

TO: James L. App, City Manager

FROM: Ann Robb, Director, Library and Recreation Services

SUBJECT: Naming Request – Sherwood Park Baseball Field

DATE: February 2, 2010

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Needs: For the City Council to consider naming a baseball field at Sherwood Park after Thomas R. Silva.

Facts:

1. During his lifetime, Thomas Silva donated time and energy to Boys & Girls Club, Police Activities League and the Barney Schwartz Park Volunteer Task Force. Most especially, he is remembered for his contributions to Little League.
2. Mr. Silva volunteered in Little League for 14 years until his death in 2004. His primary duty was as Head Umpire, but he was involved in all aspects of the League. He is remembered by many with great affection and appreciation.
3. Friends and family of Mr. Silva have proposed that a baseball field at Sherwood Park be named in his honor. The proposal is endorsed by Paso Robles Youth Baseball, Youth Sports Council, and over 150 individuals who signed an informal petition.
4. The proposers have agreed to pay for the professional design, construction and installation of a sign at the field and a “ribbon cutting” style ceremony.
5. There are two baseball fields at Sherwood Park. One is already named Bynum Field. The other is generally referred to as Sherwood Field but has never been formally named.
6. At its January 12, 2010 meeting, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee voted unanimously to recommend that City Council honor the request.

Analysis and

Conclusion: Public facilities may be named in honor of an individual under the conditions outlined in the Naming of Public Facilities policy (attached). To be considered, an individual must have made a particularly meritorious or financial contribution to Paso Robles. A group of individuals and community groups believe Thomas R. Silva meets those requirements. They have requested that a baseball field at Sherwood Park be named “Thomas R. Silva Baseball Field”.

The Naming Policy review process includes review by a City Council ad hoc committee. Inasmuch as this is the City Council's policy, and in the interests of streamlining, the Council could make an exception to proceed with proposal consideration by the full Council.

Policy

Reference: Naming of Public Facilities policy

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Impact: None.

Options:

- a.** Adopt Resolution No. 10-xxx designating the unnamed baseball field at Sherwood Park "Thomas R. Silva Baseball Field".
- b.** Appoint an ad hoc committee to consider the necessity or desirability of the naming and prepare a recommendation to the full City Council.
- c.** Amend, modify, or reject above option.

Attachments: Naming of Public Facilities Policy

## **City of Paso Robles**

### **NAMING OF PUBLIC FACILITIES**

Public facilities are dedicated to the service and enjoyment of all citizens and shall carry designations befitting their intended function and use, origin and/or location. Exceptional circumstances may prompt the City to consider naming a facility in honor of an individual's generosity and contribution to the community. Any such consideration will be pursuant to the following:

#### **Principles and Priorities.**

The election of names for public facilities shall conform to the following principles and priorities:

- (a) As a general policy, names which commemorate the culture and history of Paso Robles shall be given first priority.
- (b) The name of an individual shall be considered only if such individual has made a particularly meritorious or financial contribution, over a period of several years, to the general public interest or the interests of the City; or has donated to the City a significant percentage of the land, or cost for development, of a facility. Naming shall be done posthumously only after the third anniversary of their passing.
- (c) Preference may be given to names of long established local usage, and names that lend dignity to the facility to be named.
- (d) Names selected shall be of enduring, honorable fame, not notoriety, and shall be commensurate with the significance of the facility.
- (e) Proliferation of names for different parts of the same facility should be avoided, and the same name should not be applied to a similar kind of facility.
- (f) Names with connotations which by contemporary community standards are derogatory or offensive shall not be considered.
- (g) Names must be tasteful and non-controversial. The name should be no more than three words preceding the designation (i.e., Park, Building, Room, Field, Complex, etc.).

#### **Contribution Naming Guidelines**

The following are guidelines for which a naming opportunity may be extended:

- (a) For all facilities, there shall be a \$500,000 contribution or 10% of total cost, whichever is greater, in either cash or property.
- (b) Projects not budgeted for and for which other funding is not designated may require a 100% contribution in order to be implemented and a naming opportunity considered.

## **Change of Name**

Once established, a name shall not be changed unless, after investigation by the City, the name is found to be inappropriate.

## **Recommendations of Community Organizations or Citizen Groups**

In the selection of names for City-owned facilities the suggestions, comments, and recommendations of community organizations or citizen groups shall be duly considered; provided that such suggestions, comments, and recommendations meet all the provisions of this policy.

## **Initiation**

Any community organization or citizen group may initiate the naming of a City-owned facility by submitting to the City Manager a request for such action and setting forth the proposed name, a description of the facility, and a statement evidencing that the proposed name meets all the provisions of this policy.

The City may accept and acknowledge pre-approved single items (i.e. benches, tables, trees) rather than facilities, dedicated to an individual, for installation on or in public property or facilities. The items shall meet all City requirements as described in "City Standards, Details and Specifications", and the item shall conform to any master plan for its designated location.

## **Review of Request - Referral**

The City Manager shall review all requests to name a City-owned facility and shall refer the request to the Park & Recreation Advisory Committee, and subsequently to a City Council appointed ad hoc committee for consideration. The Park & Recreation Advisory Committee, and subsequently the Council ad hoc committee, shall consider the necessity or desirability of naming the facility, and the proposed name and any alternatives. The Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, and subsequently the Council ad hoc committee, shall prepare a recommendation to the full City Council for action, which shall include the name for the facility that is deemed most appropriate in accordance with this policy, and confirming the justification for the selection of the name.

**RESOLUTION NO. 10-XXX**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PASO ROBLES  
TO NAME A BASEBALL FIELD AT SHERWOOD PARK  
“THOMAS R. SILVA BASEBALL FIELD”**

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WHEREAS, during his lifetime, Thomas R. Silva donated his time and talents to Boys and Girls Club, Barney Schwartz Park Volunteer Task Force, Police Activities League and Little League; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Silva is fondly remembered by many members of the community for his enthusiasm, generosity, and commitment to youth; and

WHEREAS, a group of individuals has requested that a baseball field be named to honor Mr. Silva; and

WHEREAS, the request has been formally endorsed by Paso Robles Youth Baseball and Youth Sports Council; and

WHEREAS, the City’s Naming of Public Facilities policy allows consideration of naming a City facility for an individual who has made particularly meritorious or financial contributions to the City of Paso Robles; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Advisory Committee, at its January 12, 2010 meeting, voted unanimously to recommend that City Council honor the request;

THEREFORE BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles, that the baseball field at Sherwood Park commonly known as “Sherwood Field” be named “Thomas R. Silva Baseball Field”.

ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of El Paso de Robles at a regular meeting of said Council held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2010 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

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Duane Picanco, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lonnie Dolan, Deputy City Clerk