



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

MEETING DATE: 3/21/2023

SUBMITTED TO: Historic Resources Board

SUBMITTED BY: Ashley Wysocki, Deputy Director of Community & Library Services

PREPARED BY: Ashley Wysocki, Deputy Director Community & Library Services

Subject:

Approve the language of a chronological plaque depicting the restoration milestone efforts of community volunteers at Norma E. Gibbs Park as recommended by the Community & Library Service Commission.

Statement of Issue:

There has been a request by Leslie Gilson, volunteer Restoration Coordinator for Norma E. Gibbs Park, to design and install a plaque memorializing the chronology of volunteer efforts and restoration milestones of the park since 2007.

Financial Impact:

There are sufficient funds in the Facilities & Development Account #10045401 to cover the cost of design and installation of the plaque.

Recommended Action:

Approve the chronological history depicted on a plaque honoring volunteer efforts of the restoration and beautification of Norma E. Gibbs Park on a pylon at the western entrance of the park.

Alternative Action(s):

Do not approve the recommended action, and direct staff accordingly.

Analysis:

Since 2007, Leslie Gilson and many other community members, such as the Huntington Beach Tree Society, have dedicated their time, efforts, and funding to restore the Monarch butterfly habitat Norma E. Gibbs Park through a comprehensive stewardship plan. The park is fondly referred to as "Gibb's Butterfly Park" (Park).

On March 10, 2021, Ms. Gilson provided an informational presentation to the Community Services Commission regarding a proposed project to restore the aging pylons at the east entrance of the Park. The restoration was to include refurbishment of the deteriorating entry pillars and the addition of artwork depicting the life cycle of butterflies by artist, Lubica Selica, who has in the past, restored other butterfly artwork within the park. The project

went through the design review process as item 21-003, and was approved by the Design Review Board on March 30, 2021. The restoration and beautification project funding was solely provided by volunteers, with no use of City funds.

In acknowledgement of these and past efforts, the City intends to install a plaque at the west entry pylons honoring the efforts of Ms. Gilson and the other volunteers. The plaque will also provide a chronology of the restoration milestones. The proposed information on the plaque, provided by Leslie Gilson, was reviewed by Kathie Schey, City Archivist and Chair of the Historic Resources Board for accuracy.

Resolution 2017-25(6) requires that if a park, park feature or other community facility is to be named based on a finding of historical significance, in addition to review by the Community Services Commission, the City of Huntington Beach Historic Resources Board will be consulted prior to a recommendation from the Community & Library Services Commission to City Council.

Environmental Status:

Not applicable

Strategic Plan Goal:

Community Engagement

Attachment(s):

- 1) Chronological restoration milestone plaque