

REPORT OF GENERAL MANAGER

APPROVED
APR 19 2007

NO. 07-95

DATE April 19, 2007

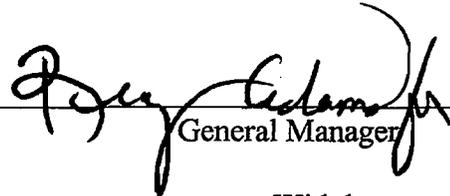
**BOARD OF RECREATION
and PARK COMMISSIONERS**

C.D. 15

BOARD OF RECREATION AND PARK COMMISSIONERS

SUBJECT: CABRILLO MARINE AQUARIUM - NAMING OF THE EXHIBIT HALL IN HONOR OF DR. SUZANNE LAWRENZ-MILLER AND INSTALLATION OF A PLAQUE

R. Adams	_____	J. Kolb	_____
J. Combs	_____	F. Mok	_____
H. Fujita	_____	K. Regan	_____
S. Huntley	_____	*M. Shull	<u>MS</u>



 General Manager

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Withdrawn _____

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Approve naming the exhibit hall inside the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium in honor of Dr. Suzanne Lawrenz-Miller;
2. Approve the installation of a plaque, its wording, and placement inside the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium building; and,
3. Approve the installation of the lettering, its wording, and placement inside the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium building.

SUMMARY:

Cabrillo Marine Aquarium is located at 3720 Stephen M. White Drive, in the San Pedro area of Los Angeles. On October 2, 2005, the Department received a letter from Friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium (FRIENDS) requesting that the Department name the exhibit hall in honor of Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller. Additionally, it was proposed that a plaque be installed inside the building and that lettering be installed over the entrance to the exhibit hall.

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Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller retired from the position of Director of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium on June 30, 2006 after 32 years of distinguished service. Dr. Lawrenz-Miller began her career as the Marine Museum Exhibits Director at Cabrillo Marine Museum, in 1974. In 1976 she became co-director of Cabrillo Marine Museum where she oversaw the design, fabrication, and installation of numerous exhibitions; directed the development of new laboratory and field based marine biology workshops; and, worked with architects to design the new Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, which opened in 1981. Dr. Lawrenz-Miller was promoted to Museum Administrator in 1987 and during her tenure oversaw a \$10 million expansion which helped to solidify Cabrillo Marine Aquarium's position as a leader in innovative public education of the oceans. Under Dr. Lawrenz-Miller's leadership, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, which serves about 400,000 annually, including environmental and science education programs for over 200,000 schoolchildren, has been recognized as one of the nation's premier informal marine science educational institutions.

A meeting was held at the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse on February 13, 2007, to discuss this proposal. Park Advisory Board members and meeting attendees were in support of this proposal.

Department staff has reviewed the proposal and recommends approval of the naming and the installation of the plaque inside the aquarium building, adjacent to the entry doors. The plaque would be approximately 30"x 18" in size and be made of bronze. The plaque would cost approximately \$4,000 and would be paid for by the FRIENDS. The plaque would have the following verbiage:

"This Exhibit Hall is dedicated to Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller, Director Emeritus. Retired June 30, 2006 after 32 years of dedicated service to Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and the Community. Under Susanne's leadership, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium became recognized as the finest teaching aquarium in the world. Her dedication to education, recreation, and research serves as an example for staff, volunteers, and friends of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium. Presented by FRIENDS and volunteers of Cabrillo Marine Aquarium"

Additionally, lettering, which would say "Dr. Susanne Lawrenz-Miller Exhibit Hall," would be installed in the interior of the building, on the wall above the exhibit hall entry doors that are closest to the information booth.

The Councilmember for the Fifteenth District and Pacific Region staff support the proposed naming and the installation of the plaque.

Staff has determined that the subject project will consist of interior alterations involving remodeling where there will be negligible or no expansion of use, and therefore, is exempt from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III, Section 1, Class 1 (1) of the City CEQA Guidelines.

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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

Approval of the naming will have minimal impact on the Department's General Fund, due to the FRIENDS funding the costs of the plaque. The Department will incur expenditure for the cost of the exhibit hall lettering, not to exceed \$1,000 to be paid from the Recreation and Parks Fund 302, Department 88, Account 3160, Activity Code 7780 for the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium.

Prepared by Camille D. Walls, City Planner, and Darryl Ford, Planning Assistant, Planning and Development.