



5/11/15

Dear Mr. Casey,

BOARD OFFICERS

John Van Donge
President

Mark Magid
Vice President

John Dixon
Treasurer

Kent Wojciechoski
Secretary

Douglas Dreier
James Stretchberry
Past Presidents

BOARD MEMBERS

Richard Auhll
Deborah Badger
Darryll Dewan
Caroline Grange
Adrian Gutierrez
Ralph Iannelli
Eve Ortiz
Phillip Pennestri
Tom Shapiro
Capt Dave Whitham

In 2010, the City of Santa Barbara Parks and Recreation Department was faced with the difficult task of making significant budget reductions in response to the national recession and declining City revenues. Long a partner with Parks and Recreation in providing quality recreation programming for our community youth, the Santa Barbara Police Activities League (PAL) stepped forward to help bridge two important youth and teen programs which were proposed to be reduced or eliminated, saving the Department and the City over \$156,000 a year.

PAL agreed to assume the responsibility for administration and operation of the Junior High Afterschool Sports Program, for an annual savings of \$45,485 to the Department. Additionally, PAL, which had been looking for the right facility to house their teen programming since they had outgrown the annex at the Police Station, agreed to take on the operation and maintenance of the Twelve35 Teen Center. This mutually beneficial partnership saved the Parks and Recreation Department \$110,580 on an annual basis. As part of the agreement, PAL also agreed to pay an annual lease amount to the City for the Twelve35 facility. Currently, that annual lease payment is \$9,984.

Since 2010, PAL has steadily built the Teen Center programming to include over 1,000 unduplicated youth served in 2014. Today PAL serves approximately 25-30 youth at the Teen Center everyday afterschool Monday through Friday. PAL has a variety of programming that includes Fitness Bootcamp, Beginning Guitar, Flamenco Dance, Golf, Jujitsu, Art, Police Explorers and the Youth Leadership Council. PAL also has a daily drop-in tutoring lab consisting of four tutors from CAL Soap and two tutors from Westmont.

At the time of the Teen Center transfer from the City to PAL, the concept of a lease payment of \$1 per year was discussed. Although City Administrator Jim Armstrong was receptive, he recommended that the request be revisited after PAL had demonstrated success in operating the facility.

We believe that PAL has demonstrated continued success in operating the Twelve35 Teen Center facility over the past four years. We respectfully request that the City modify the Teen Center lease from \$9,984 per year to \$1 per year. In return, PAL will dedicate these funds to improving and expanding PAL programs and services for the youth of the Santa Barbara community.

On behalf of PAL and the youth that we serve, your consideration of this request is greatly appreciated.

Bryan Kerr
Police Activities League Officer