



City of Huntington Beach

File #: 18-187

MEETING DATE: 7/16/2018

REQUEST FOR CITY COUNCIL ACTION

SUBMITTED TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

SUBMITTED BY: Patrick Brenden, City Council Member

Subject:

Item Submitted by Council Member Brenden - Recognition for Father Christian Mondor and Pastor Sumo Sato

Statement of Issue:

With the recent passing of Father Christian Mondor and Pastor Blaine "Sumo" Sato, known to many as the surfing Padre and the surfing Pastor, Huntington Beach lost two of its most highly respected religious leaders. Each of these beloved watermen revered the ocean, and in the surf, found divine inspiration. Both men spent many years in Huntington Beach providing spiritual leadership, bringing the community together through their healing and hopeful words, inspiring all of us to simply love and respect one another.

In recognition of their contributions to our community, I propose that a public memorial be established to honor Father Christian and Pastor Sumo. Further, I believe that it would be most appropriate to engage the local surfing community as well as the followers of these men, in deciding where and how best to honor them. Among the possibilities that should be considered is a bronze plaque to be installed on Tower Zero on the pier.

Recommended Action:

Direct the Community Services Commission to work with the surfing community and the followers of Father Christian and Pastor Sumo to develop a proposal for a public memorial honoring these two men. Return to City Council within 90 days to present the proposal.

Xc: Fred Wilson, City Manager
Lori Ann Farrell Harrison, Assistant City Manager
Robin Estanislau, City Clerk
Michael Gates, City Attorney



CITY OF HUNTINGTON BEACH

City Council Interoffice Communication

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Patrick Brenden, City Council Member

DATE: July 16, 2018

SUBJECT: CITY COUNCIL MEMBER ITEM FOR THE JULY 16, 2018, CITY COUNCIL MEETING – RECOGNITION FOR FATHER CHRISTIAN MONDOR AND PASTOR SUMO SATO

STATEMENT OF ISSUE:

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RECOMMENDED ACTION:

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Xc: Fred A. Wilson, City Manager
Lori Ann Farrell Harrison, Assistant City Manager
Robin Estanislau, City Clerk
Michael Gates, City Attorney

Esparza, Patty

From: Estanislau, Robin
Sent: Monday, July 16, 2018 6:40 AM
To: Esparza, Patty; Switzer, Donna
Subject: Fwd: Supplemental Communication for the Huntington Beach City Council's Meeting on July 16, 2018
Attachments: Copy of Copy of Untitled document(3).pdf; ATT00001.htm

Supplemental Communication

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: Amory Hanson <amory.hanson2016@gmail.com>
Date: July 16, 2018 at 2:07:50 AM PDT
To: Robin Estanislau <Robin.Estanislau@surfcity-hb.org>
Subject: Supplemental Communication for the Huntington Beach City Council's Meeting on July 16, 2018

Dear Madam Clerk:

I am enclosing a Supplemental Communication to the Huntington Beach City Council regarding Item 31 on the agenda for the Huntington Beach City Council's Meeting on July 16, 2018.

Please ensure this supplemental communication is forwarded to the Mayor of Huntington Beach, the members of the Huntington Beach City Council, the City Manager of Huntington Beach, and the City Clerk of Huntington Beach. Please also ensure that this supplemental communication is considered part of the public record for the Huntington Beach City Council's Meeting on July 16, 2018.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Amory Hanson

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMUNICATION

Meeting Date: 7-16-18

Agenda Item No.: 31, #18-187
Councilmember Item

Mr. Amory Hanson
8102 Ellis Avenue
Apartment 121
Huntington Beach CA 92646

The Honorable
Michael Posey
Mayor of Huntington Beach
2000 Main Street
Huntington Beach CA 92648

Dear Mister Mayor:

I am writing to express my present opposition to Item 31, Councilman Patrick Brenden's motion to instruct the Huntington Beach Community Services Commission to consider creating a public memorial in memory of Father Christian Mondor and Reverend Sumo Sato.

Father Mondor was a Pastor Emeritus at Saints Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 20444 Magnolia Street, Huntington Beach, California. Reverend Sato was the Pastor at the H20 Community Church, 411 Olive Avenue.

I greatly respected Father Mondor. In fact, I attended Father Mondor's Funeral at Saints Simon and Jude Catholic Church, 20444 Magnolia Street, Huntington Beach, California.

I also greatly respected Reverend Sato. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend Reverend Sato's Funeral, as I had to attend a meeting with an individual I was considering hiring as my Private Secretary. This Meeting had already been scheduled by the time Reverend Sato's Obituary was published in the Huntington Beach Wave. However, I did give a donation in memory of Reverend Sato to the Cornerstone Church, 4905 East La Palma Avenue, Anaheim, California.

However, I do not believe a joint memorial is an appropriate way to honor Father Mondor and Reverend Sato. While they both were clergymen, associated with the surfing community, and were great men, those similarities do not erase the fact that they are 2 different men.

In 1956, President Dwight David Eisenhower I appointed Judge William Joseph Brennan Jr. to succeed Justice Sherman Minton as a Justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. In 1967, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Judge Thurgood Marshall Sr. to the Supreme Court of the United States to succeed Justice Thomas Campbell Clark I. Justices Brennan and Marshall had quite similar views, and by the time of Justice Brennan's retirement in 1990, Justices Brennan and Marshall were frequently the only two justices who expressed these views in dissenting opinions. Due to their similar viewpoints, Justices Brennan and Marshall would sometimes be jokingly referred to by their law clerks as "Justice Brennan-Marshall", as if they were 1 man with a double-barrelled surname.

Mr. Amory Hanson
8102 Ellis Avenue
Apartment 121
Huntington Beach CA 92646

Yet when the time came for Justices Brennan and Marshall to be recognized , two different memorials were created for Justices Brennan and Marshall. The Hudson County Courthouse, 595 Newark Avenue, Jersey City, New Jersey, was named after Justice Brennan. The Baltimore International Airport, 7035 Elm Road, Linthicum, Maryland, was named after Justice Marshall.

Similarly, I believe Father Mondor and Reverend Sato should be honored with seperate memorials. They may have many similarities, but they were both great men, and the should both be honored in great ways.

I would also note that Saints Simon and Jude Catholic Church is creating a Plaza that will be named after Father Mondor.

Senator Barbara Boxer, a Former Senator from California who served 4 terms in the United States Senate, once said "We are all different. Yet we are all God's Children." Father Mondor and Reverend Sato were certainly sons of God, and they should both be recognized for their accomplishments with 2 different, but great, memorials.

I thank the Mayor and the members of the Huntington Beach City Council for listening to my concerns. In Summary, I recommend a No Vote on Item 31, but strongly encourage Councilman Brenden to bring forward 2 seperate items at a later meeting of The Huntington Beach City Council. The first item should be a motion to instruct the Huntington Beach Community Services Commission to consider creating a public memorial in memory of Father Mondor. The other item should be a motion to instruct the Huntington Beach Community Services Commission to consider creating a public memorial in memory of Reverend Sato.

Sincerely Yours,

Mr. Amory Hanson

Mr. Amory Hanson
8102 Ellis Avenue
Apartment 121
Huntington Beach CA 92646

CC: The Honorable Erik H. Peterson
CC: The Honorable Patrick Brenden
CC: The Honorable Barbara Delgleize
CC: The Honorable Jill Hardy
CC: The Honorable William C. O'Connell
CC: The Honorable Lyn Semeta
CC: Mr. Fred A. Wilson
CC: The Honorable Robin Estanislau

7/16/2018
Item #31
(18-187)

7/20/2018

Public Memorial Recognition

Father Christian Mondor
and
Pastor Sumo Sato

Father Christian Mondor

- "The Surfing Padre"
- Helped found the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council
- Started the Blessing of the Waves



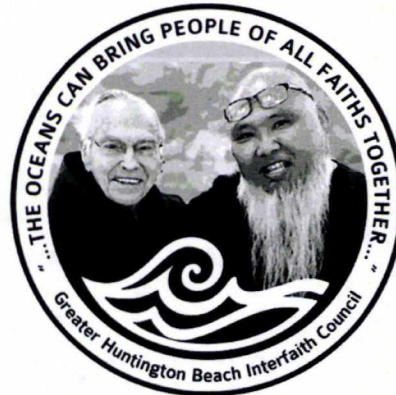
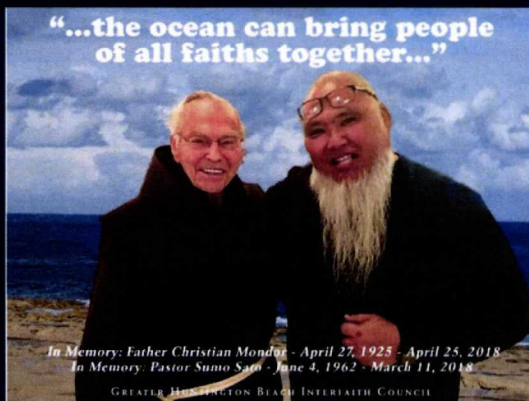
Pastor Blaine "Sumo" Sato

- "The Surfing Pastor"
- Marine Safety Lifeguard Chaplain
- Led the H2O Church
- Inducted - Surfers' Hall of Fame 2016



A Fitting Public Memorial

- On/near the Pier or Pier Plaza area
- Bronze plaque on Tower Zero
- Fundraising campaign - donations
- Blessing of the Waves - September 9th



In Memory of

Father Christian Mondor - April 27, 1925 - April 25, 2018

Pastor Sumo Sato - June 4, 1962 - March 11, 2018

Recommended Action

“Direct the Community Services Commission to work with the Greater Huntington Beach Interfaith Council and the surfing community to develop a proposal for a public memorial honoring Father Christian Mondor and Pastor Sumo Sato.

Return to City Council within 90 days to present the proposal.”

... The oceans can bring people of all faiths together...

- Father Christian Mondor