



City Council Agenda Item Staff Report

CITY OF SAN BRUNO

DATE: November 8, 2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Jovan D. Grogan, City Manager

PREPARED BY: Ann Mottola, Community Services Director

SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution Honoring David Nigel as the 2020 Recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award; and Adopt Resolution Honoring Dennis Sammut as the 2021 Recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award

BACKGROUND: In January 2009 as later amended in October 2010, the City Council approved the Memorial and Recognition Policy. Through the policy an awards program was created to recognize and honor the extraordinary community service of an individual or organization through the creation of three unique awards: Recognition of Special Services, Recognition of Extraordinary Service, and Personal Tribute.

Per the policy guidelines, a committee comprised of two members of each City Commission (Culture and Arts, Parks and Recreation, and Planning) meets to review nominations for the Recognition of Special Service and Recognition of Extraordinary Service. Five affirmative votes of the six-member committee are required to bring forward a recommendation to the City Council for its consideration and action. A majority City Council vote is required to approve an award. More than one recipient can receive the annual award. Both living and deceased individuals are eligible for the award.

In 2020 the city received a nomination from the Rotary Club of San Bruno and San Bruno Lions Club for the Award of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service recognizing long-time San Bruno resident, Mr. David Nigel. Due to COVID-19, the city did not convene a subcommittee to review the nomination and make a recommendation. In 2021, the Rotary Club of San Bruno and the San Bruno Lions Club nominated long-time San Bruno Business Owner and resident Mr. Dennis Sammut. A subcommittee was formed, and a meeting was scheduled and held on Thursday, July 7, 2022. Both nominations were reviewed.

DISCUSSION: The Memorial and Recognition Program Policy establishes the following criteria for the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award:

- At least two recognized San Bruno organizations must complete a nomination form;
 - The nominee must have a minimum of twenty-five (25) years of dedicated service to San Bruno;
- The service rendered must demonstrate a positive impact on the citizens of San Bruno;
- The nominee must be viewed as an appropriate role model in the community;

- The nominee must demonstrate significant contributions to the community by developing new programs, providing leadership for the enhancement of existing programs, or by providing new or improved facilities; and,
- The nominee must demonstrate active involvement in multiple community programs influencing the lives of many San Bruno citizens.

The 2022 committee, comprised of Pamela Madden and Jeanne George (Culture and Arts Commission), Michael Palmer and Thomas Kuhn (Park and Recreation Commission), and Marco Durazo and Gerard Madden (Planning Commission), met on July 7, 2022, to review the applications. At the meeting, the committee discussed the many positive contributions of Mr. Nigel and Mr. Sammut which were included in the nominations by the San Bruno Lions Club and Rotary Club of San Bruno.

Mr. Nigel was hired by the San Bruno Park School District to be a fourth-grade teacher at Decima M. Allen Elementary School. He went on to teach at Engvall Intermediate School where he taught creative writing and coached boys' basketball teams. He spent 30 years of his career as a teacher and administrator in Burlingame. In 1995 he received the Dr. Virgil S. Hills Distinguished Service Award from the California Schoolmaster's Club where he was president from 1984-1985. In March of 2014 he was honored for 50 years of membership, service, and leadership by the California Schoolmaster's Club.

Mr. Nigel was appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission in May of 1970. In his 52 years of service, he has worked and advocated for the development of recreation programs, park facility development, maintenance, and improvement. He is very active in the California Association of Parks and Recreation Commissioners and Board Members having served in all positions including Association President. His efforts are unmatched in raising thousands of dollars towards scholarships for college students majoring in Parks Management and Recreation Supervision. He was inducted into the organization's Hall of Fame and is an Honorary Life Member. In 2016, Mr. Nigel was honored by the National Parks and Recreation Association with the Robert M. Artz Award which recognizes a citizen, elected, or appointed official who has demonstrated outstanding efforts to forward public parks and recreation through education and activating the public in the community.

Mr. Sammut was a civic minded business leader in the San Bruno community. He served on the Business and Economic Development Committee when it was established in 1996. Mr. Sammut created and distributed earthquake preparedness handbooks. He also researched and developed the 75th San Bruno Anniversary book. He also served on the Centennial Celebration committee.

Mr. Sammut was involved with many community programs including: the annual Posy Parade; Holiday Food Baskets, providing bags of food to families in need; and Operation Santa Claus, providing gifts for special needs students. He helped fund books and computers for the San Bruno Library and provided funds for the Recreation student scholarship fund. He also funded the modernization of the library at Parkside School and the upgrade of the book collection.

Mr. Sammut was a strong supporter of the programs and services, especially for the youth of San Bruno. He was quiet about the support he gave, but many programs would not have been possible without his contributions and involvement.

At the conclusion of the nomination review committee meeting, Pamela Madden made a motion to recommend to City Council that David Nigel receive the 2020 Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award and Dennis Sammut receive the 2021 Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award. Michael Palmer seconded the motion. The committee voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT: The action is not a project subject to CEQA.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt a resolution honoring David Nigel as the 2020 recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award; and adopt a resolution honoring Dennis Sammut as the 2021 Recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Do not approve the nominations for Recognition of Extraordinary Service.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Resolution honoring David Nigel as the 2020 Recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award.
2. Resolution honoring Dennis Sammut as the 2021 Recipient of the Recognition of Extraordinary Service Award.
3. Nomination Applications for David Nigel from San Bruno Lions and the Rotary Club of San Bruno
4. Nomination Applications for Dennis Sammut Nigel from San Bruno Lions and the Rotary Club of San Bruno