



Folsom City Council Staff Report

MEETING DATE:	4/13/2021
AGENDA SECTION:	Old Business
SUBJECT:	Presentation Regarding the Park Naming Policy and Direction to Staff
FROM:	Parks and Recreation Department

RECOMMENDATION / CITY COUNCIL ACTION

Staff is seeking City Council direction regarding possible revisions to the existing park naming practices outlined in Resolution No. 5177.

BACKGROUND / ISSUE

In September 2020, the City solicited suggested names for the naming of future parks. In particular, the next park to be named is Neighborhood Park #3 located in the Folsom Plan Area, which is currently in the plan design phase. In addition, there are another eight planned parks to be named in the Folsom Plan Area in the coming years. Pursuant to Resolution No. 5177 (Attachment 1) approved in 1996, the City periodically reaches out to residents to provide recommendations of names for future City parks.

POLICY / RULE

All powers of the City are vested in the City Council pursuant to Section 2.02 of the City Charter.

ANALYSIS

As a result of the solicitation for park name suggestions, the City received 16 proposed names. The current list consists of 24 names that were previously recommended and have remained on the list. The Parks and Recreation Commission created an Ad-Hoc Park Naming Committee to evaluate the new and existing names with the intent to return to the full Commission with a recommendation. The Ad-Hoc Committee met twice in October 2020 and had concerns with the existing guidelines as outlined in Resolution No. 5177.

The following summarizes the Ad-Hoc Committee's main concerns with the existing guidelines for park naming:

- Current policy implies parks are generally named after an individual or family. The option to name a park by something other than an individual or family is not specifically excluded but is also not specifically provided for. The Ad-Hoc Committee expressed that the guidelines should state that it also allows naming of parks to be inspired by topography, geography, native plants, historical significance.
- Current policy is silent on prohibitions such as a park should not be named after a felon, or associated with tobacco, alcohol, religion, etc. The Committee thinks that should be specifically addressed.
- Current policy is silent on whether the individual should be deceased or alive to be eligible (some committee members felt the person should be deceased). Other clarifications that could be added is how long of a "wait" period there should be before a name could be used if the person is deceased.
- Current policy states that names remain on the list forever. The Ad-Hoc Committee discussed providing a timeline of how long names remain on list.
- Current policy is silent on the process to name City facilities such as buildings, community centers, bridges, etc. The Ad-Hoc Committee expressed that the guidelines should allow for a process to name City facilities.
- Current policy is silent on how a donor or sponsor of a park or facility could be considered if they donate land or funding. The Ad-Hoc Committee felt a plan would need to be prepared to define donor/sponsorship levels if this specific criterion were included.

It is the Ad-Hoc Committee's suggestion to initiate a public outreach or polling process to obtain feedback on the proposed changes. Such outreach or polling would include questions that will assist in framing the specifics of the modified policy based on the above-listed elements of interest.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There is no financial impact to this decision.

ATTACHMENT

Resolution No. 5177-A Resolution Modifying the Park-Naming Policy

Submitted,

Lorraine J. Poggione,
Parks and Recreation Director

RESOLUTION NO. 5177

A RESOLUTION MODIFYING THE PARK-NAMING POLICY

WHEREAS, Resolution 3951, a park-naming policy was adopted by City Council on February 9, 1993; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has requested input from the Parks & Recreation Commission with respect to the above policy for purposes of clarification; and

WHEREAS, the Parks & Recreation Commission has forwarded their recommendation to the City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Folsom hereby adopts a resolution modifying the park-naming policy as follows (changes are bold and italicized):

"All Folsom park sites under two acres in size will be named after adjacent streets or the subdivision in which they are located. All Folsom park sites exceeding two acres in size will be named after an individual or family who has made a significant contribution to the City or after an important landmark or historical aspect of the area.

If named after an individual or family, that person or family shall have played a key role in the development of Folsom, have acquired local, state or national recognition for service or achievement, or shall have contributed to the enhancement of the Folsom community by participating on local boards, commissions, or in civic organizations. There should be a correlation between the size or significance of the park or facility being named and the significance of the contribution of the individual or family.

Parks & Recreation Department staff will provide to the Parks & Recreation Commission several names for consideration. ***Names meeting any of the above criteria are to be retained on a list maintained by the Parks & Recreation Department for consideration when parks need to be named.***

After selecting a name, the Commission will forward its recommendation to the City Council for final approval.

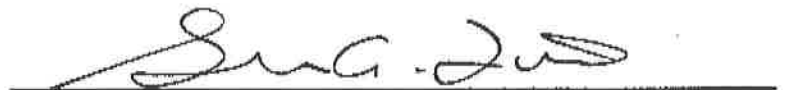
PASSED AND ADOPTED this 27th day of August, 1996, by the following roll-call vote:

AYES: Council Member(s) **HOLDERNESS, MIKLOS, MYERS, ACEITUNO, FAIT**

NOES: Council Member(s) **NONE**

ABSENT: Council Member(s) **NONE**

ABSTAIN: Council Member(s) **NONE**


MAYOR

ATTEST:


CITY CLERK

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