Hiawatha Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting
November 14, 2017

Deb Theis called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Brandon Lynch, Deb Theis, Dawn Ewoldt Absent: Dan Wilkes, Dan Gogel and Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Administrative Coordinator, Kim Downs, City Administrator, Bill Bennett, Mayor. Guests: Dan Hoffman.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Brandon Lynch to approve the November 14, 2017 agenda as amended. Motion carried. Motion by Brandon Lynch, second by Dawn Ewoldt to approve the minutes of October 10, 2017. Motion carried.

Community Center Damage Deposit Price Increase: After last month's meeting, the board asked Ambyr and Kelly to consider increasing the Community Center damage deposit to see if it helps keep renters more accountable for cleanup. Since there has been quite a few rentals over the last two months that have not seemed to care, the department would like to increase the damage deposit to $300. This would become effective January 1, 2018.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Brandon Lynch to increase the damage deposit to $300 effective January 1, 2018. Motion carried.

HiCREW Kiwanis request for 2018 concessions: Hi-CREW Kiwanis would like to work the concessions at Music in the Park for 2018. Hi-CREW Kiwanis sold at Music in the Park and met all the requirements set by this policy. There has not been any other nonprofit interest.

Volunteer Background Check Update: The Library and Parks and Recreation Department have been working together to create a volunteer background check so that to do things the same across the board. This will be used for recreation volunteer coaches and any long-term volunteers. Mark Parmenter, the City Attorney has looked this over and agrees that both departments should be taking the same steps.

Handicap Parking in Guthridge Park: During the Farmers Market and other special events, the department would like to move the handicap spots that are located in the middle section of the 10th avenue parking lot and move them to the first lot on the right. Some individuals have gotten upset about the blocking of accessibility, along with close call accidents from people backing into the vendors. This will alleviate closing handicap spots during special events and adding the same amount 10 feet over.

Reports:

- **Fall Festival Recap-** It may have been a chilly year but it didn't keep the families from coming out to the last farmers market and Fall Festival. There were about 25 vendors handing out candy to the kids. Since this was the 3rd year majority of the vendors dressed up and got in the Halloween spirit! Prestige Dance Studio performed on stage followed by a costume contest put on by the HiCREW Kiwanis Club. Mike Nesslage the Hiawatha Fire Chief, Kelly Kornegor, City Clerk and

Stephen Robert, the Hiawatha Elementary Principle helped judge the contest for the most original, scariest, and funniest costumes. There was an inflatable sponsored by Farmers State Bank, along with a Pumpkin Bean Bag Toss and a Snoopy hole in the wall photo opportunity. ImOn Communications did a craft with the kids making Halloween Bags and Awaken Family Chiropractic put on a coloring contest. The department is very pleased with the community involvement with this event and look forward to making the event bigger every year. Thank you Dawn, Dan G. and Debby for helping at the event.

- **Cork and Craft –** On November 6th we had our last Cork and Craft for 2017. Laura Himschoot instructed seven ladies on how to make a holiday wreath. In 2018 we will be having monthly crafting projects put on by Whispering Pines out of Monticello, Iowa. She will do a variety of different crafts including painting, wood décor and other home projects. We are excited to bring her on board with us.

- **Kids Movie Night:** November 10th is our last Kids Movie Night as we have two other groups putting on similar events. We will be showing Cars 3 and hope to have a great turn out as it was just released on November 7th. If any of you can attend to help pass out popcorn and juice please let us know.

- **Letters from Santa -** Add a little magic to the season and receive a letter from Santa, mailed directly to your child. Santa will write a letter to your child in an easy to read format. The letter will be mailed directly from Santa's workshop so your child will be overjoyed to see his/her name on the envelope with Santa's name and address in the corner. Santa would love to write to your children, grandchildren, nieces or nephews no matter where they live! So, let the elves know if you would like to receive a letter this year! November 13th through December 18th Fee $3.00

- **Fall Yoga:** We are going to continue to offer Gentle Yoga in the Community Center at 6pm on November 14th and 21st and December 5th. Classes are $10 drop in.
- **Yoga sponsored by Back in Line –** Back in Line has graciously offered to sponsor yoga by Fusion Studio on November 8th from 6:30 to 7:30pm in the Hiawatha Community Center. Come get your zen on!
- **Sponsorships:** Ambyr and Kelly are working on obtaining sponsors from local businesses for 2018's programs and events. They're also looking for sponsors for the back of the brochure at $100 a business card. If you know of a business that would be interested please let us know!
- **Young Professionals IPRA workshop:** Ambyr and Kelly recently attended our second Young Professionals workshop within our Iowa Parks and Recreation Foundation on November 3rd in Fort Dodge. Ambyr and Kelly are a part of the planning committee and get to help bring discussions and ideas to these gatherings. This past meeting was focused on budgeting, marketing and the legislator. We had some great discussions with other Cities and were able to bring back some ideas to put into play for 2018. We had a total of 18 people in attendance from around the state of Iowa.
- **Reindeer Run:** Find your holiday spirit by participating in the inaugural Reindeer Run on December 2nd at 9am in Fay M. Clark Park! Stocking hats, cookies, coffee and hot cocoa are free with

registration. Not to mention an opportunity to meet the big guy himself, Santa Claus! Registration is only $20! Follow Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation for more information.

Parks:

- Parks are now closed for 2017! Rick and Ted are doing final touches to make sure water is turned off, heaters are placed in restrooms, and picnic tables are picked up. We had a successful year and hope to see the same for 2018.
- Dog Park Update: As long as Linn County Conservation removes the land deed (staying public purpose) at their November and December meetings, we will be able to get this project moving and taking the necessary steps to council.

Motion by Brandon Lynch, second by Dawn Ewoldt, to adjourn at 6:24 p.m. Motion carried.

Deb Theis, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director

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