

Proposed renaming of Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond

Date:	January 20, 2010
To:	Scarborough Community Council
From:	Brenda Patterson, General Manager, Parks, Forestry and Recreation
Wards:	Ward 42 – Scarborough-Rouge River
Reference Number:	

SUMMARY

This staff report is about a matter for which Community Council has delegated authority from City Council to make a final decision.

This report responds to the request made at Scarborough Community Council (SC30.26) at its November 10th, 2009 meeting, regarding the renaming of the Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond, located at 30 Silverbell Grove in honour of Gary Holmes, a long-time softball coach and youth sports organizer.

The Parks, Forestry, and Recreation staff is recommending that the Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond situated at 30 Silverbell Grove be officially renamed “Gary Holmes Softball Diamond” in honour of Mr. Holmes’ contributions to youth softball participation and the Malvern community.

Parks, Forestry and Recreation staff have exercised due diligence in ensuring that all criteria in the Naming and Renaming for Parks and Recreation Facilities and Parks Policy have been met.

RECOMMENDATION

The General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation Division recommends that Scarborough Community Council:

1. Rename the Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond located at 30 Silverbell Grove to “Gary Holmes Softball Diamond” in honour of Mr. Holmes’ contributions to youth softball participation and the Malvern community.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

DECISION HISTORY

Scarborough Community Council, at its meeting of November 10, 2009, considered a letter from Councillor Raymond Cho, concerning the renaming of the Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond located at 30 Silverbell Grove to “Gary Holmes Softball Diamond,” and referred the matter to the General Manager of Parks, Forestry and Recreation for a report to Community Council. (Item SC30.26).

Scarborough Community Council Dec. Doc. (Item SC30.26)

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2009/sc/decisions/2009-11-10-sc30-dd.htm>

COMMENTS

A formal request has been submitted to the City of Toronto, Parks, Forestry and Recreation to recognize Gary Holmes by renaming the Wickson Trail Park Softball Diamond in his honour.

Mr. Holmes volunteered many years to his community, starting in 1985 as a coach for the Malvern Softball Association and Umpire-in-Chief. He was also a member of the Board of Malvern Softball Association and sat on the Board of the Scarborough-Indianapolis Peace Games.

Mr. Holmes’ contributions to the community were always focused on youth. He encouraged youth to play softball, serve as umpire and worked to maintain local diamonds. He was a strong advocate of fair play and instilled in players the importance of respecting each other on and off the field. He remains a positive influence on the Malvern community to this day.

Considering his contributions to the youth of the Malvern community and youth softball participation, it is appropriate that Gary Holmes be recognized by renaming the Wickson Trail Park softball diamond to “Gary Holmes Softball Diamond.”

CONTACT

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SIGNATURE

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