



# City Council Report

**Date:** June 22, 2009  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Christopher J. Brady, City Manager  
**From:** Scott J Butler, Government Relations Director  
**Subject:** Resolution of Support for a grant application from Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. for a \$225,000 request to the Gila River Indian Community. Citywide

## Purpose and Recommendation

This request is seeking a City Council resolution of support for Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. application to the Gila River Indian Community for Proposition 202 funding. If awarded, the grant will provide \$225,000 in funding over three years for facility and equipment expansion in order to serve an increased enrollment of youth. A Council Resolution supports this effort to secure a grant and commits the City to receive it on behalf of the non-profit and pass it through in its entirety to them. Staff recommendation is for Council to adopt this resolution.

## Background

The Gene Lewis Boxing Club opened in the City of Mesa in 1954 and has been a recognized partner in the community for the past fifty-five years. The club is a 501(c)(3) organization serving youth in the areas of physical fitness, goal setting, physical education, weight management and self-discipline. It has grown to become the 21<sup>st</sup> largest club in the United States. The resolution is required for consideration of their application by Gila River Indian Community. Non-profits are not allowed direct access to these funds per Proposition 202, but must secure the support of a local government sponsor.

## Discussion


A resolution of support for this grant request will complete the necessary documentation for Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. to file their application by June 30, 2009 and be considered for funding by the Gila River Indian Community. Mesa's participation in Proposition 202 Indian Gaming Grants has returned over \$3.2 million to our community since its passage in 2002 from four surrounding tribal governments.

**Alternatives**

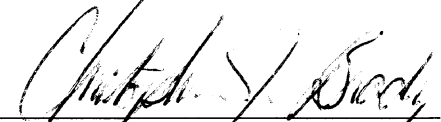
The only alternative to adopting this resolution would be to not adopt. Such an action would deny Mesa sponsorship for this request and require Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. seek an alternate local government for access to this funding source.

**Fiscal Impact**

The fiscal impact on the City of Mesa should this grant eventually be awarded for Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. will be negligible except overhead fees in accounting to accept and reissue the one grant check.

  
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Jerry Dillehay, Grants Coordinator

  
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Scott J. Butler  
Government Relations Director

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Christopher J. Brady, City Manager

**RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_**

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA APPROVING THE SUBMITTAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE GILA RIVER INDIAN COMMUNITY FOR PROPOSITION 202 FUNDS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED BY THE GENE LEWIS BOXING CLUB, INC. IN SUPPORT OF THEIR EFFORTS TO EXPAND SERVICES TO A LARGER GROUP OF MESA YOUTH.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1: Arizona's Indian Gaming Compact provides that a Tribe makes twelve percent (12%) of its net annual State contribution to cities, towns or counties for government services that benefit the general public. Private, not-for-profit organizations wishing to access funding to provide public benefits must secure sponsorship from a city, town or county before making application. This must be expressed in a resolution passed by the local government sponsor.

Section 2: The Gene Lewis Boxing Club, Inc. wishes to make application for funding for facility expansion and equipment from the Gila River Indian Community's 12% Grant Program.

Section 3: The City Council supports this grant request for funding and if awarded, will administer it directly to the non-profit agency as a pass-thru grant.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona this 22<sup>nd</sup> day of June, 2009.

APPROVED:

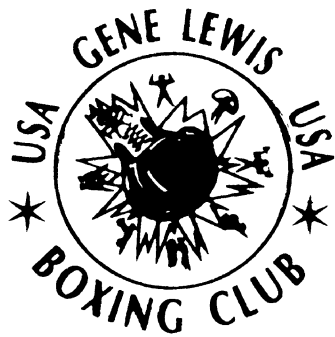
\_\_\_\_\_

Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_

City Clerk



**GENE LEWIS BOXING CLUB, INC.**  
P.O. Box 930, Mesa, AZ 85211



**Mayor Scott Smith**  
Office of the Mayor  
City of Mesa  
P.O. Box 1466  
Mesa, Arizona 85211

Dear His Honor,

The Gene Lewis Boxing Club opened in the city of Mesa in 1954 and has been a recognized partner in the community for the past fifty-five (55) years. The club, (GLBC) is a 501 (c) (3) organization serving the community in the areas of physical fitness, goal setting, physical education, weight management, self-discipline, etc...

We (GLBC) are managed by a Board of Directors, the Board is as follows:

Joshua Benjamin – Executive Director

Sukey Dominguez – President

Chris Gaynett – Secretary

Shaun Strickland - Treasurer

Dana Hawkins

Dante Perez

Javier Carrasco

Robert Daniels

Danny Kregle

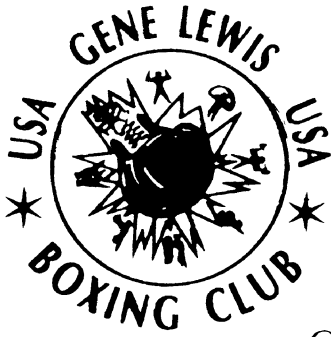
Linda Lewis-July

Bryan Youngman

Our club has grown to become the largest in the state of Arizona and one of the twenty largest clubs in the United States. In our effort to accommodate this growth, we respectfully seek your sponsorship/resolution in our endeavor to acquire grant funds from the Gila River Indian Community.

All monies awarded the GLBC will be used to expand and build our program. The need to serve a greater number of students is apparent in our ever-increasing enrollment. Longer hours, larger boxing ring, more travel opportunities and additional staff are just a few of the purposes earmarked in our growth management strategy. We ask you to consider providing your “official approval” to our grant-funding request. Thank you sir...

Respectfully,  
Gene Lewis Boxing Club  
59 East Broadway Rd.  
Mesa, Arizona 85210  
(480) 834-1216



**GENE LEWIS BOXING CLUB, INC.**  
P.O. Box 930, Mesa, AZ 85211



## Gene Lewis Boxing Club Expansion Project

The Gene Lewis Boxing Club is committed to continue providing a safe and structured environment for the youth (and adults) of Mesa and surrounding communities. In order to maintain our high level of service, we must institute a plan which accommodates the present and projected number of enrollees in our club.

Upon much review and analysis, we have concluded that the surest method in keeping with the vision of our founder, (the late Gene Lewis) is to expand the program at our present location [59 E. Broadway Rd. Mesa, AZ.]. The current location is familiar to the residents of Mesa and easily located for those new to our community. We wish to stay where we are...growing through well planned and implemented expansion.

The heart of our plan consists of adjusting to the growing demand for students in the program. Currently, the hours of operation are: 4:30pm to 7:00pm Monday through Friday. All of the coaches and trainers in our gym serve on an unpaid and volunteer basis. In addition, all equipment, uniforms, instruction, travel and expenses are provided free of charge to our students. We are requesting grant funds to assist in growing our program, particularly with respect to the proper usage of staff and the availability of enough boxing equipment for the number of students. A few of the needs and plans include:

- Ordering a larger boxing ring for the facility
- Expanding our reading and basic math tutorial program
- Hiring of an administrative assistant to help with enrollment process during the hours of operation, [thus allowing the coaches to serve more pupils.]
- Expanding the Gene Lewis Boxing Tournament [Already the largest boxing tournament in Arizona and one of the largest in the Southwest]
- Purchasing [150] 9' jump-ropes
- Purchasing [50] 10' jump-ropes
- Ordering a new ring mat
- Ordering 600 pairs of hand-wraps
- Ordering 60 pairs of bag gloves
- Ordering 28 pairs of sparring gloves
- Ordering 40 small [junior] head-gear
- Ordering 18 large [adult] head-gear
- Acquiring a larger "team" van [current van seats eight (8) persons]

Joshua Benjamin  
Executive Director  
(480)358-8956