

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
Robert Wells
THROUGH: ROBERT G. WELLS, CITY MANAGER
Barbara Roberts
FROM: BARBARA A. ROBERTS, CPRP, DIRECTOR
PARKS, RECREATION, AND COMMUNITY SERVICES
SUBJECT: RIVERFRONT PARK ROTARY CENTENNIAL PAVILION - USE BY SALEM
ROTARY CLUBS

ISSUE

Shall the City of Salem waive use fees to the Salem Rotary Clubs for the use of the Riverfront Park Rotary Centennial Pavilion?

RECOMMENDATION

City Council approve amending the Salem Riverfront Park Rules and Regulations to include:

Each of the Salem area Rotary Clubs may utilize the Riverfront Park Rotary Centennial Pavilion twice annually (per calendar year) with the use fees waived (special fees, cost recovery, and special requirements apply).

BACKGROUND

1. In November 2003, representatives of the Salem Rotary Club contacted the City of Salem with a proposal to fund the design and construction of an open-air pavilion in Riverfront Park. The issue was referred to the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (SPRAB) for their input.
2. As a result of input from SPRAB, the Salem Rotary refined their plans and completed a public input process. As a result, at their February 2004 meeting, the Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended to City Council that the Salem Rotary Club be allowed to proceed with the proposed project.
3. At their March 1, 2004, meeting City Council authorized Salem Rotary to proceed with the project.
4. Salem Rotary, along with dozens of partners, constructed the pavilion in 2005. The Rotary Centennial Pavilion dedication was held in October 2005, and the pavilion was added to the City's reservable area inventory.
5. In the initial project proposal, the Salem Rotary Club indicated a desire to have use of the pavilion on a reservation basis periodically each year; however, it does not appear that there is any written account, agreement, or contract between the Salem Rotary Club and the City for use of the pavilion that would waive the use fees.
6. There are seven Rotary Clubs in Salem: East Salem, Salem Creekside, Salem Sunrise, Salem, West Salem, Salem Sunset, and South Salem. Their main objective is service-in the community, in the

workplace, and throughout the world. Rotarians develop community service projects that address many of today's critical issues such as children-at-risk, poverty, hunger, the environment, illiteracy, and violence. Rotary also supports programs for youth; educational opportunities; and international exchange for students, teachers, professionals, and career development. The Salem Rotary Club constructed the Rotary Centennial Pavilion as their 2005 Rotary International Centennial Project.

In addition to the construction of the Rotary Centennial Pavilion, the Rotary Clubs have participated in other contributions to Riverfront Park:

- a. Funded and constructed the children's playground located near the south parking lot.
- b. Funded components of A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. On July 9, 2007, the City Council referred to SPRAB consideration of amending fee regulations to exempt Salem area Rotary Clubs from use fees for the Riverfront Park pavilion a few times per year.
2. Over the course of the past two years, the Salem Rotary Clubs have used the pavilion on a reservation basis. While not specifically named in the Riverfront Park Rules and Regulations, their requests were honored as those from the Riverfront Carousel and A. C. Gilbert's Discovery Village, pursuant to the regulations, which state:

"2.7.h A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village and Riverfront Carousel, Inc., may sponsor two event/activities (excluding Category A) annually outside of their "walls" with Riverfront Park use fees waived (special fees, cost recovery, and special requirements applied)."
3. A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village and Riverfront Carousel, Inc., have used this rule to hold events such as Rainmaker Day, A.C. Gilbert's Fun Run, and the Riverfront Carousel birthday celebrations.
4. As a result of Rotary's support and investment in Riverfront Park, similar to the ongoing contributions of long-time park partners A.C. Gilbert's Discovery Village and Riverfront Carousel, Inc., it is appropriate to amend the Salem Riverfront Park Rules and Regulations to authorize waiving park use fees for use of the Riverfront Park Rotary Centennial Pavilion for each of the Salem area Rotary Clubs.
5. The Salem Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, at their September 20, 2007, meeting approved recommending to City Council amending the Salem Riverfront Park Rules and Regulations to state:

Each of the Salem area Rotary Clubs may utilize the Riverfront Park Rotary Centennial Pavilion twice annually (per calendar year) with the use fees waived (special fees, cost recovery, and special requirements apply).