

November 21, 2019

MEMBERS OF THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Director of Parks, Recreation and Marine to execute all documents necessary to issue a Use Permit to LARPBO: Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners, Inc., dba LARPBO Dog Training for the continued provision of on-leash dog training/handling classes (commercial recreation) at Heartwell Park for a term of two years and approximately 7 months, from April 12, 2019 to November 30, 2021, with one, two-year renewal option through November 30, 2023, at the discretion of the Director or his designee. (District 5)

DISCUSSION

On April 11, 2013 and April 21, 2016, the Parks and Recreation Commission approved Use Permits with LARPBO: Los Angeles Responsible Pit Bull Owners, Inc. (LARPBO), a California non-profit corporation, for the provision of on-leash dog training/handling classes (commercial recreation) at Heartwell and Stearns Parks.

The most recent Use Permit with LARPBO expired on April 11, 2019. The Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine (Department) has been working with LARPBO to resolve public noise complaints from LARPBO's use of Stearns Park, which is surrounded by homes and a school, and is proposing to move LARPBO's classes to Heartwell Park.

LARBPO's mission is to "Join together in group activities, events, pit bull advocacy, education classes, training classes, and community outreach in order to provide a positive image of all "bully breeds". While LARBPO advocates for pit bull type dogs, they welcome all dogs to training classes and events. LARBPO charges \$15 per training class, which helps prepare dogs to test for the American Kennel Club Canine Good Citizen title as a pleasant, well-behaved member of the community.

The proposed Use Permit will contain the following major terms and conditions:

- Term: April 12, 2019 to November 30, 2021.
- Renewal Options: One, two-year renewal option, December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2023.

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- **Permitted Use:** LARPBO shall provide and operate on-leash dog training/handling classes, during park posted hours. The classes shall be open to all breeds of dogs, not just pit bulls. Classes are usually held one day per week for one hour.
- **Permit Area:** LARPBO shall be permitted to use open park space at Heartwell Park as designated by Department staff. LARPBO may operate at other Department parks as approved in advance and in writing by the Director or his designee, and as incorporated into LARPBO's Use Permit by mutual agreement as an amendment to the Use Permit. The Permit area shall be specifically delineated by LARPBO with traffic-style cones and/or caution tape or other method of delineation as approved by the Department.
- **Permit Schedule:** A comprehensive schedule of use of the Permit Area shall be submitted annually to the Director for approval, and any deviation from the schedule shall be submitted in writing to the Director no later than 30 days prior to the proposed deviation.
- **Permit Fee:** LARPBO shall pay to the Department an annual permit fee of Three-Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$350) for the use of one location within Heartwell Park. Additional Department-approved sites within Heartwell Park, or sites within other Department parks as listed in a Use Permit amendment, shall increase the annual permit fee by the \$350 per site.
- **Safety:** All dog owners are required to provide proof of current dog vaccinations (rabies, parvo, distemper, influenza, and bordatella), and must provide proof of a current dog license from the city where the dog resides. All dogs must wear a dog collar and be kept on leash and under control of their owner or the LARPBO instructor, at all times. Any verified violation of the leash law may result in termination of the Use Permit.
- **Inspection:** To ensure the safety of park patrons and their dogs, Animal Care Services Bureau Officers may make spot checks of LARPBO classes before, during, and after LARPBO's published schedule. If an issue should arise where an Animal Care Services Officer is required to intervene, a \$68 fee for the officer's time may be billed to LARPBO.
- **Sound Amplification:** Amplified sound of any kind and in any manner, shall not be permitted.
- **Permit Termination:** Either party may terminate the Use Permit within 30-days written notice to the other party.



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- Insurance: LARPBO shall maintain and provide all applicable insurance and endorsements, as required and approved by the City's Risk Manager.

FISCAL IMPACT:

It is expected that the Recommendation will accrue revenue to the General Fund Group in the Parks, Recreation and Marine Department (34) in the amount of \$350 per year.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully Submitted,

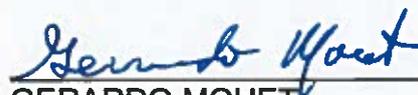


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APPROVED:



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