

April 19, 2023

MEMORANDUM TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council

THRU: Charles P. Potucek, City Manager
Victoria Yarbrough, Assistant City Manager

FROM: Laura Wilson, Director
Parks, Recreation, & Library

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR AGENDA ITEM PLACEMENT
RESOLUTION 2023-034, Tennis Courts Dedication

RECOMMENDATION:

The Director of Parks, Recreation, & Library recommends approval.

The Parks and Recreation Commission unanimously recommend approval.

INITIATED BY:

Berlynda Schaff, Parks and Recreation Commission

BACKGROUND:

The Parks and Recreation Commission is seeking approval from the Mayor and Council to dedicate the tennis courts located at the Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex to Mr. Steven Bokowski. Mr. Bokowski was a long-time resident and tennis instructor at the former Kings Court Tennis Club. The Commission would like to host an official public dedication during the grand opening of the Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex tentatively scheduled for June 2023.

Mr. Steven Bokowski taught tennis in Sierra Vista for 40 years. He grew up in Tucson and attended and played for Pima Community College. In 1981 he moved to Sierra Vista with his family to be a tennis instructor at Kings Court Tennis Club. In 1983 Steve was hired with the City of Sierra Vista to teach youth and adult tennis lessons as well.

During his 40 years in Sierra Vista, Mr. Bokowski taught and coached tennis to more than 7,000 kids and adults. He taught private and group lessons at both the Kings Court Tennis Club and the City of Sierra Vista courts (which are now the pickle ball courts located on Tacoma Street). Additionally, his summer programs through the City of Sierra Vista, which averaged approximately 100 participants each year, were a huge hit. You could always find kids on the courts smashing water balloons as one of his signature coaching activities.

Mr. Bokowski could always be found using his love for tennis to benefit the community. For years, Steve ran multiple tournaments, one of which was called the Forgach Open, a charity tournament that benefited the local crisis shelter. Coach Steve, as he was known, sent numerous kids, to include his son Brian and daughter Danielle, to college on tennis scholarships; approximately five former students went on to play professionally. To this day, Coach Steve still has students playing tennis in middle school and high school.

To honor his dedication to the youth of Sierra Vista, it is recommended that the tennis courts at the Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex be named The Steven Bokowski Tennis Courts.

BUDGET APPROPRIATION:

Not applicable.

RESOLUTION 2023-034

A RESOLUTION OF THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA, DEDICATING THE TENNIS COURTS LOCATED AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL PARK SPORTS COMPLEX AS THE STEVEN BOKOWSKI TENNIS COURTS; AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER, CITY CLERK, CITY ATTORNEY, OR THEIR DULY AUTHORIZED OFFICERS AND AGENTS TO TAKE ALL STEPS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THIS RESOLUTION.

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the City of Sierra Vista to recognize the contributions of area residents who have demonstrated a commitment to the betterment of our community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council and the Parks and Recreation Commission wish to insure that public facilities and their dedications recognize and represent those best values inherent in those who give generously of their time and efforts in support of the community; and

WHEREAS, it was the unanimous recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Commission to recognize the many fine contributions made by Steven Bokowski on behalf of the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, COCHISE COUNTY, ARIZONA AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1

The policy of dedicating City facilities and/or areas after citizens who have worked selflessly contributing to our community, be, and hereby is, reaffirmed.

SECTION 2

The Mayor and City Council, honoring the contributions of Steven Bokowski, hereby dedicate the tennis courts located at the Veterans Memorial Park Sports Complex as The Steven Bokowski Tennis Courts.

SECTION 3

The City Manager, City Clerk, City Attorney, or their duly authorized officers and agents are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps necessary to carry out the purposes and intent of this resolution.

PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SIERRA VISTA, ARIZONA, THIS 4TH DAY OF MAY 2023.

CLEA MCCAA II
Mayor

Approval as to Form:

Attest:

NATHAN J. WILLIAMS
City Attorney

JILL ADAMS
City Clerk

Prepared by:
Laura Wilson, Director of Parks, Recreation & Library