



Staff Report

NEW BUSINESS: BELMONT'S EARTHDAY COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

Honorable Chair and Commissioners:

Summary

The Parks and Recreation Department is hosting an Earthday Celebration on April 25, 2009 at the Barrett Community Center. The purpose of the celebration is to enhance the quality of life in Belmont and show that Belmont is Going Green. In addition to the event, the City will be conducting a series of environmental projects leading up to the event. The projects and event should have a meaningful impact on the community, improving the appearance of the city, providing hope to residents that we can live more sustainably, and providing tools to make the hope a reality.

Background

The Parks and Recreation Department host's special events for the community including 13 planned for 2009. In an effort to provide new events that capture the community's imagination the Department is hosting an Earthday Celebration in 2009.

Discussion

The purpose of the celebration is to enhance the quality of life in Belmont and show that Belmont is Going Green. In addition to the event, the City will be conducting a series of environmental projects leading up to the event. The projects and event should have a meaningful impact on the community, improving the appearance of the city, providing hope to residents that we can live more sustainably, and providing tools to make the hope a reality.

The Department is establishing a web page for the event and will conducting media outreach. The web page can be found at: Belmont.gov/EarthDay

In addition to the celebration, the City of Belmont will be hosting the following activities on and around the Earthday event.

- Walkability- Vegetation Clearing from Sidewalks and roadways
- Compost Giveaway
- E-Waste Recycling
- Shredding
- Creek Cleanup and tree planting

- Invasive Species Removal
- Plant Exchange
- Extra Garbage Pick-ups during regularly scheduled pick up

General Plan/Vision Statement

Vision Statement – Distinctive Community Character

“Belmont prides itself on being unique.”

“We connect with each other in all kinds of gathering places.”

“Our strong sense of community and enjoyment of the town’s assets and activities deepen as we become better informed and connected.”

Fiscal Impact

It is estimated the event will cost \$9,000. The Department plans to offset the cost through event sponsorship.

Public Contact

Posting of the Parks and Recreation Commission agenda.

Recommendation

The Department recommends that the Commission discuss the event and provide feedback or recommendations for staff to incorporate.

Alternatives

No alternatives

Attachments

None

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Gervais
Parks and Recreation Director

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