

OU's Reddy named to national eye council

Venkat N. Reddy, director of the Institute of Biological Sciences at Oakland University, has been appointed to the 12-member National Advisory Eye Council of the National Institutes of Health.

Reddy, a Bloomfield Hills resident, will serve a four-year term. The members are selected by the secretary of the group, who receives names of authorities knowledgeable in the fields of fundamental sciences, medical sciences, education or public affairs, as well as representatives of the general public, covering all of the major program areas of the National Eye Institute.

The council advises the Institutes on applications for grants-in-aid relating to research projects and grants and awards for research and training activities, in the field of eye diseases and visual system, by recommending certain applications for approval.

Current OU Institute projects include investigations of various factors that cause cataracts, physiologic factors involved in glaucoma and biochemical and physiological clues to understanding how the retina covers light signals to neural response.



Venkat N. Reddy

Reddy previously has served as a member of the Visual Science Study Section of NIH and as chairman of the board of Scientific Counselors of the National Eye Institute.

'People want quality'

GOP bolts Murphy on parks tax

By Suzie Rutline Singer
staff writer

In an unopposed move, seven Republicans joined the nine Democrats on the Oakland County Board of Commissioners to disapprove a county-executive recommendation to lower the property tax rate for the parks and recreation department.

Instead, the county board last week voted 16-10 to allow the department to levy 0.2466 mills (24.66 cents per \$1,000 of state equalized valuation) in 1983. That is the same rate it levied in 1982.

County Executive Daniel T. Murphy, a Republican, recommended the rate be lowered to 0.2405-mills.

"I'M VERY pleased to be able to get the same (levy) as last year," said R. Eric Reickel, manager of the parks and recreation commission.

The people of Oakland County are

requesting additional services from the parks, and they want quality programs. I'm glad most of the commissioners agreed," he added.

Local commissioners voting against the increase included: G. William Caddell, R-Walled Lake; John P. Calandro, R-Northville; Marilyn Gosling, R-Bloomfield Hills; George B. Jackson, R-Birmingham; John E. Olsen, R-Huntington Woods; Robert Page, R-Birmingham; and John Peterson, R-Rochester.

Murphy said he had recommended a lower rate because he is trying to keep rates much lower than the "truth in taxation" act allowable tax rate (0.2325 mills).

Using the approved rate, the county parks department will collect \$3,520,798 in 1983 compared to \$3,433,708 it would have received under Murphy's recommendation. Homeowners may not even notice the \$87,000 increase on Dec. 1 tax bills, because

taxes collected from new construction will help beef up the county's total tax base.

"SUPPOSE NEXT year they (parks and recreation) come in and ask for the same rate and we're cutting back?" Murphy asked Republican commissioners in caucus. "Then what? We don't want to get into the allocation process."

With the parks and recreation increase, the proposed 1983 tax rate will be 4.6452 mills, compared to Murphy's recommendation of 4.6391.

The entire 1983 budget is scheduled to be adopted at the commissioners' regular meeting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2.

Arguments on the commission floor

persuaded seven Republicans to join the nine Democrats and approve the amendment to raise the levy.

"It think it's unfair to reduce their (parks and recreation's) millage," said Alexander Perinoff, D-Southfield. "They're just asking to restore what they have."

Commissioner Joseph Montante, R-Orchard Lake agreed: "We've spent a lot of money this year on a lot of different things. The parks are in dire need of the quarter-mill, and I don't want to deprive them of it."

Reickel said the \$6 million budget, scheduled to be approved Dec. 1, has \$4.7 million budgeted for operating expenses and \$1.3 million to be used for capital projects and park maintenance.

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