



C-2

Date: February 14, 2006
To: Members of the Housing and Neighborhoods Committee
From: Phil T. Hesse, Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine
Subject: Recommendation to Name the South Baseball Field at Stearns Champions Park as "Tom Buckle Field"

RECOMMENDATION:

Concur with the recommendation to name the south baseball field at Stearns Champions Park as Tom Buckle Field and refer the recommendation to the City Council for approval.

DISCUSSION

At the January 17, 2006 City Council meeting, Fourth District City Councilmember Patrick O'Donnell requested that the south baseball field at Stearns Champions Park (Attachment #1) be officially dedicated as "Tom Buckle Field. According to Administrative Regulation AR 8 – 7, the City Council referred the request to the Housing and Neighborhood Subcommittee and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The Parks and Recreation Commission will consider the action at their February 16, 2006 meeting.

The Administrative Regulations AR 8 – 7 applies to the naming of all public land, buildings and facilities. AR 8 – 7 provides several policies to guide the consideration of a naming request. The following are those policies:

- The name should incorporate Long Beach whenever important for civic recognition or identification;
- A name in honor of a recognized geographic area, a topographic feature or a historically significant event may be appropriate;
- A name in honor of persons or families who have donated the land or a substantial portion of the improvement costs may be appropriate when applicable;
- A name in honor of a person or persons who have served the nation, the State of California, and/or the City of Long Beach in an exceptional or distinguished manner may be appropriate if warranted by service of major significance;
- A name in honor of a living person, or of a deceased person within one year of their death, is not appropriate unless the significance of that person's contribution is worthy of an exception to the policy;
- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate when a name in honor of another person has been given to the same site, building or facility in the past;

- A name in honor of a person is not appropriate if that person has been overly recognized in the past; and,
- A name may be selected through a competition or a contest.

Naming the south baseball field at Stearns Champions Park (Attachment #2) as "Tom Buckle Field" is appropriate under the category of persons who have served Long Beach in an exceptional or distinguished manner of major significance. It is fitting that this honor be bestowed on Tom Buckle, who volunteered for 30 years at Stearns Champions Park and served as President of the Little League.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is requested at the February 21, 2006 City Council meeting to enable the dedication ceremony to take place on March 4, 2006.

FISCAL IMPACT

The recommended action will have no fiscal impact.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

PTH:rb
C:\MYDOCUMENTS\COUNCIL\HNC BUCKLE.DOC

Attachments

APPROVED:



GERALD R. MILLER
CITY MANAGER



City of Long Beach

Working Together to Serve

RECEIVED
CITY CLERK
LONG BEACH, CALIF.

06 JAN 12 AM 11:59

Memorandum
Councilmember
Patrick O'Donnell
4th District

~~R-9~~

Date: January 17, 2006

To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers

From: Patrick O'Donnell, 4th District Councilmember *POD*

Subject: Tom Buckle Field

Recommended Action

I ask that the Council join me in officially dedicating the south baseball field at Stearns Champion Park as "Tom Buckle Field," and that this item be referred to the Housing and Neighborhood Subcommittee and the Parks and Recreation Commission.

Background

In anticipation of the Council's support, I hope to hold a dedication ceremony for Tom Buckle Field on March 4, 2006.

Tom Buckle Field was unofficially dedicated by Scott Chamberlain, then President of Long Beach Little League, at Opening Day in 2004. Due to the fact that Mr. Buckle had not been deceased more than one year, the City Council was not able to recognize the dedication officially at the time. Mrs. Alice Buckle looked on and her family was in attendance. Her great grandson played in a game that day.

Mr. Buckle volunteered for 30 years at Stearns Park and served as President of the Little League. He was considered to be a great community leader and a hero to the Little League children.

Stearns Champions Park comprises 20.9 acres and features volleyball and basketball courts, open space for picnics, a soccer field, a playground, and a community center. The park also offers youth recreation, adult class, and senior programs.