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| Date presented to council: | 8/12/02 |
| Verified by: | <i>H. Smith</i> |

CITY COUNCIL INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

IM No. 02-09

TITLE: REDINGTON MEMORIAL STATUE REQUEST

COUNCIL MEETING DATE: August 12, 2002

ADMINISTRATION INITIAL: *SP*

REQUESTED BY: Administration

PREPARED BY: Administration

Date Prepared: July 30, 2002

FISCAL IMPACT:

If yes, amount requested: \$ Account No.:

SUMMARY STATEMENT:

The City has received a request from the "Friends of Joe Redington, Sr." to donate money for a life-size statue of Joe Redington, Sr. to be placed in front of the Iditarod Trail Committee headquarters in Wasilla. The unveiling of the statue is planned for late February 2003, just prior to the start of the 2003 Iditarod race. Donors names will be placed on a plaque at the base of the statue. Total cost of the statue is estimated at \$35,000. The City is asked to contribute \$5,000 or whatever they deem appropriate.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION, IF ANY:

For Discussion

Attachments:

- Memo from Jeff Schultz
- Friends of Joe Redington, Sr. Press Release

Friends of Joe Redington Sr.

Joe Redington— Chairwoman
 Bill Devine— co-vice chairman Art & Finance 333-1860
 Jeff Schultz— co-vice chairman Project coordinator & Fundraising 276-1343
 310 Fern Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99504



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Life-size Joe Redington Sr. Memorial Statue to be placed at Iditarod Headquarters in Wasilla, Alaska

We all know beginning as early as 1969 Joe Redington Sr. tirelessly and endlessly fought to create and sustain the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race, even at his own detriment at times. His tenacity to that end is the only reason the Iditarod Sled Dog Race exists today and that the Iditarod Trail is now a National Historic Trail. The "Friends of Joe Redington Sr." know that his story and legacy should be forever memorialized for the world to see. The "Friends of Joe Redington Sr." in conjunction with the Iditarod Trail Committee have begun a project to ensure that a proper and fitting memorial to Joe Redington Sr. is realized in the very near future to be located in a place appropriate for such a memorial.

The friends of Joe Redington Sr. have decided on a life-size, waist-up, portrait of Joe holding his most famous sled dog "Feets" to be cast in bronze and placed atop a 3-foot-tall concrete and rock base. The artwork, contributed by the original Iditarod artist Bill Devine, is the same artwork used for the new trophy given each year to the winner of the race. We have chosen an Alaskan artist who specializes in sculpting human portraits and is familiar with Iditarod. Her name is Joan Bugbee Jackson of Cordova. She has done many Alaskan portraits and we are confident of her work. This statue, along with a bronze plaque telling the Joe Redington Story (in Vi Redington's words) will be placed in front of the Iditarod Trail Committee headquarters in Wasilla, Alaska. A second dedication plaque will be placed on the base with the names of substantial donors and those contributing in-kind services. On April 26th of this year the Iditarod Trail Committee board of directors voted unanimously in favor of this idea and gave the green light to the Friends of Joe Redington to proceed. The unveiling of the statue is planned for late February 2003 just prior to the start of the 2003 Iditarod race.

The "Friends of Joe Redington" are asking for cash donations as well as in-kind services to make this project a reality. The entire cost of the project is budgeted at \$35,000.

Donations are now being accepted. Donations can be made using your credit card or by making your check payable to "Iditarod Trail Committee" and note that it is for the "Joe Redington Sr. Memorial Statue Fund" and mail to: Iditarod Trail Committee Box 870800 Wasilla, Alaska 99687 Every size donation is being accepted. Donors contributing \$1000 or more will be named on a dedication plaque, in a size commensurate with their donation. This dedication plaque will be placed on the back side of the monument. Donors of less than \$1000 will be labeled on the same plaque as part of the group --- "The Friends of Joe Redington Sr."

For information regarding this project or to donate, please contact Bill Devine at 333-1860 or Jeff Schultz at (907) 276-1343, e-mail jeff@alaskastock.com

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Friends of Joe Redington Sr.

Vi Redington-- Chairwoman

Bill Devine-- co-vice chairman Art & Finance 333-1860

Jeff Schultz-- co-vice chairman Project coordinator & Fundraising 276-1343

310 Fern Lane Anchorage, Alaska 99504



FAX COVER PAGE

To: Mayor Palin --- City of Wasilla 373-9096

From: Jeff Schultz, the friends of Joe Redington Sr.

Pages: 2 including cover

Memo:

Dear Mayor Palin;

Attached you'll find a press release and donation information about a project I am spear-heading as part of the Friends of Joe Redington Sr. You may have read about this in the valley paper a few weeks ago. I am certain the city of Wasilla is somewhat the better economically (albeit in a small way) for Joe Sr. having started the Iditarod race. Because of this I hope that you will be able to make a case to donate some money toward this effort. As the release says, we're going to be raising \$35,000 to have this statue completed. I would hope the City of Wasilla could allocate \$5,000 to this cause, but we would appreciate any donation you could make.

Thanks for taking the time to look this over. Please call me if you have any questions and/or with your donation amount. 907-276-1343.

All the best---

Jeff Schultz

JEFF SCHULTZ
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JUL 17 2002

CITY OF WASILLA, ALASKA