

APPROVED
OCT 14 2008

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 08-285

DATE: October 14, 2008

~~BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS~~

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BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CLASS PARKS PROGRAM – APPROVAL TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FROM THE NATIONAL RECREATION AND PARK ASSOCIATION FOR “TEENS OUTSIDE” PROGRAM

R Adams _____	J. Kolb _____
H Fujita _____	F. Mok _____
S Huntley _____	K. Regan _____
*V Israel _____	M. Shull _____



General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Accept a grant from the National Recreation and Park Association in the amount of \$1,500 for the *Teens Outside* program subject to approval of the Mayor and City Council;
2. Direct Staff to transmit the grant award documentation to the Mayor and City Council for approval; and,
3. Authorize the General Manager to execute the resulting grant agreement (Terms and Conditions), and any subsequent amendments thereto, pursuant to Administrative Code Section 14.8 et seq. as may be amended, on behalf of the City, subject to approval as to form by the City Attorney.

SUMMARY:

The Department is requesting permission to accept a grant from the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) for the CLASS Parks Program. The NRPA selected the CLASS Parks Program for its special interest grant for the direct benefit of children and youth. The CLASS Parks Program was selected because of its comprehensive Adventure Program element, which offers an extraordinary variety of outside activities, and guarantees something new, exciting, and

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different for its participants. The CLASS Parks Adventure Program aspires to educate teens in adventure-based recreation through a progressive series of hands-on excursions and activities, often utilizing City, County, State, and National Parks, as well as local recreation facilities. The Program is designed to help youth build self-confidence and teach them how to manage fear by gradually progressing to more difficult adventure activities, as demonstrated in the structure of the three-day kayaking trip. Day One provides an introduction to kayaking and water safety, Day Two provides hands on-skills instruction at Hansen Dam Lake with kayaking equipment, culminating in ocean kayaking at the beach on Day Three. The recreation goals of Adventure Program activities incorporate opportunities for development of life skills in building trust, improving communication, developing teamwork, stimulating personal growth, encouraging camaraderie, increasing enthusiasm, and teaching awareness of the outdoors.

NRPA has awarded the CLASS Parks Program \$1,500 to contribute to the growth and enhancement of existing outdoor recreational programs in the community, and thereby reconnect youth with nature by providing an expanded opportunity for engagement with the outdoors. The intent of these NRPA grant funds is also to work to influence the development of youth who are environmentally aware and understand conservation concerns. The NRPA's mission complements that of the CLASS Parks/Youth Plus Program, a neighborhood youth development program that emphasizes asset building and connecting youth with their communities, and helping to build strong resilient youth who possess a healthy vision of their future.

This grant will go towards the cost of an overnight backpacking trip to Catalina Island as part of the CLASS Parks Adventure Program. The trip will be conducted by Recreation and Parks CLASS Parks staff as well as staff from Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and from the University of Southern California's Sea Grant Program.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Acceptance of this grant funding will have a minimal impact on the Department's General Fund. The \$1,500 grant will cover approximately half the cost of the backpacking trip. Any remaining costs will be covered by the CLASS Parks allocated budget.

This report was prepared by Gary Baer, Principal Recreation Supervisor II, CLASS Parks Program