



City of Sebastopol Planning Commission Staff Report

Meeting Date: November 15, 2023
Agenda Item: 6A
To: Planning Commission
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director
Mark Sanchietti, Sebastopol Little League
Subject: Sebastopol Little League Annual Report 2022
Recommendation: Receive Report

Introduction:

The Sebastopol Little League (SLL) has been offering youth baseball in Sebastopol since 1957. The SLL leases and operates two ballfields in City parks (Polley Field in Ives Park and Clahan Field in Laguna Youth Park). The lease agreement includes the requirement for an Annual Report to the Planning Commission, which serves as the City's Parks Commission, to present usage information, provide updates on activities, and discuss any issues.

Background/Discussion:

In 2022, the Sebastopol Little League (SLL) approached the city for a lease extension, requesting a longer term (25 years) for the agreement, as they are about to embark on a major fundraising effort to upgrade the lighting at Polley Field, and were looking for the assurances a longer-term lease (over the 'annually renewable/cancelable at any time) than the current lease provides. This is also an advantage to the City, which currently relies on the partnership with the SLL for maintenance of the fields, electricity costs, and coordination of any leasing of the fields is done by the SLL.

Staff, with direction from the Planning Commission's discussions, worked with the SLL to develop a new lease, which includes updated terms (the prior lease was written more than 15 years ago) along with the term extension to ensure that the fields continued to be rented to the public for ball play when not in use by the SLL and to clarify how the SLL annual reports would be done (that they be presented to the Planning Commission). The City Council approved renewing the lease for the Sebastopol Little League (SLL) to operate the two ball fields in February 2023 for a period of 25 years.

The SLL President, Mark Sanchietti, will present the Leagues' annual report to the Commission.

Public Comment:

No public comments have been received as of the writing of this staff report.

Recommendation:

Receive report and discuss any issues.

Attachments: Updated Sebastopol Little League Lease



December 7, 2023

Notes Prepared for: Kari Svanstrom

For: Sebastopol City Planning & Parks

From: Sebastopol Little League

Sebastopol Little League is a non-profit organization run by volunteers who are committed to the children and families of our community. Sebastopol Little League's goal is to implant the ideals of good sportsmanship, honesty, loyalty, courage and respect for one another and authority, so that players may be well-adjusted, stronger and happier children who will grow up to become good, decent, healthy, and trustworthy citizens. Sebastopol Little League will provide an opportunity for our community's children to learn the game of baseball in a safe and friendly environment.

Sebastopol Little League (SLL) has been offering youth baseball since 1957.

Currently in our league playing this upcoming season we have multiple

Generations of family members playing youth baseball. Our enrollment and

numbers of a league have been growing and coming out of COVID we have been able to surpass the number of players than prior years, these are very exciting times for SLL!

From our last Spring 2023 Baseball season, we had another increase in enrollment and that number has now surpassed 400 youth players!!

We also offer Baseball in the Fall, we there too had another increase in enrollment, having over 100 players in the Fall Ball season.

We have enrollment open and are currently receiving sign ups for the 2024 Spring Season.

Below photo was taken at our 2023 Opening Day Ceremony at Polley Field

