

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: December 7, 2015
	Agenda Item No. 31 Roll Call No. <u>15-2066</u> Communication No. <u>15-631</u> Submitted by: Benjamin R. Page, Park and Recreation Director

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving the Donation and Installation Agreement between the Des Moines Menace and the City of Des Moines for a scoreboard at the James W. Cownie Soccer Park.

SYNOPSIS:

Approval of a Donation and Installation Agreement between the Des Moines Menace, 6400 Westown Parkway, West Des Moines, Iowa 50266 and the City of Des Moines for the purchase and installation of a new scoreboard on field seven (7) and the replacement of signage on field eight (8) at the James W. Cownie Soccer Park located at 2600 Hartford Avenue.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: Estimated value of the donation is \$12,000.00.

Funding Source: N/A

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The Des Moines Menace, a very successful soccer club from the greater Des Moines area, have had a strong connection to the City of Des Moines for many years. The Menace host three (3) different youth soccer events annually at the James W. Cownie Soccer Park that bring in over 300 teams to Des Moines. The Menace have expressed great satisfaction with this partnership and have indicated that they intend to continue to host their youth event at Cownie Soccer for the foreseeable future.

In the interest of expanding the presence of their club and giving back to the soccer community, the Menace have committed to donate a scoreboard with both their team logo as well as the City of Des Moines logo to Cownie Soccer. This scoreboard would replace the existing one on field seven (7). The current scoreboard is functioning but has experienced various mechanical issues in the last few seasons and has been shut down for periods of time. Approaching almost 10 years of age, it is nearing the end of its projected life. The consistent functionality of this new product combined with the visual appeal to complement the scoreboards on the surrounding fields will be a tremendous mechanical and visual upgrade. In addition, the Menace have agreed to replace the existing panel above the scoreboard on field eight (8) (currently with the AIB logo on it) with the logos of the five (5) Des Moines High Schools. The Menace have agreed to fund both the production and installation of these items.

Both the Parks and Recreation staff and the Menace believe that this donation will enhance the atmosphere of Cownie Soccer and make it a more exciting place to host their tournaments and enhance the experience of the thousands of participants who compete there each year. With both Grand View University and Drake University having similar scoreboards identifying Cownie Soccer as their home field, these additions will be an ideal fit and a strong addition to the visual appeal of the facility.

The James W. Cownie Soccer Park opened for use in the spring of 1998. Over 100,000 participants now utilize the park's 12 fields annually. In addition to the two (2) colleges, Cownie Soccer is the home of the Roosevelt, Lincoln, and the Des Moines Christian high school soccer teams. The park also hosts many local and state tournaments annually, including the Iowa High School Boys' and Girls' State Soccer Championships.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: July 14, 2014

Roll Call Number: [14-1069](#)

Action: [Donation](#) and Installation Agreement with AIB College of Business for scoreboard at James W. Cownie Soccer Park. ([Council Communication No. 14-325](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE

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