

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

Regular Meeting

October 14th, 2014

President Bill Hornett called the meeting to order at 6:06p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Deb Theis, Dan Wilkes, Lynda Hembera. Absent: Dawn Ewoldt
Employees: Kelly Friedl, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Recreation Coordinator and Kim Downs, City Administrator Guests: Dan Hoffman

Motion by Deb Theis, second by Dan Wilkes, to approve the October 14th, 2014 agenda as amended. Motion Carried.

Motion by Lynda Hembera, second by Dan Wilkes to approve the minutes of September 9th, 2014. Motion carried.

Hiawatha Kids League Request for Guthridge Park base ball diamonds

Rick Sizemore, Hiawatha Kids League Commissioner made a request for Guthridge Park ball diamonds. Requested dates are Monday through Friday starting April 6th, 2015 through July 17th, 2015. Hiawatha Kids League is also requesting the diamonds on the weekends of May 30th, July 11th and July 18th. Requested dates will work on the calendar with the normal exception of Hog Wild Days June 13-24. Hiawatha Kids League agreed to set up their own diamonds and upkeep the fields as they have done in years past. Deb Thies asked if Hiawatha Kids League makes any in-kind donations. Kelly Friedl, Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Director stated that the league does not make any donations but does upkeep the field in return.

Motion made by Dan Wilkes, second by Deb Thies to approve the request for the Guthridge Park Baseball Diamonds for the 2015 Hiawatha Kids League season. Motioned carried.

Recreation Updates:

Concepts for NW Territory: Nick Streng, the City Construction Observer and I have been working together to develop a few concepts for the North West territory land options. We have sat down with Kim and the City Engineer to discuss our likes and dislikes and will revise the concepts to take to the land owners for their next meeting. These will give the land owners ideas of what we are imagining and if they would be interested in selling their land to us. We will get more in depth with your suggestions once we know when we get a yes or no answer.

Hiawatha Kids Movie Night: Kid's Movie Night was held on September 12th featuring "The

Nut Job” with about 25 kids in attendance. Spy Kids will be shown on October 10th for our Halloween showing. We are working to revamp the kids movie nights and increase our participation. November 7th we will be showing “Maleficent” and it will be the last Kids Movie Night of 2014.

Movies on the Square 2015: Our department staff is looking into quotes for the purchase of our own mobile movie equipment to have Movies on the Square in Guthridge Park at the Bandshell instead of New York Life. We will be asking the Friends Foundation to help with any expenses along from the sponsorships we receive. Last year we raised \$8,000.00 in Sponsorships, so I believe we will be able to pay for most of the equipment from that funding. We have also thought about doing a tailgate next fall for an away Iowa game! Deb Thies asked if the restaurants will still bring food to the park. Kelly Friedl, Parks and Recreation Director stated that she thinks Tatyana’s will still participate but is unsure if Brickside would still be willing to partner. If not, we would look into partnering with other businesses in the area.

Farmers Market: The Hiawatha Farmers Market has been a great success this year. I have heard nothing but positive feedback from not only the vendors but the patrons as well. We had a mixture of returning and new vendors this year so it will be interesting to see who have for next year. Our parking lots are full and people are parking on the streets. You will see how we have done on the attached budget. We now have applications ready to hand out for next year. We’re planning a fall festival for the last farmers market of 2015 with apple bobbing, pumpkin painting, candy and goods.

Splash a Smile 5K Fun Run/Walk: The Community Free Health Clinic had their 2nd annual Splash a Smile color run on September 20th. They have 250 in attendance from the 2,000 they had the previous year. The race went very well over all but wish they could have had a better turn out. 100% of the registrations went to support the Community Free Health Clinic’s Dental Program. They are looking for other options to do next year to bring in more participants. This event has benefited the city as it has introduced many people to Clark Park and the Hiawatha area.

Playing for Keeps: This year the event will take place on October 18th, 2014 in the Hiawatha Community Center. This year we have Hy-Vee catering, Fleck Sales distributing beer samples and Cedar Ridge providing wine. We continue to get donations in as the event gets closer. If you can volunteer again this year please let me know and I will find a spot for you to help!

Hog Wild Days Council Approval: Council approved the dates of Hog Wild Days for 2015 and the addition to the \$1,000 damage deposit at the September 17th meeting.

Parks Update:

- We will be keeping the Cedar Rapids Toyota Truck until the beginning of October.
- Park rentals are nearly finished. The last rental listed is on October 18th.
- Council approved the inflatable policy change and the nonresident pavilion fee beginning January 2015.
- All seasonal rentals are done for the summer. Rick and Ted will be finishing up on the pavilions for the end of the year as well as Community Center up keep. Rentals are in full swing for the Community Center.
- The Parks and Streets Department are applying for the Alliant/Branching Out Grant that will be submitted November 1st. We are looking at adding additional trees to our parks in preparation of the Emerald Ash Borer.

Motion by Deb Thies, second by Lynda Hembra to adjourn at 6:25p.m. Motion carried.

Bill Hornett, Chairperson

ATTEST: Kelly Friedl, Parks and Recreation Director
