



City of Las Cruces®

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE

Council Action and Executive Summary

Item # 7 Ordinance/Resolution# 11-103 Council District: All

For Meeting of November 1, 2010
(Adoption Date)

TITLE: A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DISBURSEMENT OF STIPENDS TO LOCAL YOUTH LEAGUES AND ORGANIZATIONS, FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF A PORTION OF THEIR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE 2010 SEASON(S), IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$23,000.00.

PURPOSE(S) OF ACTION: To approve the disbursement of youth athletic league and organization stipends in accordance with the City's Stipend Policy and Criteria.

Drafter and Staff Contact: Mark Johnston, Parks and Recreation Administrator		Department: Facilities/ Parks and Recreation		Phone: 541-2550	
Department	Signature	Phone	Department	Signature	Phone
Department Director		541-2551	Budget		541-2107
Other			Assistant City Manager		541-2271
Legal		541-2128	City Manager		541-2076

BACKGROUND / KEY ISSUES / CONTRIBUTING FACTORS: For many years, the City has subsidized a portion of the operational expenses associated with the provision of programs by local youth leagues and organizations through the disbursement of stipends.

On a yearly basis, staff brings forward funding requests to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board who then develop a recommendation for stipend disbursement for City Council's approval. At the meeting on March 15, 2010 City Council approved stipend requests for the 2009 season and directed staff to work with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the general public, and league representatives to create a policy and develop criteria to govern the issuance of stipends. Such a policy, Leagues and Organizations Criteria and Guidelines for the Distribution of City Funds/Stipends, was approved by City Council pursuant to Resolution 10-271 on May 3, 2010. This Policy served to clarify league eligibility, clearly specifying documentation requirements for leagues to submit for stipend award consideration, and developing a clear procedure for requesting and receiving stipends.

This year, staff received stipend requests from five youth leagues. Staff reviewed the requests for compliance to the Policy and forwarded them to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board for consideration. As per the Stipend Policy, the Parks and Recreation

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

Advisory Board reviewed the requests at their September 16, 2010 regular meeting and recommended approval of the following four requests:

Las Cruces Youth Softball Association	\$ 5,000
Las Cruces In-Line Hockey Association	\$ 2,000
Bantam Weight Sports Association	\$12,000
Southwest Youth Sports, Inc (BMX)	\$ 4,000
Total	\$23,000

The requested stipends can be used to help defray operational expenses for these organizations that provide recreational opportunities for local youth, and also for scholarships for youth who may need financial assistance with league costs. Any funds remaining in the league stipend account will be used for other eligible leagues that may come forward requesting stipends. If no additional stipend requests are received, the remaining funds will be used for recreational programming opportunities or for maintenance activities on the ball fields that are used for youth athletic activities.

SUPPORT INFORMATION:

1. Resolution.
2. Exhibit "A", excerpt from draft Parks and Recreation Advisory Board notes of September 16, 2010 meeting.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Is this action already budgeted?	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	See fund summary below
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	If No, then check one below:
	<i>Budget Adjustment Attached</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Expense reallocated from: _____
		<input type="checkbox"/>	Proposed funding is from a new revenue source (i.e. grant; see details below)
<input type="checkbox"/>		Proposed funding is from fund balance in the _____ Fund.	
Does this action create any revenue?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Funds will be deposited into this fund: _____ in the amount of \$ _____.
	No	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is no new revenue generated by this action.

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

FUND EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:

Fund Name(s)	Account Number(s)	Expenditure Proposed	Available Budgeted Funds in Current FY	Remaining Funds	Purpose for Remaining Funds
General Fund Recreation A & G	10123220- 722190	\$23,000	\$54,500	\$31,500	Additional stipends and/or recreational programming/ballfield maintenance

OPTIONS / ALTERNATIVES:

1. Vote "Yes"; this will approve the distribution of \$23,000 in stipends for the 2010 season(s) to the four eligible youth athletic leagues/organizations listed.
2. Vote "No"; this will result in no distribution of stipends.
3. Vote to "Amend"; this could include approving stipends in different amounts than those shown above.
4. Vote to "Table"; this could result in a delay in distribution of stipends to eligible youth athletic leagues/organizations.

REFERENCE INFORMATION

The resolution(s) and/or ordinance(s) listed below are only for reference and are not included as attachments or exhibits.

1. Resolution No. 10-271

(Continue on additional sheets as required)

RESOLUTION NO. 11-103

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE DISBURSEMENT OF STIPENDS TO LOCAL YOUTH LEAGUES AND ORGANIZATIONS FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF A PORTION OF THEIR OPERATIONAL EXPENSES FOR THE 2010 SEASON(S) IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$23,000.00.

The City Council is informed that:

WHEREAS, the City of Las Cruces has been assisting youth sports leagues and organizations with operational expenses through the provision of stipends; and

WHEREAS, the City Council approved a new policy for the distribution of youth sports league stipends on May 3, 2010 pursuant to Resolution 10-271 which clarified league eligibility requirements and stipend application procedures; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with this policy, eligible youth leagues submitted stipend requests for the 2010 season(s) for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's consideration; and

WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended approval of stipend requests for four youth leagues at their regular meeting of September 16, 2010; and

WHEREAS, funds for youth league stipends are currently identified in the City's Fiscal Year 2010/2011 adopted budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the governing body of the City of Las Cruces:

(I)

THAT four youth league stipend requests in the amount of \$23,000 are hereby approved.

(II)

THAT City staff and officials are directed to do all deeds necessary in the accomplishment of the herein above.

Resolution No. 11-103
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DONE AND APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 2010.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

VOTE:

Mayor Miyagishima:	_____
Councillor Silva:	_____
Councillor Connor:	_____
Councillor Pedroza:	_____
Councillor Small:	_____
Councillor Sorg:	_____
Councillor Thomas:	_____

(SEAL)

Moved by: _____

Seconded by: _____

APPROVED TO FORM:



City Attorney

DRAFT**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 16, 2010**

1 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting was held on August 19, 2010, at
2 City Hall, 700 Main Street, Las Cruces, New Mexico.

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

5 Mr. Isaac Chavez, Board Chair, Mr. Frank Carril, Vice-
6 Chair, Ms. Alice Ward, Mr. Ron Camunez, Ms. Jill Steinhoff,
7 and Mr. Mark O'Neill

8
9 Absent: Mr. Eli Guzman

OTHERS PRESENT:

10
11 Mr. Mark Johnston, Parks and Recreation Administrator,
12 Ms. Debbie Johnson, Las Cruces Inline Hockey, Robbie R.
13 Tafoya, Southwest Youth Sports Roadrunner BMX, Tim
14 Hall, Bantam Weight Sports Association, and Barbara
15 Gomez, Parks & Recreation Administrative/P & R Advisory
16 Board Recording Secretary.

17
18 Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

I. Introductions

19
20
21
22 A. Board Members introduced themselves and stated the district they represent.

II. Conflict of Interest

23
24
25
26 A. None.

III. Approval of Minutes

27
28
29
30 The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting Notes from August 19, 2010 were
31 approved with corrections: Page 3 Line 32 should read the Parks and Recreation
32 Board should develop and prioritize projects before sending to City Council; Page 2
33 Line 23 Mr. Chavez should read Mr. Camunez. Mr. Camunez motioned to approve the
34 notes with corrections. Mr. Carril seconded the motion. Motion passed 5-0.

35
36 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES Ms. Alice Ward voted YES
37 Ms. Jill Steinhoff voted YES Mr. Mark O'Neill voted YES
38 Mr. Frank Carril voted YES

1 **IV. Public Comment**

2
3 None.

4
5 **V. New Business**

6
7 A. League Stipend Allocations

8
9 Mr. Johnston informed the Board that the \$54,500 allocated funds can be used for
10 recreational activities if not used for stipends. He stated that stipends will not be
11 released until all pending items are received. *(He passed out a chart of Leagues that*
12 *have requested funding over the years with a checklist of items/paperwork not yet*
13 *received).*

14
15 League representatives present were invited to speak.

16
17 Mr. Tim Hall representing the Las Cruces Bantam Weight Association said that he has
18 been involved as a coach and volunteer since the 70's. Bantam Weight includes
19 football, basketball and volleyball. He stated that the majority of the stipends go to the
20 football program because equipment is very expensive and needs to be purchased or
21 refurbished every year. He said that insurance is costly so stipends help to cover
22 insurance and also help pay for officials. He said there are 800-900 kids playing
23 football this season, and they have added flag football for 3rd and 4th grade. He stated
24 that they turn no one away if the kids can't pay the League takes care of them.

25
26 Mr. Carril asked Mr. Johnston if Mr. Hall could request more funding. He stated that
27 with the success of the program and with the Bantam Weight Board using out of pocket
28 money to cover the kids that can't afford to pay he thinks they should be receiving a
29 larger stipend.

30
31 Mr. Hall said that he thought an additional \$4000 would relieve the worry but he said
32 that they will make it work with the \$8000 they receive now if they need to.

33
34 Ms Debbie Johnson spoke on behalf of Inline Hockey. She stated that the stipend they
35 receive helps cover insurance and buy equipment. It costs about \$40 per child and
36 the majority of the participants are 10-15 years of age. She stated that the \$2000 they
37 receive is sufficient.

38
39 Mr. Chavez said that Las Cruces Youth Baseball Association did not have a
40 representative present. Mr. O'Neill stated that LCYBA should be self sufficient.

41
42 Mr. Chavez said that Las Cruces Youth Softball Association also did not have a
43 representative present. Mr. Johnston said that Mike Cox is usually present but that he
44 knows this is one organization that still needs the stipend to operate.

45

1 The Board was in agreement that the Leagues should have been present if they want
2 to request stipends.

3
4 Mr. Camunez stated that in these economic times decreasing stipends or cutting off
5 Leagues not present would be unfair. He said we need to let them know that we are
6 not happy that they didn't show but give them another opportunity to request their
7 stipends.

8
9 Mr. Robbie Tafoya spoke on behalf of the Southwest Youth Sports BMX organization.
10 He stated that he has been involved with the sport for 33 years. He stated that to date
11 there are 242 active riders and 572 riders are serviced. He said that most kids show
12 up with bikes and helmets. He said they have purchased 20 bikes and helmets for
13 those kids to use but helmets must be replaced every year. The BMX track runs
14 eleven months out of the year and he maintains the track and Parks help with dirt if
15 needed. He borrows loaders six to seven times per year from a local business. Races
16 are \$5.00 per race with about \$3.00 of that amount going to insurance, riders can
17 practice for free, or \$11.50 per month.

18
19 Mr. O'Neill stated that Mr. Tafoya had provided good details on why stipend is needed.

20
21 Mr. Johnston suggested breaking away from stamped stipends and look at setting up
22 scholarships and also to pay for equipment.

23
24 Mr. Chavez asked Mr. Johnston if it would be possible to submit two resolutions to
25 allow the Leagues not present another chance to request funding at a later date.

26
27 Mr. Carril moved to approve an additional \$4000 for Bantam Weight, making their
28 stipend \$12,000. Mr. Camunez seconded the motion based on the \$4000 being used
29 for scholarships and equipment and Southwest Youth Sports stipend would also be
30 increased from \$2000 to \$4000. Las Cruces Youth Softball will retain a \$5000 stipend.
31 Las Cruces Inline Hockey is fine with their \$2000 stipend. Other organizations wanting
32 to request funding will be given one more opportunity at the October meeting.

33
34 Mr. O'Neill does not agree to increase stipends. Ms. Steinhoff also does not agree with
35 increasing stipends.

36
37 Mr. Camunez stated that he strongly disagrees with them because this community is
38 poor.

39
40 Motion passed 3-2.

41
42 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES Ms. Jill Steinhoff voted NO
43 Ms. Alice Ward voted YES Mr. Mark O'Neill voted NO
44 Mr. Frank Carril voted YES

45
46

1 Ms. Ward said that she agrees that the Leagues should have been present. But in
 2 reading the invitation email sent out to the Leagues it was not made clear that it was
 3 mandatory or imperative it stated "you are invited". She said she thinks another
 4 invitation should be sent out making the October meeting mandatory for last change
 5 requests for stipends.

6
 7 B. Flag Pole at Klein Park

8
 9 Mr. Johnston informed the Board that there is no cost for the flag or pole and Parks
 10 employees will install.

11
 12 Mr. Camunez stated that the area where Klein Park is located he is concerned about
 13 vandalism. He asked if a hoist could be installed. Mr. Johnston answered that they
 14 can install an elevated lock box on a 20-25 foot pole. He stated that the donation was
 15 made by the Woodsmen Organization and they would either put the pole and flag in
 16 the southwest corner or directly behind the bandstand where the light is.

17
 18 Mr. Chavez said he thinks it is fine contingent on all is donated except for Parks labor.

19
 20 Mr. Camunez motioned to approve. Mr. O'Neill seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

21
 22 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES Ms. Alice Ward voted YES
 23 Ms. Jill Steinhoff voted YES Mr. Mark O'Neill voted YES
 24 Mr. Frank Carril voted YES

25
 26 C. Drinking Fountains

27
 28 Mr. Carril said that the Parks list Mark provided be taken to City Council for water
 29 fountains to be installed in the priority Mr. Johnston sees fit.

30
 31 Ms. Steinhoff said she would like to see all Parks on list have water fountains and find
 32 funding for all or stager over the months.

33
 34 Mr. Johnston informed the Board that new fountains could cost up to \$10,000 per park,
 35 it costs \$5000 to \$7000 for the fountains and the rest is labor and installation.

36
 37 Mr. Carril motioned to recommend to City Council to take emergency action to install
 38 fountains in the high use parks. Mr. O'Neill seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

39
 40 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES Ms. Alice Ward voted YES
 41 Ms. Jill Steinhoff voted YES Mr. Mark O'Neill voted YES
 42 Mr. Frank Carril voted YES

43
 44 D. Report on P&R Budget with Line Items (Board Requested) – Informational
 45

1 Mr. Johnston informed the Board that Parks currently operates on five million dollars
2 with 58 full time employees working 7 days per week. They cover all ROW's, weeds,
3 spraying, athletic grounds and public grounds and he stated that is a lot to cover on
4 this budget. He also provided the Board with the Year-to-Date Budget Report for their
5 review.

6

7 **VI. MEMBER COMMENTS**

8

9 None.

10

11 **ADJOURNMENT**

12

13 With no further business, Mr. O'Neill motioned to adjourn and Mr. Camunez seconded.
14 Mr. Chavez adjourned the September 16, 2010 meeting at 7:36 p.m. Motion passed
15 5-0.

16

17 Mr. Ron Camunez voted YES

Ms. Alice Ward voted YES

18 Ms. Jill Steinhoff voted YES

Mr. Mark O'Neill voted YES

19 Mr. Frank Carril voted YES

20

21

22 Barbara Gomez, Recording Secretary

Isaac Chavez, Chair P&R Board