

February 24, 2004

Chairperson and Members of the
Parks, Recreation and Community
Resources Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting of
March 2, 2004

**2004 COMMERCIAL EVENT APPLICATION
AVP HERMOSA OPEN**

Recommendation

To review and approve the AVP commercial event in accordance with staff recommendations.

COMMERCIAL EVENT	DATE	FEES (est.)
1. AVP Hermosa Open Beach Volleyball Tournament	July 22-25	\$34,964.00

Background

The AVP has a long-standing history of producing professional beach volleyball tournaments to large spectator crowds. The Hermosa Open has become a well-anticipated tradition to the local volleyball community. For the past five years the AVP has partnered with IMG to produce the Mervyn's Beach Bash in June during the off-season, which encompassed the Hermosa Open. This year, the AVP has proposed a stand-alone "grand slam" tournament during the high-impact month of July.

Please review the attached letter of request, noting that the AVP intends to appeal staff recommendation of adherence to City ordinances. Specifically, event operators plan to petition Council for alcohol consumption and food concessions on the beach during their event. The departments of Community Resources, Police, Fire, Community Development, and Public Works met to discuss both operational and safety concerns pertinent to AVP requests. The minutes of this requests are attached for perusal.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Lynn
Recreation Supervisor

AVP Operations Meeting Minutes
February 25, 2004, 10:00 a.m.
Community Center, Room 4

In attendance:

Matt Gage	AVP Representative
Lisa Lynn	Community Resources Dept. Supervisor
Chief Gomez	Hermosa Beach Fire Dept.
Engineer Marks	Hermosa Beach Fire Dept.
Rick Morgan	Public Works Director
Mike Flaherty	Public Works Superintendent
Lt. Jaakola	Hermosa Beach Police Dept., Operations
Vince Balvin	Parking Enforcement
Roy Bronold	Community Development

The meeting began with introduction of staff to Matt Gage. Lisa Lynn stated that our primary reason for this meeting today is to discuss operational components of the AVP event and discuss AVP intent to appeal staff recommendation of adherence to City ordinances.

After a brief overview by Matt Gage, each City department will go over any questions or concerns they might have and answers questions from Mr. Gage.

Matt Gage presented an action plan and gave a brief overview of the AVP Hermosa Open which will be a four-day event, Thursday through Sunday, July 24 – 27, 2004. Set-up would begin Monday of that week and continue over three days and probably carry over into Thursday. Thursday will be for amateur qualifiers with the pro event running Friday through Sunday with NBC televising Saturday and Sunday. Breakdown will begin after the last event. Bleacher breakdown; however, will probably begin on Monday and continue through Tuesday.

Fire Department

Aaron Marks, Fire, had concerns regarding the bleachers. Matt Gage stated that he was still bidding it out. In the past they have used Brown United and there are five or six different companies bidding now.

Roy Bronold, Planning, suggested to Matt Gage that we [the City] come out and take a look at what kind of bleachers the perspective company would provide for him. This would help to let him know what's safe and what's not acceptable by us. He stated that last year we spent a lot of City labor and time going out to keep re-inspecting the bleachers and trying to patch them up. It became a kind of a tidal wave to try and stay in front of and we'd like to prevent this.

Matt Gage stated that the intention is to use metal bleachers and he is negotiating with the company that did the Beach Bash last year and will ask about all metal bleachers when he talks to them.

Roy Bronold replied that they're really good people but we were concerned with some minor safety and clean up issues.

Lisa questioned how the VIP Section is going to be sectioned off. Is it similar to IMG's set-up, is it the two-tiered VIP section? Crowd control is always a problem in this area.

Matt Gage said that it's basically the same as the Manhattan Beach Open. It goes straight from the bleachers on to the VIP area and back, so they're attached. There is stairway access from the rear, up into the VIP area and its height is 26'.

Lisa expressed concern regarding security, because the Manhattan Open VIP section was separated by others with only a dangling rope.

Aaron Marks stated that occupancy load to be enforced. For the bleachers we have an upside and downside for flow of pedestrian traffic which works great for large crowds. Security guards will be needed to enforce this on each stairway. This is a major issue and works great with good signage. All enclosed tents, will also have an occupancy load. Aaron then questioned the two stages shown on the event plan.

Matt Gage said that the second stage is only a PR stage, 4 feet high.

Aaron told him that if it is shorter than 4', no railings are required. The big stage is not a viewing platform; it is for talent, MCs, and the players only. No friends or family, etc are permitted. Aaron questioned the use of walkways.

Matt explained that depending on the company they use, the walkways are usually 4X8 plywood, all nicely connected. Basically they help control the flow around the site so people actually know which way they're going and they can see how to get from one place to the other. Even though the railings only 4' wide, people actually use it and it is also wheelchair accessible.

Aaron told Matt that he, along with Roy and the event's safety engineer, will walk on them, the same as the bleachers to ensure public safety. The event inflatables, anything that's been tied down into the sand with stakes, have to be barricaded somehow. The spikes cannot be left standing alone in the sand. Aaron questioned the use of jumbo tron videos.

Matt said that they were talking about it but haven't got any at present and when and if they do it may be part of the stage ensemble.

Aaron brought up the requirements if they get approval for food on the beach. They will be responsible to follow the same rules as the vendors. If they are having food, they need to have flooring and each vendor must have their own fire extinguisher with up-to-date service. Aaron inquired as to placement of their generators. He stated that last year IMG put theirs on the flat level of the pier, but that won't necessarily be available this year pending construction. He also said that the TV truck might be a problem given the area shown on the action plan.

Matt said that location indicated on the map was there just to show you their equipment and there are other options; it's not definite.

Rick Morgan, Public Works, talked about the demo work on the Pier head stating that the lifeguard stand will also be under construction along with the bathroom area.

Aaron suggested putting the generators behind the construction fences. He also stated that all cables have to be buried sufficiently. Where they go over concrete or pavement and where the public has access to them, it has to have OSHA approved bridges (plastic coverings).

Roy told Matt that he will have to pull permits (no fee) to inspect cables, generators, lighting and underground lines, connections, groundings, etc. He needs to have a plan showing where the generators are going, where grounding stakes are going, and any festive lighting etc. in order to send inspectors out for approval.

Aaron asked when Matt would like inspections to begin and they agreed on 7:30 – 8:00 starting Thursday. Matt understood that once the venue is built there is an inspection every morning before opening.

Lisa stated if there are vendors on Thursday, we need to do an interdepartmental inspection on Wednesday afternoon. The regular morning inspection happens each day thereafter before the venue opens. Security guards must man each entrance until sign-off by City fire engineer and AVP safety officer occurs. Matt stated that his security staff is always there 1½ hours before the start of the event.

Aaron spoke regarding the cameras being used during the event. Matt stated that set up might be Friday evening but more likely Saturday morning. Aaron told Matt that no one can be on the platforms (T's) for the cameras. We also need to know where still photographers are going to be. The bleachers need to have a restricted area that cannot be accessed from underneath and mesh netting is needed for this.

Aaron spoke as if Matt got everything approved. If so, we require two Field Safety Officers and two paramedics. They provide all public medical attention and crowd control in the aspect that they let security know that they need to clear the aisles, stairs, etc. They are not going to clear people; security is to do that. There should be nobody in the aisles and no one sitting on the rails.

Public Works

Mike Flaherty gave Matt a rundown on the situation regarding banners and light pole ads. Cal Trans own the poles on PCH and will not allow any commercial banners. We have several sites around the city that might be used by AVP. There are two locations that need to have the banners no bigger than 3 X 30 and these can be made out of vinyl. The other locations can accommodate 4 X 40 but they need to be made out of mesh material. Our banner requests for this year are numerous so decisions need to be made quickly.

Mike told Matt that cleanup for the event should be a professional cleanup company that will take care of everything from the beginning to the end of this operation which includes beach cleanup, strand cleanup, and surrounding area cleanup. They need some kind of equipment for parking lot cleanup (power sweeper).

Volleyball removal and replacement is very important. Mike would like the name of the person hired and what he is going to do with the poles and nets when he puts them back. We have to make sure he puts them back in the same location. The lifeguards have requested that we not put them in certain spots, and they have to be certain distances from the wall.

Lisa stated that we also need to know where the poles and nets are going to be stored because sometimes they are just left underneath the pier. She recommended utilizing the lifeguards locked storage area at the Pier Head. She suggested Matt Gage contact Bill Sigler regarding court removal services.

Mike told Matt that we need a traffic plan that also involves the Strand. There needs to be a plan illustrating what they do to come on the Strand, how they shut off the pedestrian flow, and we're suggesting that the plan show closure of the Strand from 14th to Pier Avenue while off loading and on loading. They're going to have to have someone to man the barricades and prevent people from getting inside those off loaded vehicles and so forth. The traffic control plan also includes usage of Lot B. We want to make sure that whatever vehicles are coming in on that side, we have the right routes to get there. The TV truck can't be on the west side of the Strand. The Beach Hotel is the best bet. They're going to have to fly the cables from 13th Street. NBC will come in Saturday morning and leave Sunday, late afternoon.

AVP is responsible for steam cleaning with an estimated \$2,000 cost for Public Works. All other cleanup costs belong to AVP and they are to get their own clean up companies.

Aaron was concerned about valet parking.

Lisa has addressed this issue with the AVP and they have agreed to valet parking in Lot B only.

Mike told Matt that he needs a traffic plan by a certified traffic engineer that includes 1) pedestrian affairs, 2) streets coming off Hermosa, 3) what type of barricades to be used, and 4) the type of closures for bicycles and pedestrians during the movement of vehicles on the strand.

Police

Lt Jaakola stated his major concerns as:

- 1) Security Guards – They are to be unarmed at all times.
- 2) Modeling Contest – There will absolutely not be a modeling contest. This will not be tolerated by Police.

- 3) Alcohol (if ordinance is turned over) – No alcohol before noon and then only beer and wine. There is to be no over serving whatsoever. This is to be closely monitored by security people.
- 4) Moving Equipment Across the Strand – There must be some kind of flagman there absolutely all the time.
- 5) Two officers per day on Thursday and Friday, and four on Saturday & Sunday.

Matt stated that Thursday is only a qualifier, amateurs and their families, nobody really goes. The VIP area would not be open at this time. The special event area will still be under construction but there might be vendors in the afternoon.

Lisa reminded Matt that the area needs to be either open or closed. There is no gray area here. There cannot be construction and vendors open for business at the same time. If construction is still happening on Thursday, the Center Court area and vendors may not be open for spectators. Construction areas must be adequately fenced off.

Jaakola stated that he could do with no officers on Thursday if it is basically going to be empty. Lisa spoke to the fact that the kids are on vacation. This is a busy time of year, and once word gets out, people flock to the beach for “freebies”. Jaakola said that a fence should be surrounding the construction area.

Parking Enforcement

Vince spoke to the fact that when parking the vehicles in Lot B on Sunday evening there should be a fence around it. Flaherty told Matt that they could use the City yard if needed. Matt stated that they have a warehouse in Gardena and they will be coming from there.

Vince said to post no parking signs (Lot B) a couple of days before the event and then repost as necessary. Lisa brought up the fact that the Sunset Concerts will be happening that Sunday evening and will be using Lot B. It will be easier for AVP to load-in on Monday morning.

There will be shuttle service from Mira Costa to 14th Street (include this in traffic plan). A 24-passenger vehicle is best as a shuttle. The barricades for bicycles need to be ready for use and AVP would keep barricades in their compound and responsible for putting them out each morning.

Lisa reminded Matt that there may not be any variance to the shuttle bus route. Buses are permitted on Aviation, PCH, Pier and Hermosa Avenue only. Residents are intolerant to any deviation from this plan.

Community Development

Roy brought up the issues of disability access stating that “temporary events” are a hot topic and there are new requirements, including sight facilitation, is a factor. They have to be completely accessible, they have to have a perfect line of sight without anyone being able to stand up and block their views from any locations. Lisa mentioned the fact that we

have two sand wheel chairs, but Roy stated it was stricter than that. There needs to be adequate signage for parking. In the event, you have to be sure to protect the handicap spots that are directly kept open for them, no cameras, nothing being able to be placed in those areas. Roy stated he would fax all the information to each department.

He also stated that he needs a bleacher plan, something from the fabricator, or supplier stating stair details, stability engineering, etc. on your specs and an engineering plan. He will also send this additional information to all departments.

The meeting concluded at 11:45 am