City of Benson
City Council Communication

Regular Meeting **June 9, 2014**

To: Mayor and Council Agenda Item # 2

From: William Stephens, City Manager

Subject:

Discussion and possible action regarding the financial request from the San Pedro Valley Alliance Summer Programs

Discussion:

Attached is a request from the San Pedro Valley Alliance to receive funding from the City. Historically, the San Pedro Valley Alliance in conjunction with various Governor's Office programs and the City, has provided recreation activities for our youth, mainly with trips to movies, water parks, museums and other recreational facilities.

The San Pedro Valley Alliance has been funded, at least in part, by the City in amounts of $3,000-$5,000 per year. For the last several years, the budgeted amount was $4,000, which is also in the current budget. At this time, the San Pedro Valley Alliance is requesting the budgeted amount for their 2014 summer activities.

Staff Recommendation:

Council pleasure

May 23, 2014

San Pedro Valley Alliance
412 Patrick Drive
Benson Arizona 85602

Dear City Council Members.

On behalf of the San Pedro Valley Alliance I am requesting that The City of Benson's budgeted amount for the 2013-2014 fiscal year of $4000.00 be reimbursed to SPVA upon the receipt of our detailed expense statement. The intent of this letter is in recognition of the recent change in procedure that requires you to first authorize spending the budgeted amount. I am therefore including a brief history of our program for you to review.

The San Pedro Valley Alliance has been a state recognized alliance since 1989. The school administration made it a priority to have teachers and staff involved in community programs that would benefit our area youth. Many individuals from the school and the community were sent to receive countless hours of training every year to facilitate these programs. The City of Benson has been the fiscal agent for grant funding submitted through any intergovernmental agreements. Our grant funding has been extensive over the last 25 years, to include:

- The Governor's Alliance against Drugs--Community Awareness and Youth Alternative Activities.
- G.R.A.P.E.-Gang Reduction Awareness Prevention and Education--After School Tutoring Program.
- Project B.U.T.T.—Beneficial Use of Tobacco Taxes--Prevention, Intervention, and Education.

Matching funds must be available for our organization to continue to receive any future grant funding.

We have also sponsored individual student leaders, and co-sponsored events with the Benson Fire-mates and the Junior Women's Club. A key element to being successful in receiving grant funding is to collaborate with other organizations in our community.

In previous years the SPVA has:

- Sponsored the after-school tutoring program at the Benson Primary School Library.
- Held community/school dances-average attendance--150-200.
- Sponsored a PALS Retreat for 50 students to be trained to make presentations to area youth on the prevention of tobacco use.
- Provided updated grant writing training for several of our members.
- Certified three members through Cochise County Health Department to provide tobacco use intervention. Implemented a youth program to create awareness in area retailers of the display and sale of tobacco products.
- Sponsored Community Safety and Health Fairs.
- Sponsored area youth athletes/leaders to represent our community.
- Sponsored the D.A.R.E. Program at Benson Middle School, taught by a Benson Police Officer.

Summer trips for the area youth, as part of the summer recreation program, is our major goal. Last year SPVA organized 8 trips into Tucson and Sierra Vista to various activities for all age groups. Average attendance for our trips is 50. We have had over 80 youth attend the water park trips, requiring the use of 2 busses.

This summer we also plan on taking 8 trips and have advertised this schedule based on the budgeted amount of $4000. Benson Public Schools provides the busses, and fuel for our trips. The Alliance is responsible for paying the bus driver, one chaperone, who takes responsibility for the trip, and admission fees to the activity. We also carry professional liability insurance for our volunteer staff. We staff our trips with at least a 1 to 10 chaperone to student ratio. Therefore, we require several volunteers for each trip! The children are asked to pay the admission fee, however the fee may be waived. We try to target "at risk youth", yet allow all children access to the program.

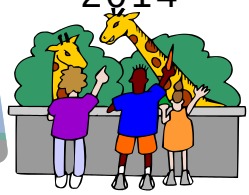
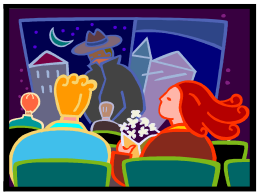
Our program is dependent upon **Volunteers!** Many hours of planning and supervising are involved for our programs to be successful. We must have the financial support of the Benson Public Schools and City of Benson to continue to provide these opportunities for our youth.

Thank you for you time and consideration of this request!

Sincerely,

Betty Williamson
SPVA-Coordinator

SAN PEDRO VALLEY ALLIANCE
SUMMER TRIP SCHEDULE
2014

DATE	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	TIME	FEE	AGES
JUNE					
Friday---June 13	**Golf N Stuff**	Tucson	8:45am-3:00pm	**$20.00**	Grades 5-12
3 Hours of Golf, Indy Cars, Bumper Boats, Laser Tag--Video Games Available--Pizza & Soda for Lunch.					
Tuesday --June 17	**Reid Park Zoo**	Tucson	8:00am-1:00pm	**$5.00**	Grades Pre-6
Admission-Lunch at McDonald's					
Friday--June 20	**Desert Museum**	Tucson	8:00am-2:00pm	**$10.00**	Grades 3-8
Admission-- Pizza and Drink forLunch.					
Tuesday--June 24	**The COVE-Water Park**	Sierra Vista	12:45:- 5:15pm	**$5.00**	Grades 5-12
3 Hours at Water Park.--*Student must know how to swim!* Snack bar available!					
Friday---June 27	**Skate Country**	Tucson	Noon -5:00pm	**$5.00**	Grades K-8
Skate Rental--3 Hours of Roller Skating--Snack bar available!					
JULY					
Tuesday---July 1	**Children's Museum**	Tucson	9:00am-3:00pm	**$10.00**	Grades K-8
Admission to Museum and Pizza & Soda Lunch at Chuck E Cheese--Bring $ to play games!					
Friday--July 4		**ACTIVITIES** at	**LIONS PARK**		
Tuesday-- July 8	**MOVIE--(TBA)**	Sierra Vista	11:00am -4:00pm	**$10.00**	Grades 3-8
Admission to movie. Lunch on your own at food court!					
Friday---July 11	**Breaker's Water Park**	Tucson	9:00am-4:00pm	**$20.00**	Grades 5-12
4 Hours at Water Park.--*Student must know how to swim!*-- Hamburger, Chips & Soda for Lunch.					

You may pick up the summer trip permission form at the Benson School Offices, City Hall,
or the Recreation Department (Community Center).
Completion of this form will allow the student to attend all age appropriate trips.
Times listed are departure times from the **Benson Middle School Parking Lot.**
Check the San Pedro Valley News-Sun and the Middle School Marquee for date, time or fee changes!
You must **sign up** for a trip by calling Trudi at Benson Middle School--720-6802.