



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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DA _____

Risk Mgt._N/A_

Comptroller _____

HR _N/A_

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: December 19, 2017

DATE: November 8, 2017

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Rosemarie Entsminger, Fiscal Compliance Officer, Community Services
Department Regional Parks, 328-2044, rentsminger@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Ben Hutchins, CPA, Division Director, Finance and Customer Service
Community Services Department, 954-4646, bhutchins@washoecounty.us

SUBJECT: Accept cash donations [\$40,955.31] from the Wilbur May Foundation
restricted for May Museum & Arboretum marketing, staff travel and
training, facility improvements and exhibit support. (Commission District
3.)

SUMMARY

Accept cash donations in the amount of \$40,955.31 from the Wilbur May Foundation restricted for May Museum & Arboretum marketing (\$16,051.70), staff travel and training (\$7,403.61), facility improvements (tree pruning \$8,000, Greenhouse potting shed \$6,500) and funds for delivery of a temporary Arboretum exhibit (\$3,000).

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Stewardship of our Community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 18, 2017 the Board accepted cash donations [\$320,000] from the Wilbur May Foundation: \$220,000 restricted for Fiscal Year 2017-18 general operating support of the Wilbur D. May Center, excluding all County overhead expense items; and \$100,000 restricted to support Fiscal Year 2017-18 temporary exhibits at the Wilbur D. May Museum.

Support in the form of cash donations has been provided by the Wilbur May Foundation and accepted by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) annually since Fiscal Year 1983-84.

BACKGROUND

Wilbur May Foundation donations will support Museum marketing efforts in on-line news and events sources, public broadcasting and travel guides. The Foundation generously supports Museum and Arboretum staff with career development by sponsoring attendance at various conferences.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

They have generously provided funding for additional tree pruning in the Arboretum and the purchase of a potting shed for the new greenhouse. For the first time, the Arboretum will be hosting an outdoor educational exhibit entitled “Vanishing Acts: Trees under Threat”. This exhibit comes from the Morton Arboretum in Illinois; the May Foundation is funding shipping and marketing costs.

Since our partnership with the Wilbur May Foundation began in Fiscal Year 1983-84, the Foundation has generously donated \$16.1 million in direct cash donations to Washoe County to subsidize facility operations and maintenance and for site and programming improvements. The collection of artifacts on permanent loan to Washoe County in the Wilbur D. May Museum is priceless and the May Arboretum’s mature horticulture comprises the most tree species-diverse area of Northern Nevada.

FISCAL IMPACT

All of the donations have been deposited in the “Wilbur D. May Museum Building Fund,” an independent account maintained by the Treasurer’s Office.

Project expenses are distributed from the “Wilbur D. May Museum Building Fund,” to the appropriate vendors. No budget adjustments are required.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept cash donations [\$40,955.31] from the Wilbur May Foundation restricted for May Museum & Arboretum marketing, staff travel and training, facility improvements and exhibit support.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be:

“Move to accept cash donations [\$40,955.31] from the Wilbur May Foundation restricted for May Museum & Arboretum marketing, staff travel and training, facility improvements and exhibit support.”