



STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: June 7, 2011
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Teri Angel, Recreation Services Manager 
Subject: Joint Powers Agreement between the City of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Unified School District – Annual report

INTRODUCTION

The City of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Unified School District entered into a four year agreement in July, 2008 regarding the provision, use and maintenance of educational, recreational and community facilities and programs. Pursuant to Section 7 of the Agreement, the District and City shall conduct quarterly meetings to ensure compliance with the Agreement. The Director of Community Services shall provide an annual report to the City Manager on the level of compliance received from the School District.

DISCUSSION

During the year, the City averages approximately seventy-five (75) hours per day of School District facility use. This includes, but is not limited to preschool programs, after school childcare and enrichment classes; youth sports organization use, aquatic activities, summer camps and adult sports. Without use of the School District's facilities, many of these programs would be non-existent or limited in participation numbers.

This current agreement concludes on June 30, 2012. The first year of the Agreement found each party working well to comply with the Agreement. In the second year, the City and School District had some challenges due to the new bell schedule, conflicting and overlapping schedules, and an unanticipated repair of the Swim Gym floor motor. Now in the third year of the Agreement, the challenges were fewer and smaller in scale.

Items to note are:

- Quarterly meetings with the District are now commonplace and most agenda items, issues and concerns are addressed immediately or prior to the next scheduled meeting. The District has made a concerted effort to meet the requests of the City as outlined and available through the Agreement.

- The School District has made a conscientious effort to notify the City of any upcoming facility conflict. Most of these conflicts come from playoff games and are unavoidable as fields/facilities are determined last minute. By providing the City with immediate notice, we were able to forewarn instructors, contact participants and reschedule classes with minimal issues. The Facility Uses Calendar has been implemented this school year and has been an effective tool for inputting the City's field and facility reservations. This has allowed the public, in particular youth sports coaches, to view dates and times of reserved use. The system does not have the capability to alert when schedules overlap. This should be addressed. The District also utilizes a School Calendar to schedule events. The events need to also be reserved in the Facility Use Calendar to avoid facility conflict.
- The scoreboard in the one of the Upper Gyms broke and due to circumstances, it remained inoperable for over three months. The City incurred a \$600 cost to purchase a portable scoreboard for the interim use by the Adult Basketball League and the Beverly Hills Youth Basketball League. Discussion should be held on how to expedite the process in the future, possibly through a current agreement and open purchase order with the vendor(s) who primarily provide service, repair and supplies to the scoreboards, safety pads, goals, and other sports essentials used by all parties.
- The cleanliness of the tiles and walking surface around the Swim Gym and locker rooms continue to be a common complaint with adult patrons and the parents of youth participants.
- The City continues to notify the School District of unauthorized use by adults for pick-up games, unauthorized private instruction given to youth and adults and the general lack of supervision provided by the District to monitor field usage. Third party usage of the District's facilities without complying with the District's "Application and Agreement for the Use of Facilities" and set fees compromises the contractual and financial agreements the City has with authorized groups/instructors of District and City facilities. The timely opening of the elementary school gates on the weekends for use by youth sports organizations was also inconsistent.
- Frequent inquiries from the residents for a field or place to play adult soccer resulted in the City organizing a 10 week 7 on 7 Adult Soccer League on Sunday mornings at the High School. The six team League is comprised primarily of residents; most of them growing up playing Beverly Hills AYSO, or those who work for Beverly Hills businesses. The intent of the League is to provide a recreational outlet for adult residents interested in competitive play in a widely popular sport. The League also hopes to assist the District in providing adults structured and supervised use of the field which can help curtail unauthorized use. Sunday mornings was a popular time for misuse. The League has been favorably received with additional requests next season to expand the number of teams in the Men's League and provide a Co-ed League. At this time, the Joint Powers Agreement makes no age distinction for facility availability. The field usage signs at the schools do indicate the permit user has to be 13 years of age or under. This is a reasonable request at the elementary school fields although unauthorized weekend use by the adults is not addressed. The high school

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fields are used by the youth sports organizations for age divisions over the age of 13, so the sign is inconsistent with the current use. The District is encouraged to support the City's efforts to provide new recreational opportunities for the adults in the community.

- The School District and City were able to reach mutual agreement on the set aside funds for turf replacement. An account has been established for deposit of funds with joint approval by the District and City for release of funds.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City is fully aware that Beverly Hills school facilities are already used extensively by the School District for their own day-to-day classes, programs, and extra-curricular activities. The provisions of the JPA allowing City use results in many of these facilities open up to 15 hours a day leaving little time for cleaning and maintenance. The School District addressed facility use and maintenance issues in a timely manner. Although one can't always control maintenance and repair issues, they are brought to the Council's attention indicating the challenges faced on reliance of heavily used facilities and the effect they have on accommodating community recreational needs.

RECOMMENDATION

As the City and School District begin discussion on the new terms of the Joint Powers Agreement, opportunities for continued growth and effective use of the resources both entities have to share is encouraged.


Steven Zoet
Approved By