



Item No. 5d Town of Atherton

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE – REGULAR AGENDA

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

FROM: STEVE TYLER – PARK SUPERINTENDENT

DATE: SEPTEMBER 9, 2016

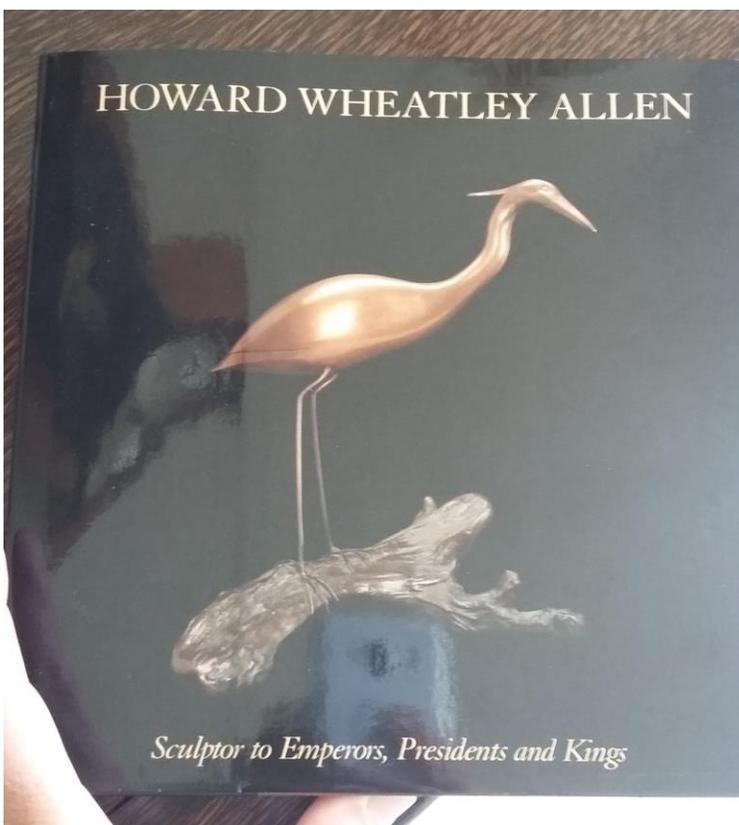
SUBJECT: DONATION TO PARK - CRANES

BACKGROUND

An Atherton resident (Harold and Marilyn Hohbach of 29 Lowery) would like to donate two (2) Crane sculptures to the park. They are by renowned sculpture Howard Wheatley Allen. The sculptures are currently placed in their backyard and is concerned for their fate when one day their house will be sold and scraped and these wonderful sculptures will be lost forever.

Staff would like to know if we should accept the donation and where might be an appropriate location to place them. All costs for pick up, delivery and placement would may to be financed by Arts Committee or Foundation (unless they just pull up and stick in the ground).





Introduction

I was raised in a hunting family, so I had an opportunity to watch and study birds in their natural habitat in the marshes of Northern California. Since I wasn't a very good shot I gave up hunting, but the impression of the early morning sunrise with the skies filled with birds gave me the inspiration that I have used since in my work.

I attempt to give my impression of a bird without a detailed representation, hopefully emphasizing the qualities that are the strongest: the line, the twist of a head, the tilt of a wing.

I have had the opportunity to create sculpture for heads of state around the world, including President Mikhail Gorbachev. One of my most cherished moments was when Gorbachev responded to my explanation of the snow goose migrating from the United States to Russia. He smiled and said, "You mean a living link."

It has been an honor to be chosen by the State Department several times to give my works to great leaders. Hopefully these gifts have been reminders that we all share the beauty of this earth.

*Wheatley Allen, 2004
Mendocino & Oakland, California*