

DRAFT

CITY OF MANHATTAN BEACH
MINUTES OF THE PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

September 27, 2010
6:00 P.M.

CONTENTS

Page

10/0927.1 – Tour of Marine Avenue Park.....4

10/0927.2 – Verbal Status Report from the Parks and Recreation Commission
Subcommittee Regarding the Request from Manhattan Beach Little League to Rename
Marine Park and Install a Commemorative Wall within Marine Park that Recognizes Our
Youth and Adults Who Have Contributed to Youth Sports in Manhattan Beach.....3

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Rothans, Gill, Cajka, Nicholson, Manna, Murray and
Schoenfeld

Absent: None

Others Present: Parks and Recreation Director Richard Gill, Recreation Services
Manager Mark Leyman, Recreation Services Manager Idris Al-Oboudi,
Recreation Supervisor Brianne Sternad, Senior Recreation Leader David
Ibarra, and Recording Secretary Jane Grace

AGENDA CHANGES

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Nicholson reported that the August 23, 2010 minutes should be amended to read
that Councilmember Powell was in attendance at the August 7 “Movie on the Beach.”

The minutes of the August 23, 2010 Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting were approved
as amended.

CEREMONIAL

None

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None

COMMISSION ITEMS

Concerts in the Park

Commissioner Nicholson suggested that since the Concerts in the Park have become very popular, resulting in very large crowds, there is a need for additional porta-potties at the more popular concerts. He also reported a problem with people laying out blankets early in the morning to reserve a spot and then leaving for the day, therefore causing spectator frustration by others trying to find seating. He suggested that a policy for saving seats should be determined and should be announced more often at the concerts.

Commissioner Rothans suggested that City staff should not be asked to confiscate chairs and blankets because they are then becoming mini-policemen and open themselves up for legal claims of missing items. His suggestion for a solution would be to place a large banner on stage on the day of the concert saying “Warning; if you abandon your belongings for longer than 10 minutes, they will be subject for removal.” The public will then start policing themselves, removing the blankets of those who do not claim their belongings after 10 minutes. Commissioner Manna suggested that when people start policing the area themselves, there might be arguments among the spectators. Commissioner Rothans suggested that David Ibarra does a good job of announcing this information prior to and during the concert but cannot be there all day starting at 6:00 a.m.

Commissioner Gill suggested that we only allow set ups after a certain time (i.e. 2:00 p.m.); the Commission suggested this might be difficult to enforce.

Director Gill indicated that staff has discussed the problem of seating at the concerts with the following suggestions/questions:

- Announce that blankets cannot be left unattended
- Determine how large the blanket can be
- Print all rules on advertisements; brochures which will help staff enforce policies
- Determine if staff enforces this rule or do we allow spectators to self enforce – Mr. Ibarra indicated that announcements regarding self-enforcement have worked in the past, with spectators removing abandoned blankets, etc.
- Increase porta-potties for well attended events (grouped together at the end of the season)

CAPRCBM Award Nominations

Commission Chair Murray handed out nomination forms from the California Association of Park and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members (CAPRCBM), asking the Commission to return at our next Commission meeting with possible recommendations for any or all of the following awards:

- Outstanding Park and Recreation Commissioner/Board Member
- Outstanding Park and Recreation Professional

- Outstanding Park and Recreation Commission/Board
- Special Award for Outstanding Service

Awards will be presented during the California and Pacific Southwest Recreation and Park Training Conference at the CAPRCBM Awards Banquet on March 10, 2011.

GENERAL BUSINESS

10/0927.2 – Verbal Status Report from the Parks and Recreation Commission Subcommittee Regarding the Request from Manhattan Beach Little League to Rename Marine Park and Install a Commemorative Wall within Marine Park that Recognizes Our Youth and Adults Who Have Contributed to Youth Sports in Manhattan Beach

Recreation Services Manager Mark Leyman reported that is has been a year since this request from Little League went to City Council. The original request included a commemorative wall and the renaming of Marine Park. The project has since evolved into a variety of elements throughout the park, but is now focusing on the entryway. Mr. Leyman presented drawings from the landscape designer. Sub-committee discussions now include design elements, theme or message, developing cost estimates and fund-raising guidelines.

Mr. Leyman reported the drawings include the entryway with a variety of water features. The one word that the committee is connected to for the central theme is “Inspire” with messages resonating throughout the park with the story of the crash and thoughts and quotes from the Pierson family which are being developed at this time. The project is to be fully funded with donations; donations of pavers and benches could be made for years to come, with a portion of the donation possibly going to a charity, i.e. M.A.D.D. Commissioner Gill reported that all three sports are behind this project and the Angels are apparently interested in making a donation. Commissioner Gill suggested that we need a project and a real budget before we can ask for donations.

Mr. Leyman reported that some of the features of the plan include:

- New bollards
- New pavers
- Water features – cost estimates will be obtained
- Removal of tree/addition of new signature tree
- ADA accessible ramp to water feature
- Benches
- Flower boxes
- New bike racks
- Lighting

Commissioner Rothans suggested that the sub-committee visit the 9/11 Memorial at Pepperdine University for ideas. Commissioner Gill indicated that the sub-committee does not see this as a memorial but more a plan to inspire life. Mr. Leyman read the theme or message that the sub-

committee has bought into for the commemorative walk: “Let every action, every reaction, every thought and every emotion be based on love, care and development of the youth.”

Mr. Leyman reported that the next sub-committee will be on October 21 and they will be able to report back to the Commission in the next month or two when cost estimates are determined

10/0927.1 – Tour of Marine Avenue Park

Mr. Al-Oboudi pointed out the following Live Oak Park amenities:

- Dog run – local neighborhood users – classes held
- Baseball Field – Donation from Little League made to replace lighting
- Batting cages heavily used
- Soccer Field – drainage problems and large usage – potential site for artificial turf
- Outdoor restrooms
- Recreation hall
- Little League concession stand
- Basketball courts – very popular during basketball season
- New play equipment – replaced unsafe equipment
- Area at northeast corner of the baseball field has been suggested as a potential location for a skate park
- Pay and Play racquetball courts

ADJOURNMENT

The Commission adjourned at 7:29 p.m.