



REPORT TO MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR
AND CITY COUNCIL

DATE: November 27, 2007

SUBJECT: Certificate of Appreciation for George Ahlgren

Report in Brief

George Ahlgren has been a City of Woodland employee in the Parks & Recreation Department for 30 years. Staff recommends that the City Council recognize George with a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the City of Woodland in the Parks & Recreation Department.

Background

George went to college at the University of California Davis and graduated with a degree in Biology. George planned to be a veterinarian, but instead started working for the City of Woodland in the Parks & Recreation Department. George started his Woodland career as a Park Maintenance Worker I/II.

George's first assignment 30 years ago was to plant honeysuckle at Everman Park. With how hard the dirt and rock is in Woodland plus the 100+ degree temperatures, George felt like he was on a chain gang and wasn't sure being a Park Maintenance Worker was a good career move for him. However, he got past that first assignment and worked his way up to a Park Leadworker, Park Supervisor, and finally his current position as Park Superintendent.

George has had many accomplishments with the City of Woodland's Parks & Recreation Department. Some of his main assignments included:

- Project Manager at Klenhard Sports Park
- Landscaping areas in Gibson Ranch
- Playground Replacement Program in all Woodland's Parks
- Assisting with the Cemetery Master Plan
- Yolano Recreation Center renovation
- Assisting with the Southland Park renovation
- Hiddleson Pool renovation
- Proposition 50 Grant for \$1,000,000 to fund the Park Irrigation Project
- Establishing the Building Maintenance Program at the Community & Senior Center
- Assisting with the "Project Play" rebuild project

George is a person who highly values his family, the community of Woodland and his public service career. In his spare time, George enjoys bird watching and growing Orchids. One of the more interesting facts about George is that his Father won a gold medal in a rowing event in the Olympics.

Discussion

Employees are the City of Woodland’s greatest asset! It is especially challenging for the City to replace an employee with over 30 years of service. George has a great deal of institutional knowledge that will be lost with his retirement.

George has been a valued member of the Parks & Recreation Department’s Management Team! Each year the Parks & Recreation Department Management Team cooks breakfast for all the full-time and part-time staff and George’s “Flapjacks” will be missed.

In 2005, George was given the “Exceptional Performance Award” at the Parks & Recreation Department’s Award Ceremony. Throughout his career, George has delivered a high level of Park Maintenance for the citizens of Woodland. In 2007, George worked on a Proposition 50 Grant with a consultant that resulted in a successful application which generated a \$1,000,000 award to the City of Woodland for the park irrigation project and supported the community rebuild of the Ferns Park Play Structure.

Fiscal Impact

There will be some initial savings to the City of Woodland’s budget until the position is filled. The cost of losing the institutional knowledge is unknown at this time.

Public Contact

There will be a recognition dinner for George sometime either in December or January.

Recommendation for Action

Staff recommends that the City Council recognize George with a Certificate of Appreciation for his dedicated service to the City of Woodland in the Parks & Recreation Department.

Prepared by: Daniel W. Gentry, Director
Park & Recreation Department

Mark G. Deven
City Manager

City of Woodland

Certificate of Appreciation GEORGE AHLGREN

WHEREAS, George Ahlgren has been an employee of the City of Woodland in the Parks & Recreation Department since August 21, 1978 (over 30 years); and

WHEREAS, George has worked his way up the ranks as a Park Maintenance Worker I/II, Park Maintenance Worker III, Park Supervisor and Park Superintendent; and

WHEREAS, George has had a key role in many projects including: Project Manager at Klenard Sports Park; Landscaping areas in Gibson Ranch; Playground Replacement Program in all of Woodland's Parks; Assisting with the Cemetery Master Plan; Assisting with the Southland Park renovation; Hiddleson Pool renovation; Yolano Recreation Center renovation; Proposition 50 Grant for one million dollars - Park Irrigation Project; Establishing the Building Maintenance Program at the Community & Sr. Center; Assisting with the "Project Play" rebuild project; and

WHEREAS, George has been a valued member of the City of Woodland's Parks & Recreation Management Team and has promoted good customer service and teamwork between the Parks and Recreation Divisions.

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council does hereby recognize George Ahlgren for his dedicated "Public Service" to the citizens of Woodland for 30 years providing them with safe and well maintained park and recreation facilities in our City.

PRESENTED this 27th day of November 2007.

David M. Flory, Mayor

Marlin H. Davies, Vice-Mayor
Jeff W. Monroe, Council Member

William L. Marble, Council Member
Artemio Pimentel, Council Member