Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Department Memorandum 10-03

DATE:

January 28, 2010

TO:

Honorable Joyce Downing and City Council Members

FROM:

Bill Simmons, City Manager (MX)

Amanda Peterson, Parks, Recreation & Cultural Services Director Guyan

SUBJECT:

CR-23 - Park Naming Request for Bill Gillespie

RECOMMENDATION: Staff and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommend the approval of the attached Resolution which would name the unnamed trail around Croke Reservoir the "Bill Gillespie Nature Trail." A Parks and Recreation Advisory Board action form supporting this recommendation is attached, as is a copy of the request letter originally submitted by the Gillespie family and friends.

BACKGROUND: The attached request was submitted to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board on August 31, 2009, and originally discussed at the board meeting on September 17, 2009. The request was for either naming the nature trail around Croke Reservoir to the "Bill Gillespie Nature Trail" or to rename Sperry Park "Bill Gillespie Park. Criteria for naming or renaming a park were considered by the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board in accordance with resolution 09-112, including the 90 day waiting period after the receipt of the request.

Between September 2009 and December 2009, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board posted the request as a discussion item on the agenda each month. During this time, Mary Ann Gillespie and Eric Gillespie spoke to the board in favor of this request.

The board supports the first request of the family to name the trail at Croke Reservoir the "Bill Gillespie Nature Trail," and feels that it upholds the guidelines outlined in the Park Naming policy. The board wishes to support the Gillespie family's request to honor the service that Bill Gillespie provided in the City of Northglenn as a resident, a volunteer and a City Council member by naming this trail after him.

BUDGETARY IMPACT: A metal sign on a wooden post would be erected at each end of the trail, at an anticipated cost of approximately \$150.00. This cost would be absorbed into the existing Parks Maintenance budget.

STAFF REFERENCE:

If Councilmembers have any comments or questions, you may contact Amanda Peterson at apeterson@northglenn.org or at 303.450.8950.

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: Bill Gillespie Naming Request

DATE: 11/9/09

ACTION/ Recommend naming the nature trail at Croke Reservoir the **RECOMMENDATION:** "Bill Gillespie Nature Trail in honor of former City Council

member Bill Gillespie

Approved Unanimously

930 Claire Lane Northglenn, Co 80234 August 31, 2009

Kathy Novak, Mayor City of Northglenn 11701 Community Center Dr. Northglenn, Co 80233

Dear Kathy (Mayor Novak):

This comes from the family and friends of Bill Gillespie requesting that he be remembered for his many years of dedicated service to the City of Northglenn. Bill not only lived in the city for 40 years but he served the city in many different capacities during those years. He was elected as city councilman from ward 4 for 5 terms or a total of 19 years. His record while on city council was exemplary as he took his commitment to the residents very seriously. He spent many extra hours answering questions and digging up information requested by various people. He was available both to Northglenn City Council and its residents at many extra functions and occasions. He gave freely of his time and his many talents on all of the city boards and a number of commissions. Bill loved living in Northglenn and saw much potential for this landlocked city. To honor Bill's dedication and service to this community we, his family and friends, are asking that there be a memorial dedicated in his name.

Since Bill resided in and represented Ward 4 for so many years, we would like for that memorial to be in Ward 4. One area of consideration could be the nature trail around Croke Reservoir - we don't want to change the name of the reservoir but think the nature trail could be called the Bill Gillespie Nature Trail, another possibility would be to rename Sperry Park to Bill Gillespie Park. If neither of these suggestions can be considered, perhaps there is some part of Historic Stonehocker Park that could be dedicated in his honor. Bill, along with Joyce Downing, were instrumental in saving the house from demolition. Without their efforts the house would be been used for a fire training facility and would have been lost to the city and the residents.

If the Parks and Recreation Board has other suggestions, we are open to your input. You can contact us at the numbers below.

Sincerely,

Maryann Gillespie Eric Gillespie Teresa Gillespie 303/451-0524

303/842-6381

Michael Gillespie 720-987-8612

Brice Gillespie

cc. City Council

We, friends of Bill Gillespie, feel a memorial dedicated in Bill's name by the city of Northglenn is a way for the city and its residents to honor him for his years of dedicated service.

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SPONSORED BY: MAYOR DOWNING COUNCILMAN'S RESOLUTION RESOLUTION NO. No. CR-23 Series of 2010 Series of 2010 A RESOLUTION NAMING THE UNNAMED TRAIL AROUND CROKE RESERVOIR AS THE BILL GILLESPIE NATURE TRAIL WHEREAS, the unnamed nature trail around Croke Reservoir is an amenity enjoyed by many visitors on a daily basis and is a great asset to the City of Northglenn; and WHEREAS, William "Bill" Gillespie provided invaluable service to the City of Northglenn as a resident, volunteer and City Council member; and WHEREAS, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board unanimously approved action on November 9, 2009 to recommend to Council that the trail around Croke Reservoir be named Bill Gillespie Nature Trail, and City Council wishes to express their gratitude for Mr. Gillespie's many contributions to the City of Northglenn. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN, COLORADO, THAT: The trail around Croke Reservoir shall hereafter be officially known as the: BILL GILLESPIE NATURE TRAIL DATED at Northglenn, Colorado, this _____ day of _________, 2010. JOYCE DOWNING ATTEST: Mayor JOHANNA SMALL, CMC City Clerk APPROVED AS TO FORM: COREY Y. HOFFMANN

City Attorney