

AGENDA SUMMARY PAGE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF: NOVEMBER 18, 2009

DEPARTMENT: OFFICE OF COMMUNICATIONS
DIRECTOR: DAVID RIGGLEMAN

SUBJECT:

RECOGNITION OF THE SOKA GAKKAI BUDDHIST COMMUNITY CENTER

BACKUP DOCUMENTATION:

Submitted at meeting Copy of Certificate of Appreciation Recognizing Soka Gakkai International

Minutes:

COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN stated that a Buddhist Community Center was built in Ward 1. The Soka Gakkai International (SGI) is known as a value creation education society and it was founded on November 18, 1930 by a Japanese educator, TSUNESABURO MAKIGUCHI. The philosophy teachings of NICHIREN, a Buddhist Monk, assert that all individuals, regardless of race, gender, capacity or social standing, has the power to overcome life's inevitable challenges, to develop a life of great value and creativity, and positively influence their community. Today they celebrate their 79th anniversary. They worked hard while constructing their center in order to create a center that would be an asset to the neighborhood. They are active participants in the Adopt-A-Block program and they often work together on beautifying the neighborhood by removing graffiti, cleaning up trash, and painting curbs within their areas.

The Councilwoman introduced SANDRA JONES and DAVID SHARK and presented them with a Certificate of Appreciation thanking them for being such good neighbors and for creating an atmosphere of peace and calm.

MR. SHARK thanked MAYOR GOODMAN, COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN and the entire Council for the honor. He thanked the Councilwoman for her support during the construction of their center. Soka Gakkai means "Value Creation Education Society." They have over 12 million members worldwide and 2,000 members in Las Vegas. This is a great day for them because the organization was founded on this day, 79 years ago. They are determined more than ever to contribute back to the City of Las Vegas and hope that their society will promote peace, culture and education throughout the community.

MS. JONES invited the SGI chorus to perform. COUNCILWOMAN TARKANIAN pointed out that WAYNE GREEN composed the song.