



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: MAY 22, 2018**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT **WARD: 5**

SUBJECT: NAMING OF BASEBALL FIELD #1 IN HONOR OF STEVEN B. ALBERTSON AT ARLINGTON HEIGHTS SPORTS PARK

ISSUE:

Approve naming of baseball field #1 in honor of Steven B. Albertson at Arlington Heights Sports Park.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the City Council approve naming baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park in honor of umpire, Steven B. Albertson.

COMMUNITY SERVICES AND YOUTH COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

The Community Services and Youth Committee met on May 9, 2018, with Chair Conder, Vice Chair Adams and Member Perry present, to consider naming baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park in honor of umpire, Steven B. Albertson. After discussion, the Committee unanimously voted to recommend that the City Council approve the name request.

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION:

The Park and Recreation Commission met on March 19, 2018, with Chair Rounds, Vice Chair Cardullo, and Members Negron, Elliot, Feola, Humphries, Johnson, and Whatley present, to consider naming baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park in honor of umpire, Steven B. Albertson. After discussion the Commission unanimously voted to recommend that the Community Services and Youth Committee support the name request.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY:

According to the established protocol for naming of parks and recreation facilities, the naming of specific areas within a park (garden, swimming pool, lake, ball field, etc.) is acceptable but should

be kept to a minimum to avoid confusion. All names selected shall be acceptable and meaningful to a majority of the neighborhood/community where the park or recreation facility is located. Resolution No. 18647 adopted by the City Council in February 1995 further stipulates as follows:

A park or recreation facility can be named for a person only in limited situations. Such person, except for cases deemed extraordinary by the Park and Recreation Commission, should be honored posthumously. The person for whom a park or recreation facility is named must be an outstanding, long-time City leader or a person of national prominence or historic interest who has supported or contributed to open space and/or recreation activities and concepts, or a person who has made a significant personal contribution toward the acquisition and/or development of a specific park or recreation facility. A donor whose contribution represents a major portion of a planned park or recreation facility may designate a name as a condition of the donation, providing it conforms to the naming criteria set forth above.

BACKGROUND:

Members of the Arlington Little League Board submitted a request that baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park (AHSP) be named in honor of umpire, Steven B. Albertson (attachment 1). The attached application outlines the reasons in support of this request and indicates that Mr. Albertson was a resident of Riverside for 33 years. Albertson played for Arlington Little League as a child and grew up to become a beloved umpire for the same league among many other accomplishments that served the Riverside community.

DISCUSSION:

Steven B. Albertson was a resident of Riverside for 33 years. Albertson attended Harrison Elementary School, Chemawa Middle School, and Norte Vista High School. He lettered in three sports at Norte Vista High School: football, soccer, and baseball; all of which he was team captain. He attended the University of California Riverside, where he graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology.

During his college years, Albertson was the assistant coach for soccer and baseball at Norte Vista High School. He was also a member of the Victoria Pony Western State Championship team in 1996 and a member of National Amateur Athletic Union Bronze Medalist team in 1997.

In his youth, Albertson played for Arlington Little League from 1989 - 1995. He made All-Stars at ages 11 and 12; and was on the championship team in 1995. Albertson umpired for Arlington Little League for 10 years until his untimely death in 2016, at the age of 33 years old.

Albertson's devotion to the youth of Riverside and especially those in the Arlington area is obvious and exemplary. It is the desire of Arlington Little League to have baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park be named after Steven B. Albertson in honor and recognition of him as a quality player, knowledgeable coach, and fair-minded umpire.

The only other field named at AHSP is multi-use #2 named after Pete King. In 2012, City Council approved the naming in honor of Mr. Pete King given that he spent over 30 years as the driving force behind the advancement of youth and adult soccer in Riverside.

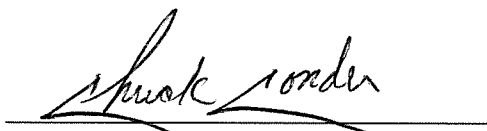
If approved, Arlington Little League will host a small ribbon cutting ceremony during their closing ceremony scheduled for Saturday, June 2, 2018.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with naming baseball field #1 at Arlington Heights Sports Park in honor of Steven B. Albertson. If naming is approved, the Department will work with Arlington Little League and Mr. Albertson's family on the design and installation of a City approved sign; the League will pay for all hard costs.

Prepared by:	Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
Certified as to availability of funds:	Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer / Treasurer
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form:	Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Concurs with;



Chuck Conder, Chair
Community Services and Youth Committee

Attachments:

1. Park Naming Application from Arlington Little League
2. Map of Arlington Heights Sports Park
3. Park & Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes – March 19, 2018