

APPROVED
JUN 06 2011

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

NO. 11-168

DATE June 6, 2011

BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS

C. D. Various

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: NATASHA WATLEY SOFTBALL LEAGUE - DONATION OF FUNDS AND EQUIPMENT FROM THE NATASHA WATLEY FOUNDATION IN SUPPORT OF A DEPARTMENT-OPERATED GIRLS SOFTBALL LEAGUE AT TWELVE PARK SITES

R. Adams _____
H. Fujita _____
*V. Israel *[Signature]*

K. Regan _____
M. Schull _____
N. Williams _____

[Signature]
General Manager

Approved *with amendments*

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board accept the donation as noted in the Summary of this Report and that appropriate recognition be given to the donor.

SUMMARY:

The Natasha Watley Foundation (Foundation) donated softball equipment with an estimated total value of \$5,700, uniforms with an estimated total value of \$4,200, and ~~\$3,000~~ ^{\$2,475} for the implementation of a youth, girls softball league at 12 City parks, for an estimated total value of ~~\$12,900~~ ^{\$12,375}.

The Foundation was founded by two-time Olympic medalist Natasha Watley, to create opportunities for girls in underserved communities, so they may learn and play the game of softball. The Foundation desires to see young women whose financial resources are limited, be able to train, develop, and compete in a high-quality softball league. The Foundation's purpose is to provide positive alternatives to the everyday struggles that the league's participants may endure in the inner city.

The Foundation's donation to the Department in the form of equipment, uniforms, and funding, is for the implementation of the Department-operated Natasha Watley Softball League (League). The League has been in existence since 2008. This year's League will be held at the following 12 City parks located in the Pacific Region: Algin Sutton Recreation Center, Baldwin Hills Recreation Center, Green Meadows Recreation Center, Imperial Courts Recreation Center,

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Jackie Tatum Harvard Recreation Center, Jordan Downs Recreation Center, Mt. Carmel Recreation Center, Rosecrans Recreation Center, Ross Snyder Recreation Center, St. Andrews Recreation, Van Ness Recreation Center, William Nickerson Recreation Center and will consist of 14 teams, each representing their respective community and park. Opening Day is scheduled to be held on June 8, 2011 at Algin Sutton Recreation Center. Staff anticipates that 168 girls will participate in this year's League. The League is a summer program that will occur June 2011 through August 2011.

Upon receipt of the ~~\$3,000~~^{\$2,475}, it will be deposited into the Reviving Baseball In Inner Cities "RBI" MRP Account No. 322, for the implementation of the League. The funds will be used to pay for the League's umpires. Upon completion of Leagues activities, the equipment will be stored at the participating centers for use in subsequent years.

During the month of February 2011, Natasha Watley conducted two Parent/Player workshops and Mini Clinics at Mt. Carmel Recreation Center and Baldwin Hills Recreation Center. Ms. Watley has recruited college softball players to participate as volunteer coaches and to mentor the players throughout the season. Softball promotes physical fitness, sportsmanship, teamwork, self esteem and leadership skills. In the future, we hope to expand the League to other communities throughout Los Angeles, through a possible program agreement with the Foundation for continued success in years to come.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Acceptance of this donation results in no fiscal impact to the Department's General Fund, except unknown savings, as the donation may offset some expenditures. All cash will be deposited into the Fund No. 301/88 RBI MRP Account No. 322, for program-related expenses.

This report was prepared by Chinyere Stoneham, Sr. Recreation Director II, Partnership Division.