Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

Business:

- **Amateur Radio Field Day June 22nd – 24th, 2018:** ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Field Day is an education event that is self-sufficient and teaches Amateurs to operate in abnormal situations in case of emergency instances. June 22-24th a local Amateur Group in the Hiawatha/Cedar Rapids area would like to use Clark Park as a designated location. With that said it would require that the park stay open 24 hours, past our 10PM curfew. There would be 24 hours shifts that these Amateurs would cover to connect with as many stations as possible that weekend (the whole objective of the event). The park would still be open to the public besides the disc golf course. They would need to set up portable antennas that would be between 30-40ft high. This group carries insurance and is very self-efficient. This year the Hiawatha Fire Department will not be involved so we will be asking for a $1,000.00 refundable damage deposit along with the Clark Pavilion Rental. I would like your approval for this event to take place in the park on June 22-24th and to extend park hours for the length of this event. Attached you will see the memo with further details.

Recreation Reports:

- **Farmers Market Meeting:** About 15 Farmers Market Vendors attended the Farmers Market Meeting on March 22nd. Karen Thornton from Linn County Public Health spoke on regulations and licensing for vendors, four advocates for the SNAP program explained how the program would be ran and answered questions regarding the program, Kelly went over Farmers Markets rules and then vendors were shown their placement on the map. About six vendors are signed up for the SNAP program and overall the meeting went very well.
- **Easter Egg Hunt:** About 200 kids came to our Easter Egg Hunt on March 31st in Guthridge Park. Michelle McIllece was kind enough to be the bunny for us. Kids stood in line forever to get a picture with the bunny once they had collected their share of 5,000 eggs. We are so grateful for our yearly sponsorship from Roasters Coffee House in Hiawatha to put on this free event for the community and for their coffee donation the morning of the event.
- **Live Healthy Iowa 5K:** Saturday, April 14th at 8:00 a.m. in Guthridge Park the City of Hiawatha Parks & Recreation have once again partnered with Live Healthy Iowa to host 1 of 14 5K races around the state of Iowa in conjunction with the Live Healthy Iowa 10 Week Challenge. This partnership is a collaborative effort in a way to combat Iowa's growing obesity problem and to make strides toward the goal of making Iowa the healthiest state in the nation! The 5K will begin

at 8:00a.m. with a kids 1K to follow at 9:00a.m. Register at LiveHealthyIowa.com We will need volunteers for this event specifically for registration, handing out medals and post-race refreshments.

- **Fitness Classes:** Zumba has been a great addition to our community. Our instructor Tara Allen has so much passion and drive to help the community and have fun in the world of Zumba. She has a great following and changes up her Zumba style each month to keep it fresh and exciting. Classes are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the Community Center. Did I mention it's FREE! Zumba April 11th, Yoga April 26th, Jazzercise at the Market May 6th, Zumba Gold May 9th, Jazzercise at the Market May 20th, Yoga May 31st. Zumba and Yoga is held in the Hiawatha Community Center at 6pm. Jazzercise at the Market will be at noon or 12:30pm. Time will be determined soon.
- **Whispering Pines Classes:** Donita and friends will be again on March 21st in the Hiawatha Community Center at 6pm. This month she will be offering a mandala painting. Fee is $35 cash or check only. To register text Donita at 319-270-1112. The next class takes place April 18th, stay tuned for the craft of the month.
- **Yoga 2018**: Twenty-two yogis showed up for our second free yoga of the year. These take place on the last Thursday of the month at 6pm in the Hiawatha Community Center. The next class takes place March 29th.
- **Spring Conference**: Ambyr and Kelly attended the Iowa Park and Recreation Association Spring Conference the last week in March at the Coralville Marriott Convention Center. They were able to learn and refresh with many great speakers along with participate in hands on activities. They attended many useful classes such as Attracting Regional & National Events, Outdoor Education, Take a Kid Outdoors, Social Media, Iowa River Landing Development, Career Development and more. It's a great opportunity to attend and network with other professionals around the state of Iowa before the busy season gets underway.
- **Chase Norton Memorial:** April 15, 2018 Come enjoy a great disc golf tournament at Fay Clark Park. The annual Hiawatha Open kicks off the year for disc golfers throughout the eastern Iowa corridor. Find more information at www.iowadiscgolf.net.
- **Lacrosse:** On April 14, we will be helping with the Center Point lacrosse day of play. Originally, we were going to have Hiawatha, Vinton and Center Point kids learn how to play the sport of Lacrosse and come together for one large day of play. With registrations lacking, Center Point was the only community that had kids interested. We will be pushing this event next year to see if we can get the program off the ground. For now, we will assist Center Point and see what changes we can make for next year.
- **Basketball:** This offensive improvement camp is designed for boys and girls grades K-5th who want to gain some serious offensive skills in basketball! Mount Mercy's head coach, Aaron Jennings and players will take you through the Mustang Offensive Improvement series. This sequence of drills has helped make the Mustangs one of the top offensive programs in the country. Over the two days, specific attention will be given to shooting, ball handling, footwork, passing, cutting, screening and offensive rebounding. Participants will also get to test these new skills in full- and half-court games and individual contests. Wednesday and Thursday May 9th and 10th Nixon Elementary School 6:00pm-8:00pm Registration Deadline: Wednesday, May 2nd Fee: $30.00
- **Pitch Hit Run:** Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & Run is a FREE, 1– day event for boys and girls ages 7-14. PHR is the official skills competition of Major League Baseball. Participants compete in either the Baseball Division or Softball Division and have the opportunity to advance through four levels of competition including Locals, Sectionals, Team Championships and the National Finals at the MLB All-Star Game. Children ages: 7-14 Collaborative Program with Marion Fee: FREE, but must contact 319-393-1515 to register Date: May 7th (rain date May 9th) Time: 5:30-7:30pm Location: Lowe Park Registration Deadline: April 20th
- **See what's Poppin':** Join the Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Foundation for an open house to discuss how our foundation can improve your Hiawatha Parks and Recreation experience. Popcorn Provided! April 23rd at 5pm in the Community Center.

Parks:

- **Branching Out Grant:** We will be planting 17 trees in Guthridge and Tucker Park on April 24th at 3:45pm with the Xavier Key Club students. We are excited to work with a group of new volunteers in the community. Please mark your calendars and help plant more trees in our parks.
- **Trees for Kids Grant:** Another tree grant awarded! We will be planting 24 trees with Hiawatha Elementary on May 2nd at 3:45pm with their Go Green Club of 15 students. Please mark your calendars, if you are available to help, we would greatly appreciate it!
- **Seasonal and Adventure Camp Posting:** We have completed interviews for our Park Maintenance seasonals and found three great candidates. We will be starting Adventure Camp interviews April 12-13th. We have seven candidates so far and have six positions to fill. We have been using Facebook and the City website to post and it has been working well.
- **Spring Preparation:** With the crazy weather patterns, we are hoping to get the park pavilions open over the next couple weeks. We will be working with the Water Department to get the water turned on to all the restrooms.
- **Friends Foundation Drinking Fountain:** The Park and Recreation Foundation has purchased a new drinking fountain for Guthridge Park that will be installed this spring! The funding raised from the Reindeer Run in December went toward this project. The new fountain will be handicap accessible and pet friendly. This feature will be placed near the brown pavilion for trail users and pavilion renters.
- **Playground Inspections:** All three parks will be inspected by our ICAP insurance company on April 25th. This will give us a good baseline of our equipment and what we might need to prepare for in future years moving forward. Currently, we use a playground safety check list from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission that we use to do inspections. It will be a great opportunity for us to use ICAP since they have a certified playground inspector on their team and to see if our check list is covering all the basis.
- **Memorial Bench and Tree Program:** We will have two memorial trees and a bench to add this spring in Guthridge Park. One of the trees and bench will be added in remembrance of Jennifer Koenighain, who passed away in the recent i380 accident earlier this year. She was a park and rec intern for us in 2011 helping organize Playing for Keeps and some of the summer activities. What a great way to remember Jennifer.