Hiawatha Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting
July 12, 2016

President Lynda Hembera called the meeting to order at 5:42p.m. in the Yellow Pavilion at Tucker Park. Present: Lynda Hembera, Deb Theis, Dan Wilkes, Dawn Ewoldt, Brandon Lynch Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Administrative Coordinator, Kim Downs, City Administrator. Guests: Dan Hoffman and friends of Tucker Park.
Motion by Deb Thies, second by Dan Wilkes to approve the July 12, 2016 agenda as amended. Motion carried. Motion by Dan Wilkes, second by Dawn Ewoldt to approve the minutes of April 12th, 2016. Motion carried.

Park Social: Eight participants shared popsicles their feelings about Tucker Park with the commission. Many of the participants have lived near Tucker for fifty plus years. They had a lot of great things to say. Overall, the maintenance does a great job keeping up the park and they like that it's quiet. They would like to see basketball courts built and more swings for the bigger kids. They were concerned with the unsupervised teenagers that frequent the park after dark and would like to see more police in the parks throughout the evening and night.

Request to move meetings to 5:30pm: It was discussed to possibly move meetings to 5:30pm to allow more time with family. After a short discussion, the commission felt it was best to continue to keep meetings at 6pm due to time constraints.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Deb Thies to keep the meeting times at 6pm. Motion carried.

Reports:

- **Learning Center:** The Learning Center is completed! Kennedy's art class did an amazing job! If you haven't seen it yet, stop by and take a look!
- **Memorial Bike Rodeo and Parade/Concert in the Park:** Many children showed up with their families to receive a free helmet thanks to Iowa League of Justice and learn bike safety with officers from Hiawatha Police Department. Children also decorated their bikes and paraded around Guthridge Park led by a bike officer! Unfortunately, the concert was cancelled due to the weather but we hope to have the Swamp Cats back in the future!
- **Adventure Camp Session 1:** 46 kids are in Adventure Camp this session. Fun trips and speakers are planned such as, KCRG Weather Lab, HACAP food reservoir, ice skating, Collins Road Theatre, Hiawatha Care Center, AirFX and more! Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation is sponsoring Adventure Camp's field trips and speakers.

- **Adventure Camp Session 2:** 31 kids have signed up for second session so far. I'm sure that number will increase as parents remember to sign up for second session.
- **Hiawatha Soccer:** 155 players and coaches signed up for our Hiawatha Soccer League this summer! First Federal Credit Union sponsored soccer this year and sent volunteers out to help with picture day. They also printed our coaching manuals. We are excited to work with them again for our fall league.
- **Hiawatha Blastball:** 108 players and coaches are all set to play Blastball starting July 11th. We have many first year coaches that are excited to be involved in the program. T-shirts are adorable this season from Jonnie Five Apparel.
- **Yoga in the Park:** 13 yoga enthusiasts showed up at Guthridge park for our first Yoga in the Park of the year on June 6th. We hope this continues to grow into a great event!
- **Farmers Markets:** Hiawatha's Weekday Farmers Market has been going very well! KMRY came out and broadcast live to their listeners from the market! Dawn has been doing a great job running it. We're very thankful. Hopefully it continues to grow to be as established and reputable as the Sunday Market.
- **Vino Van Gogh:** "Freedom Flying" took place in the Community Center June 9th. There were six participants. Paintings turned out amazing!
- **Hiawatha Fun Fest:** The next Hiawatha Fun Fest meeting will be on July 11th at 5:30pm in the Red Pavilion. It's coming down to the last few weeks and we could really use your help!
- **Ride to Wrigley:** Cardinals beat the Cubs 7-2 but overall the trip was a win in our book! We learned a lot on our inaugural trip and look forward to making it even better next year!
- **Tennis:** Session one and two had ten students sign up for tennis lessons in Guthridge Park. We are establishing a great relationship with Westfield's administrators and instructors as well as registrants in the program. Don't forget! We offer adult lessons if you're interested!
- **Volleyball:** Adult, High-School and Youth programs are going well. We are hoping to get new nets for the courts next year.
- **Movies under the Moon:** Our inaugural Movies under the Moon takes place on July 15th! Facebookers have chosen Zootopia as our first movie! Kiwanis will be in attendance selling grilled food, Kona Ice will be selling snow cones! Since it will be dark when the movie starts, we might be buying glow sticks for the kids also! We may need help with set up and tear down if anyone would be available!
- **Kickball:** Gather your best team of friends, family, co-workers and take yourself back to recess with the exciting new Adult Kickball Tournament. Teams will be guaranteed a minimum of two games in this double elimination tournament. Teams will be randomly placed into a double elimination-style bracket. Games will take place wither at Lowe Park in Marion or here at Guthridge. Minimum of six teams to hold the tournament. Minimum of 8 maximum of 20 players per team. Teams are to register by July 15th. Fee is $50 per team.
- **Discount Amusement Park Tickets:** Buy your amusement park tickets at City Hall! The following are available for purchase: Noah's Ark in Winsconsin Dells, Six Flags St. Louis and Great America, Valley Fair in Shakopee, Minnesota, Worlds/Oceans of Fun, Lost Island and Blank Park Zoo.

- **HiBRAI –** August 13th and 14th is Hiawatha's Bike Ride around Iowa. Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation have been busy planning for this ride. Benefits from the ride support Adventure Camp's field trips and speakers.
- **Music in the Park:** Every Friday in August from 6 to 9pm
  August 5th – Compass Rose Band with Touch a Truck before from 4 to 6pm
  August 12th – Brass Transit Authority
  August 19th – Copperhead Creek
  August 26th – Past Masters with Movie in the Park to follow!

Parks:

- **Mulching:** The parks staff mulched all the playground equipment on Thursday, July 7th. We are crossing our fingers for no more heavy rainouts this year.
- **Kids League:** Kids Leagues last tournament will be on July 8-9th. We have been very happy with the partnership and how well they maintain the fields and up keep of the concession stand. I have made sure to walk through all Linn County Public Health Inspections with them, so there are no surprises in updates or needs.
- **City Tree Inventory:** The Parks and Public Work Department are close to completion of the city tree inventory. We will submit them to the Iowa DNR to insert into their GIS system as well as our own and look at the data that we collected. We have learned quite a bit through this whole experience with the Sustainable Tree Grant.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Dan Wilkes, to adjourn at 6:27 p.m. Motion carried.

Lynda Hembera, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director

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