

Public Dis. (a)
10-13-01

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: JANUARY 15, 2002

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

THROUGH: PHILIP SUNDERLAND, CITY MANAGER *PS*

FROM: HENRY HOWARD JR., DIRECTOR, PERSONNEL SERVICES *H. HOWARD*

SUBJECT: CITY PLANS TO RECOGNIZE LONG-TERM CITY EMPLOYEES AND
UPDATE ON CAMP KINGSMONT SCHOLARSHIP

At the October 13, 2001, Public Hearing meeting, City Council requested an update of the City's plans to recognize long-term employees. Council also asked staff to communicate to City departments about the generous offer by the Yuhasz family to provide a scholarship for the child of a City employee to attend Camp Kingsmont, a camp for overweight children.

In April 2001, Mr. Louis H. Yuhasz contacted members of City Council regarding a request to commemorate his father, a long-term City employee of the Department of Transportation and Environmental Services. Based upon the request of Mr. Yuhasz, Council asked staff to explore a suitable way to commemorate employees with long-term City service.

Last summer, a group of City staff met to explore the feasibility of recognizing all long-term employees with a plaque or memorial. It was decided that efforts to individually commemorate every City employee with significant City service was not practical, and staff began looking at other alternatives.

The planned renovations to Market Square will provide us with an opportunity to designate one of the refurbished planters as the location for a small garden and a plaque honoring all long-term City employees.

In an effort to create an ongoing collection of information about long-term City employees, the Office of Historic Alexandria will be asked to serve as the designated archive for information regarding service awards for long-term employees. The Office will initiate a detailed file search to obtain as much historical information as possible so that we maintain a record of long-term public servants.

Subsequent discussions with Mr. Yuhasz resulted in his family offering an annual scholarship in memory of his father for a selected child of a City employee to attend Camp Kingsmont, which is located in Massachusetts, for a two-week stay each summer.

The Personnel Services Department is in the process of identifying criteria to be used in selecting a child to attend camp next summer. Once the criteria are determined, a notice/application will be distributed to all City employees. A selection panel consisting of personnel from Recreation, Parks and Cultural Activities, Human Services, and Personnel Services will review applications and select a recipient. We will keep Council apprised of the status of these efforts.

cc: Michele Evans, Assistant City Manager
Edward Mandley, Director, General Services