

TJA

FROM	NAME & TITLE	THOMAS J. STOSUR, DIRECTOR
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING 8 TH FLOOR, 417 EAST FAYETTE STREET
	SUBJECT	CITY COUNCIL BILL #18-0200/ CITY PROPERTY – RENAMING RADECKE PARK TO RALPH SEARS FIELDS AT RADECKE PARK

CITY of
BALTIMORE
MEMO



TO

The Honorable President and
Members of the City Council
City Hall, Room 400
100 North Holliday Street

DATE: May 10, 2018

At its regular meeting of May 10, 2018, the Planning Commission considered City Council Bill #18-0200, for changing the name of Radecke Park, located at 5601 Radecke Avenue to Ralph Sears Fields at Radecke Park.

In its consideration of this Bill, the Planning Commission reviewed the attached staff report which recommended approval of City Council Bill #18-0200 and adopted the following resolution, eight members being present (eight in favor):

RESOLVED, That the Planning Commission concurs with the recommendation of its Departmental staff, and recommends that City Council Bill #18-0200 be passed by the City Council.

Attachment

TJS/WA

- cc: Mr. Pete Hammen, Chief Operating Officer
- Mr. Jim Smith, Chief of Strategic Alliances
- Ms. Karen Stokes, Mayor's Office
- Mr. Colin Tarbert, Mayor's Office
- Mr. Kyron Banks, Mayor's Office
- The Honorable Edward Reisinger, Council Rep. to Planning Commission
- Mr. William H. Cole IV, BDC
- Mr. Derek Baumgardner, BMZA
- Mr. Geoffrey Veale, Zoning Administration
- Ms. Sharon Daboin, DHCD
- Ms. Elena DiPietro, Law Dept.
- Mr. Francis Burnszynski, PABC
- Ms. Katelyn McCauley, DOT
- Ms. Natawna Austin, Council Services



Stephanie Rawlings-Blake
Mayor

PLANNING COMMISSION

Sean Davis, Chairman

STAFF REPORT



Thomas J. Stosur
Director

May 10, 2018

REQUEST: City Council Bill #18-0200/ City Property- Renaming Radecke Park to Ralph Sears Fields at Radecke Park

For the purpose of changing the name of Radecke Park, located at 5602 Radecke Avenue, to Ralph Sears Fields at Radecke Park.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval

STAFF: Ivor Quashie

PETITIONERS: Councilmembers Brandon M. Scott, Mary Pat Clarke

OWNERS: Mayor and City Council

SITE/GENERAL AREA

Site Conditions: Radecke Park is a 10 acre public park in northeastern Baltimore. The park located in the Frankford neighborhood, west of Moore's Run Park.

General Area: This Park is in a predominantly residential area. It is surrounded by single family homes with the Garden View Apartments to the southeast and the Gardenvillage Apartments to the south.

HISTORY

There are no previous Planning Commission actions regarding this site.

ANALYSIS

Mr. Ralph Sears was a dedicated, hardworking true volunteer servant to the Radecke Ave Playfield for nearly thirty years. Despite not getting paid or otherwise compensated for the work he did on the field, he was always willing to spend endless hours to ensure that the field, the field house, and bathrooms were kept clean and maintained for the kids and teens using the field for sports activities.

When there was soccer, baseball and football team practice and game days or even meetings, Mr. Sears would show up early mornings or sometimes during the day to pick up trash, empty trash cans, fill field pot holes with dirt from the nearby creek banks, mark and set up the fields for games and even cut some of the grass on both the Radecke Avenue fields and the surrounding areas. He would always ensure that the concession stand had enough supplies.

Most people thought he was a Baltimore City employee because he spent so much time working on and around the fields. Others, thought he had family members associated with the teams until they got to know him and discovered he had no affiliation with the city or the teams that used the park.

Mr. Sears consistently worked to ensure the field and the facilities were ready for the kids, coaches, families and visitors. He was always willing to lend a hand when asked. The people that knew him always said good things about him and what he did to support the activities in the park. For these reasons, staff recommends approval of City Council Bill #18-0200.

Notification: Planning staff notified the Cedonia Community Association, Frankford Improvement Association, Councilmembers Brandon Scott and Mary Pat Clarke of this matter.



Thomas J. Stosur
Director