Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

Business:

Hiawatha Farmers Market:

Dawn, Ambyr and I met with Wickwire Chiropractic on Tuesday, March 6th to meet about the upcoming Hiawatha Farmers Market. In January, we decided to change the time from 11am-2pm to 10:30am-1:30pm to better align with our market vendors wants/needs. After talking with Dr. Wickwire he had mentioned that he thought an earlier morning market (8:30am-11:30am) might be more beneficial to our Hiawatha Residents if we avoid the hottest part of the day and have the market open before church for people to purchase their goods. He would also like to help with marketing at this year's Farmers Market, as that is what he does at the Cedar Rapids Downtown Market. He would purchase the yard signs and banners and have his staff put them out the Friday before the market. Before we complete these signs, we need to decide on a time that best meets the needs of our community.

Because we do not have specific data that backs up the early morning time change, I am leery on changing the time that early. I know that we would have some market vendors that are not happy with this change because they pick some of their produce early in the morning before coming to the market. On the other hand, I want to do what is best for our residents as we are providing a service to them, and if we can bring more people to the market and increase revenue for the vendors there is a win-win for all. Hiawatha is the only market on Sunday mornings and I believe that is why it is successful. I would hate to change up the market too much if it is already doing well and people know the day and time it is every week. I would like your help as residents to determine what you think is the best answer for our community.

REPORTS

Parks:

MSA Park Study: We met with MSA for the 4th time on February 27th going over a rough draft of the updated Comprehensive Plan and NW Territory vision. Attached you can review the rough draft, there will be edits and changes, but this will give you an idea of everything they have found through surveys and studies. If you have any questions or feedback please let me know. We will have **committee meeting #4 at 5:30pm** with a public meeting to follow on **April 1st in the Multipurpose room of City Hall from 6:00pm-7:00pm**. Your attendance would be greatly appreciated so that you can hear what our residents have to say. Please promote the public meeting in anyway that you can! We will send out postcards and post on our City Website and social media outlets.

Park Maintenance Position:

On March 6th and 7th we interviewed for the Park Maintenance Position. We had 9 applicants that applied and narrowed it down to three qualified individuals. We will make our selection the second week of March as spring will be here before we know it! We are excited to have a full staff again!

Seasonal Park Maintenance and Adventure Camp Openings:
If you know of anyone interested in a summer job please have them apply! We have 6 positions open for Adventure Camp and 3 positions open for Park Maintenance.

Recreation:

- **Zumba 2019:** All are welcome to free fitness classes at 6pm in the Community Center on the 2nd Wednesday of every month in 2019! Classes include Zumba, Zumba Toning, Zumba Gold, Belly Dance, STRONG by Zumba, BollyX, and POUND Fit (using drumstix!) February 13th is belly dance fitness. Come join the fun!

- **Whispering Pines Classes:** Bring your own snacks and beverages and learn to paint at the Hiawatha Community Center. March 20th will feature a "BEE Kind" painting. Fee is $35 cash or check only. To register text Donita at 319-270-1112 Check Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Facebook to see what April's class will be!

- **Motivational Mondays sponsored by True North**: True North has graciously donated $1,000 to allow our community members free fitness on every Monday of the Month during the 2019 year starting in April. Classes will take place from 6-7pm in the Hiawatha Community Center featuring a variety of classes from Yoga to Piyo, High Intensity Training, Zumba and so much more! Motivate yourself in 2019!

- **Live Healthy Iowa 5K:** Saturday, April 13th 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.

- **Ride to Wrigley:** Join the Marion and Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Departments for a chartered trip to one of baseball's greatest and most historic venues...Wrigley Field. Leave the transportation and parking to us and travel in comfort in a chartered motor coach to watch the Chicago Cubs battle the New York Mets from the bleachers. Food and drink is permitted on the bus. More information and a detailed itinerary will be available closer to the game date. HURRY, SEATS WILL GO FAST!

  FEE: $100* per person (includes game ticket and bus fare)
  *Payment must be made in the form of cash or check
  (checks made payable to: Ride To Wrigley)
  DAYS/DATES: Friday, June 21
  TIME(S): Pick-Up @ 5:30 a.m.; Drop-Off @ 11:30 p.m.
  PICK-UP/DROP OFF LOCATION: To Be Determined
  REGISTRATION DEADLINE: Until All Tickets are Sold
  NOTES: First pitch is scheduled for 1:20 p.m.

- **Farmers Market:** Vendor applications are coming in hot! Everyone is thinking spring. The first market of the year is April 28th. If you or anyone you know is interested in being a vendor visit https://hiawatha-iowa.com/departments/parks-recreation/forms/

- **Spring Conference**: March 25-28th School is in session for Ambyr and I at the 2019 Iowa Park and Recreation Association Conference! This year, they are offering **29 education sessions** including new early bird sessions, plus two off-site institutes, the annual scholarship silent auction, awards banquet and golf outing. Conference is a time for Ambyr and I to bring back new ideas for our community and network with other Iowa Professionals before our busy season begins. The Friends of Hiawatha Park and Recreation Foundation will also be awarded a $925 grant for Tucker Parks Renovation this summer!

- **Chase Norton Memorial:** April 14, 2019 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.