



Village of Biscayne Park Commission Agenda Report

Village Commission Meeting Date:	September 1, 2015
Subject:	Discussion 2015 – Relay for Life
Prepared By:	Shelecia Bartley, Parks & Recreation Manager
Sponsored By:	Staff

BACKGROUND

The American Cancer Society Relay for Life is requesting to hold their area-wide 2016 event in the Village. The Relay will be a 6-hour event starting at 4:00pm and ending at 10:00pm on April 9th 2016. This event will be a multi-municipality event that will seek participants, volunteers and resources from Miami Shores, El Portal, North Miami, North Miami Beach and Biscayne Park. It is proposed that the Village will serve as the Host City.

What is Relay for Life?

- Organized, community fundraising walk
- Teams of people camp out around a track (Sidewalk and/or Street)
- Members of each team take turns walking around the track (Sidewalk and/or Street)
- Food, games and activities provide entertainment and build camaraderie
- Family-friendly environment for the entire community

FISCAL / BUDGET IMPACT

The Village will provide Staff and the field usage as in-kind contribution to the event. The event will bring positive awareness about the Village of Biscayne Park. This event will build community involvement and showcase the Village.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff is requesting that the field rental fee be waived for the Relay for Life Event on April 9th 2016.

ATTACHMENTS

- General Information about Relay for Life
- Relay for Life Request letter

What is Relay?

The American Cancer Society Relay For Life is a life-changing event that gives everyone in communities across the globe a chance to celebrate the lives of people who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and fight back against the disease.

At Relay, teams of people from the community join together at a local high school, park, or other community locations and take turns walking or running around a track or path. Each team is asked to have a representative on the track at all times during the event and have an on-site fundraising activity (for example selling food, games, etc.)

Each year, more than 3.5 million people in more than 5000 communities in the United States, along with additional communities in 19 other countries, gather to take part in this global phenomenon and raise much-needed funds and awareness to save lives from cancer. Thanks to Relay participants, we are creating a world with more birthdays a world where cancer never steals another year of anyone's life.



Celebrating Survivors



A survivor is anyone who has ever heard the words "You Have Cancer." We invite all cancer survivors in the community to attend Relay For Life because they are the reason we Relay.

Our goal is to create a world where more people survive cancer - so they can celebrate another birthday. This year, more than 11 million people will be able to do that thanks to the support of millions of dedicated Relay participants.

Survivors are the guests of honor at Relay. Relay events offer survivors special T-Shirts or sashes and hold a special reception for survivors and caregivers. Most Relays open with the Survivor Lap, where survivors lead the way around the track while participants honor and applaud them. Being a part of the Survivor Lap allows them to celebrate what they've overcome while inspiring and motivating their community to fight. Survivors are proof that cancer can be defeated.

A Chance To Remember

One important aspect of the American Cancer Society Relay For Life is the opportunity for people to come together to remember loved ones lost to cancer and honor those who have won their battle. One of the most moving parts of the event is the Luminaria Ceremony.

As the sun sets over campsites and darkness falls, the night is brightened by the glow of illuminated bags called Luminaria, each bearing the name of someone who has battled cancer. Some celebrate cancer survivors, while others help us honor and remember those gone too soon. All represent someone special who has been profoundly affected by cancer and the family and friends who continue to fight back in their honor.



Why Relay?

Everyone's reason to Relay is as unique as their own personal story. At Relay, you can find healing, comfort, and support from others who have faced cancer or who have lost a loved one to the disease. You have a chance to meet people in the community who are equally as passionate about finding an end to cancer in our lifetime. You can thank all the people who have done so much to support you through your personal cancer experience. And you can gather together with friends, family, and colleagues to laugh, cry, and create lasting memories.

No matter why you take part in Relay, one thing is clear: with every step you take, you help the American Cancer Society save lives. With your help, we aren't just fighting one type of cancer—we're fighting for every birthday threatened by every cancer in every community. Each person who shares the Relay experience can take pride in knowing that they are working to create a world where this disease will no longer threaten the lives of our loved ones or steal another year of anyone's life.



Dear Village of Biscayne Park,

This letter is to formally request the Burke Recreation Center and grounds for the 2016 Relay For Life of *Biscayne Park/North Miami/North Miami Beach/Miami Shores* on Saturday **April 9th 2016 from 4pm to 10pm.**

We look forward to partnering with Biscayne Park throughout the year at village events and having a village team represented at the Relay. Also, we would like the opportunity to briefly speak about Relay at your next commission meeting.

Thank you,

Damien Morgan

Damien Morgan
Relay For Life Community Manager
American Cancer Society

