



Edwin M. Lee, Mayor
Philip A. Ginsburg, General Manager

Date: April 22, 2013
To: Recreation and Park Commission
From: Lisa Bransten
Director of Partnerships
Re: Party for the Parks 2012

Agenda Item Wording

Discussion and possible action to accept \$67,011 from the San Francisco Parks Alliance in the form of : 1) cash grant of \$32,011 to support a new venting system at the Golden Gate Park Greenhouse, two pairs of dual-stream recycling containers for Golden Gate Park, RPD scholarships; ; and 2) an in-kind grant of \$35,000 to support RPD projects.

Background

On September 21, 2012 the San Francisco Parks Alliance, in partnership with the Recreation and Parks Department (RPD), hosted a gala at the Anglers Lodge in Golden Gate Park in order to raise funds for both organizations. The event was a joyous celebration of this historic part of Golden Gate Park. In addition to raising awareness about the hidden treasures of Golden Gate Park and the importance of all parks to San Francisco, this event raised funds for some crucial projects as follows:

CASH GRANTS

Golden Gate Park Nursery Venting System

SFPA is contributing \$15,000 to be used to automate the venting system at the eight greenhouses in the Golden Gate Park Nursery. The Golden Gate Park Nursery oversees the propagating and nurturing of more than 800 species of plants that are used by RPD gardeners in parks throughout the city. Gardeners can either peruse the nursery and pick out plants for their parks or order plants and have them grown at the greenhouse. Approximately 1,200 to 3,000 plants go out from the nursery each week including most of the trees and greenery seen at last year's event. Despite the importance of the greenhouses, they are still running on an old-fashioned, manually operated venting system. Nursery staff must manually open and close the vents in order to maintain optimal temperatures for the plants and since staff is not always available as San Francisco temperature rises and falls, these greenhouses often get too hot or too cold. This grant from the SFPA will allow RPD to automate the venting systems to maintain more constant temperatures and therefore optimal growing conditions for the plants.

Golden Gate Park Recycling

SFPA is contributing \$10,000 to be used to purchase containers for two-stream recycling stations in Golden Gate Park. These attractive new receptacles allow park visitors to separate their cans and bottles from other garbage and thereby reduce the amount of waste sent to area landfills. To date the department has installed more than 60 two-stream recycling sites in Golden Gate Park,



primarily at the east end of the park and in the major picnic areas and hopes to install more than 30 more by the end of this year. This gift will help the department achieve that goal.

Scholarships

SFPA is contributing \$7,011 to be used to fund the RPD scholarship program. This gift is extremely important to the department's efforts to make sure that recreational activities in San Francisco are available to all regardless of ability to pay. This gift will allow approximately 50 children to attend RPD summer camps this summer and will have a great impact on the lives of all of those families.

IN-KIND SUPPORT

In addition, SFPA will use \$35,000 from the event to provide in-kind support to the department throughout the year. As the department's primary philanthropic partner, SFPA assists the department by funding projects and programs that support RPD's work. In past years, these funds have been used to fund everything from small repairs in neighborhood parks to holiday trees in Civic Center Plaza and McLaren Lodge. These funds have also gone to supporting materials and events that recognize RPD staff.

Financial Impact

\$67,011

Supported by

Department Management and Staff

Opposed By

No known at this time

Attachment

- Letter from SFPA

People to contact:

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