

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	47162	Agenda Number	30.
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Meeting Date:	6/18/2015	Department:	Parks and Recreation
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Subject

Authorize a lifetime swim pass and waiver of admission fees to Barton Springs Pool for Lynn C. Cooksey and former Mayor Frank Cooksey.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:	
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Prior Council Action:	Swim fees are approved as part of 2014 -2015 Operating Budget.
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For More Information:	Cheryl Bolin, (512) 974-9459
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Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	On November 9, 1993 the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended awarding swim passes to citizens 80 years of age or older who are active swimmers at Barton Springs Pool.
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MBE / WBE:	
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

City Council is asked to issue a free lifetime swim pass to Lynn C. Cooksey (born 6-21-1935) and former Mayor Frank Cooksey. Mrs. Cooksey began swimming at Barton Springs Pool several years ago with a group that meets during the morning free swim time. She, along with her friend, Anne Wheat, faithfully meet at their group swim at 7:00 a.m. Mrs. Cooksey, along with her husband, have and continue to support all efforts to protect Barton Springs and the Edwards Aquifer. Mrs. Cooksey has served as president of the Austin History Center Association Board, supporting the efforts of the Austin History Center to accurately record the history of Barton Springs. Mr. Cooksey began swimming at Barton Springs Pool when he was in grade school and continued to swim at the pool through his college years. He wrote a paper entitled "One Celled Animals in the Water at Barton Springs," winning a prize at the Junior Academy of Science state competition. In the late 1970's Mr. Cooksey joined Save Barton Springs Association and later served as its president. When he served as mayor of Austin, he worked with Senator Barrientos to create the Edwards Aquifer Conservation District. He also testified at the now famous all night hearing opposing the PUD proposed by Freepport McMoran to be located on Barton Creek.

The City has established precedent in this area by recognizing other citizens 80 years old or older who are devotees of Barton Springs Pool by granting them free lifetime swimming privileges at the pool. Approximately thirty lifetime swim passes have been awarded in the last 42 years. Council approval is required because a fee waiver is necessary to award the pass.

A pass for 40 swims costs \$34 for senior citizens. The 40 swims may be taken at any time, at the purchaser's discretion. Since no multi-swim pass covers a specific timeframe, it is difficult to determine the exact fiscal impact of this action. However, the cost is believed to be negligible with no negative consequences to the Parks and Recreation Department.

This is a time sensitive item. Council approval will allow Mayor and Mrs. Cooksey to utilize this swim pass during the 2015 swim season.