



# Council Communication

Office of the City Manager

Date

August 6, 2007

Agenda Item No. 57

Roll Call No. 07-

Communication No. 07-474

Submitted by: Donald M. Tripp, Park and Recreation Director

## AGENDA HEADING:

Approving renaming the Waveland tennis courts as the McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex and accepting a donation of \$2,500 for the purchase and installation of signage and display cases.

## SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the request from the Greater Des Moines Tennis Association to rename the Waveland Tennis courts to McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex. This action also approves acceptance of a \$2,500 cash gift for the purchase and installation of message boards and signage.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$2,500 (revenues)

Funding Source: The donation will be deposited into the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Operating Budget, Construction and Structural Repair, GE001 PKS040700, page 227.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

On April 6, 2007, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Department received a request from the Greater Des Moines Tennis Association to consider renaming the Waveland Tennis Courts in honor of Margaret and Harold McCollum. The communication presented by the Greater Des Moines Tennis Association is included in the Council packet and outlines the civic achievements of both Margaret and Harold McCollum. The Greater Des Moines Tennis Association made this request to commemorate the lifetime of athletic and community service of Margaret R. McCollum, who passed away in 2006, and the continuing achievement and community service of her surviving husband, Harold McCollum.

Prior to their relocation to West Des Moines a few years ago, Margaret and Harold McCollum had resided in the Waveland Park area in Des Moines for many years. Margaret graduated from the University of Iowa with an actuarial science degree in 1937. She served as president of the Iowa Division of the American Association of University Women, Des Moines Council of Parents and Teachers and was active in the Iowa Council for Better Education, League of Women Voters, YWCA, Community Blood Bank of Central Iowa, National Conference of Christians and Jews, and served on advisory committees to the Des Moines Board of Education and to the Des Moines City Council. Margaret was also elected to the Des Moines City Council and served briefly as a Council Member in 1973.

Margaret began playing in competitive tennis tournaments as an adult. She consistently won the Iowa Senior Games singles title in her age division and went on to represent Iowa in the National Senior Olympics in 1989, 1991, 1993 and 1995. In 2002, Margaret was honored as “Adult Player of the Year” by the Central Iowa Tennis Alliance. She was inducted into the Iowa Tennis Hall of Fame in 2003 and Iowa Senior Olympics Hall of Fame in 2006.

Harold McCollum also graduated from the University of Iowa with an actuarial science degree in 1937. His professional career, prior to retirement in 1980 as Vice President of National Travelers Life Insurance Company in Des Moines, was as an actuary. His voluntary service in various community organizations spans more than four decades. In the 1960’s, Harold served twice as President of the Iowa Tennis Association and also served for six years on the Des Moines Park and Recreation Commission. Later he served for many years as Treasurer, among other board functions, of various community tennis promotional organizations, including Missouri Valley USTA District, Iowa Tennis Association, Central Iowa Tennis Alliance, Greater Des Moines Tennis Association, and National Junior Tennis League (NJTL). In 1988, in recognition of his extensive service to local, state, sectional and national tennis organizations he was awarded the USTA Community Service Award.

Much of Harold’s community service involved his work as one of the incorporators in 1972 of the Des Moines Chapter of The National Junior Tennis League (NJTL). NJTL is a non-profit youth development organization founded nationally in 1969 by professional tennis player Arthur Ashe. The NJTL encourages participation in the sport of tennis through instruction and involvement in team activities and is targeted to boys and girls age 8 to 18, particularly those less privileged financially. The Des Moines NJTL Chapter was sanctioned as a non-profit corporation by the Iowa Secretary of State on May 18, 1972. The City of Des Moines, through the Park and Recreation Department entered into a partnership with the local NJTL chapter in 1976 in order to administer its youth introductory tennis program. In 2002, the local chapter celebrated its 30-year anniversary with a ceremony at Des Moines’ Birdland Park.

Harold competed in varsity tennis for Roosevelt High School and later as a member of the University of Iowa’s tennis team. In 1949, 1951 and 1953, he was recognized as the Des Moines District singles champion in his age group. He has earned Iowa or Missouri Valley USTA District first place rankings at various times in men’s singles age 55+ yrs., 65+ yrs. and 70+ yrs. age divisions, and also in men’s doubles age 55+yrs. and 60+ yrs.

On April 24, 2007, at the regularly scheduled Park and Recreation Board meeting, members from the Greater Des Moines Tennis Association presented a request to rename the Waveland Tennis Courts after Margaret and Harold McCollum. On May 22, 2007, the Des Moines Park and Recreation Board approved the first reading for changing the name of Waveland Tennis Courts to the McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex.

On June 26, 2007, the Park and Recreation Board recommended approval to rename the Waveland Tennis Courts to the McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex to the Des Moines City Council for adoption. Staff agrees with the recommendation. The Greater Des Moines Tennis Association will also donate \$2,500 toward the purchase and installation of two message boards and signage for enhancements to the tennis complex.

This request was considered in accordance with the suggested procedures for Consideration in Naming of Park Land as adopted by the Park and Recreation Board. The procedures, as outlined below, for naming park and recreation facilities, have been met and the Board recommends approval to the Des Moines City Council:

1. Letter of Request is submitted to Park and Recreation Board.
  - a. Suggested criteria for Letter of Request:
    - Parks shall be named after individuals who are/were residents of Des Moines, either home or business, during the majority of their wage-earning years.
    - Parks shall be named after individuals who have made significant contributions to the City of Des Moines which have considerably enhanced the quality of life for Des Moines' residents. Said contributions, years of involvement, and affected public. Letters of nomination support can be attached.
    - Citizen input shall be a consideration in the request.
  - b. If Letter of Request satisfies criteria, Board action is to continue procedures.
  - c. If Letter of Request does not satisfy criteria, another honorarium can be recommended or the request can be forwarded to Council for a more suitable City property.
2. Staff review of land parcel and recommendation on jurisdiction and as to whether a resolution or ordinance is required.
3. Notification of the public of the request by Public Service Announcement ten days prior to second reading at Park Board meeting.

Announcement informs public of the Park and Recreation Board meeting and open for public comment.
4. The applicant shall be made aware that the procedure could take 60 to 90 days.
5. Second hearing by Park and Recreation Board with public comments.
6. Vote by Park and Recreation Board.
7. Resolution to City Council.
8. Action for approval or disapproval by City Council. The applicant shall be made aware that the City Council has the final authority.
9. In the event of extreme and unusual circumstances, items 3-5 above can be deleted and the Park and Recreation Board's recommendation can be sent directly to the City Council.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S):**

Date: April 24, 2007

Action: Park and Recreation Board received and filed request from Greater Des Moines Tennis Association to rename the Waveland Tennis courts after Margaret and Harold McCollum.

Date: May 22, 2007

Action: Park and Recreation Board approved first reading to rename the Waveland Tennis courts the “McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex”.

Date: June 26, 2007

Action: Park and Recreation Board approved second reading to rename the Waveland Tennis courts the “McCollum - Waveland Tennis Complex”.

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**