

Date:

CONSENT CALENDAR
11/18/2003

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Dona Spring

Subject: REQUEST FOR RENTAL FEE REDUCTION AND
WAIVER OF INSURANCE FEES FOR MARCH 2004
STORYTELLING WOMEN EVENT

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council reduce the rental fees and waive insurance costs fees for the Storytelling Women Event to be held on a weekend in March 2004 at Live Oak Park.

BACKGROUND:

This is the third year for Storytelling Women and it has grown out of the storytelling tea party in Cordonices Park, which was in its 13th year in June 2003. The fiscal sponsor for this event Urban Creeks Council a non profit organization. This is a weekend workshop to be held either on March 13 and 14 or March 20 and 21 (depending on the availability of artists). This event starts on Saturday with a workshop for children and adults to honor women in their life through making a story coat. Story coats will commemorate the person through collage, decorative elements on the paper coat. Participants will collage maps of creek where they reside in the bay area as part of story coat--making a watershed of "story coats. " If possible, the story coats will be exhibited at local Sr. centers and donations generated from the project will be used to build a tour of this project. Exhibition of coats will be on Sunday at performance which highlights 3 woman tellers and a vocalist honoring women who have influenced their lives.

The storytelling women events have been very popular attracting over 200 women and girls who participate annually. It has become a treasured Berkeley tradition. The increased cost of the rental space at our community centers is difficult for small community events and the increased insurance costs are making these events almost prohibitive. This agenda item

requests the waiver of the insurance fee and a reduction to \$35 an hour for the use of the *Live Oak Community Center*.

The total cost to produce this event is \$6495 with an additional \$4620 of in-kind contributions. The Berkeley Civic Arts Commission has granted this event \$1189. The rest of the budget must be raised from donations and other grants.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Insurance fee waiver he is \$350; Rental fee reduction at Live Oak Park to \$35 per hour from \$75 per hour; On Saturday 10 am to 6 p.m. (10 a.m. to 12 p.m. set up, 12 to 4 p.m. workshop, 4 to 6 p.m. clean up); Rental fee reduction at Live Oak Park on Sunday 10 to 3 p.m. (10 a.m. to 1 p.m. set up, 1 to 3 p.m. performance) total cost of rental fee reduction is \$520 (13 hours at \$35 instead of \$70). Total cost of request for the waivers is \$870.

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