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Staff Report

ITEM NO. SS-1

To: Lemoore City Council
From: Darrell Smith, Chief of Police 
Date: January 13, 2015
Subject: Police Athletics League Overview (PAL)

Meeting Date: January 20, 2015

Discussion:

This item has been placed on the agenda at the request of Council Member Eddie Neal. The Police Athletic League (PAL) is a juvenile crime prevention program that is dedicated to providing educational and athletic activities for all children 8 to 18 years old. We would primarily service high-risk kids and engage the youth in constructive activities. We surround the youth by the positive influences of responsible adults and police officers who dedicate their time as positive role models.

The Police Athletic League is a non-profit public benefit corporation. Its mission is to provide a safe environment for youth to reach their full potential, through partnerships with police and community; utilizing athletics and other programs which are geared to improving the quality of life of its participants. Thus, promoting confidence, self-esteem, civic engagement, academic achievement, and social principles that will aide them in becoming productive members of society.

The Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL) is a nationally recognized youth-oriented crime prevention program that places police officers, community members, and kids together in a controlled and supportive environment. Originally, PAL was created in 1917 by New York City Police Lt. Ed Flynn, who recognized that the youth hanging out on the street corners were craving structure and guidance.

Creating partnership with our stakeholders, Police and the Recreation Department personnel have the desire and commitment to ensure PAL will be a successful program. By utilizing our current recreational facilities, we have the benefit of top notch services and program offerings on day one of implementation. Parks and Recreation Director Joe Simonson and I have worked together to determine where the program would best fit within our current facilities. We met with KCAO Director Jeff Garner and have an agreement in place to acquire some building site space for our program.

Some of the challenges we must overcome are the expenses associated with construction costs to get the building space up to speed for the program. One option that may present itself is to construct a larger facility for Lemoore Crossfit, as they have outgrown their current facility and are looking to relocate elsewhere. If a site is

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constructed within the recreation facility to accommodate their needs, PAL could acquire the current Crossfit site which will be move-in ready on day one. Estimated costs for this plan would be \$60,000.00. According to Joe Simonson, this cost estimate would be the same whether the site is built for PAL or Lemoore Crossfit. The advantage of this option is that Lemoore Crossfit currently provides a steady revenue source for the General Fund. If they relocate, the City loses this revenue source.

Fund raising opportunities may present themselves to raise money to go towards the construction costs associated with this proposal. It appears we may be the recipient of a grant over the next three years that will contribute \$6,800.00 per year to our PAL Program which can be used for operational expenses.

Budget Impact:

There is no fiscal impact to the general fund at this time.

Recommendation:

For discussion only.

Reference: http://nationalpal.org/content/chapter_start