have been attended by approximately 50 people each time. The meetings are open to the public and there is a \$10 cover charge. As previously stated they would like to serve beer and wine at their monthly meetings.

Municipal Code 4.48.090 special permit for limited alcoholic beverage use on public property states, "notwithstanding the other prohibitions of this chapter, the Council may grant special permits for the sale or consumption of wine or beer at special functions or activities in the City of

Manhattan Beach, including the Manhattan Beach Pier, but excluding the remainder of the public beach, subject to the recommendations of the Chief of Police. Any such permit with the sale of beer or wine shall also be subject to the license requirements of the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act of the State.”

The City currently permits alcohol consumption for art exhibitions at the Creative Arts Center and also for the Sunday evening Concerts in the Park. Staff receives requests frequently from organizations and private parties for alcohol consumption, and they are denied. City Council also recently denied a request from the Manhattan Beach Residents Association to serve wine and champagne at their 10th anniversary. The concerns that Council expressed were the inability to control consumption of alcohol at a non city sponsored event, the perception by other user groups using the facility, and setting a precedent for future requests.

CONCLUSION:

Staff recommends that the City Council discuss the request from TEDxManhattan Beach to serve beer and wine during their monthly meetings in the Creative Arts Center and provide direction.