Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

Business:

Unite Walk 2019- The City received a special event request to hold the Hemophilia of Iowa Clot Trot now known as the Unite Walk 5K Race on September 21, 2019. The race will begin and end at Clark Park as in previous years. They have already reserved the park for that date. I do not for see any issues with this event as it will be their 4th year of hosting this event in one of our parks. With your approval, we will send your recommendation off to council at the May 15th meeting.

Dog Mayor- Chair, Dan Wilkes has had the idea to start a dog Mayor aka "Big Dog in Town" in Hiawatha as a fun way to get the community engaged and raise funds for the upcoming dog park. We have approached Mayor, Bill Bennett about the idea and he has approved us to do more research to get this off the ground. There are 7 other states in the US that have had a dog mayor/pet mayor, mainly to add some fun to their City's. Some of the ideas we have come up with are to have the dog candidates in the Fun Fest parade, announce the winner at or after Fun Fest, have the first "Big Dog in Town" at the ribbon cutting of our new dog park, and attend selected events when applicable.

Kelly reached out to Fair Haven, Vermont, Omena, Michigan, and Cormorant, Minnesota to find out some information on how their elections ran. After compiling information this is what we found: $5.00 nominations, $1.00 vote, each year project will change for fundraising, fees were collected through a PayPal account, dog/pet participates in community events and is the talk of the community.

Ambyr and Kelly have put together an application for dog nominations and the Friends Foundation has created a website through SQUARE and Weebly that will manage the donations. The Friends Foundation will collect the funds and distribute to the dog park accordingly. We need your approval to get this election started and get councils support.

MSA Comp Plan Update- Chris and Michelle have taken the lead on collecting feedback from the Hiawatha Elementary students. Once it is collected, we will give the information to MSA and get the report updated for Park Board approval at the June meeting. A recommendation will be sent to council at the June 19th meeting.

REPORTS

Parks: Restrooms and pavilions are now open which means we are in full swing! The maintenance staff is busy mowing, fertilizing and keeping our parks looking great. If you notice anything please be sure to let us know so we can take care of it as soon as possible.

Tucker Park Splash Pad: We are waiting for our paint order to arrive! This will be the first year we try Tuff Coat paint, a non-slip paint that is used at many aquatic facilities and splash pads. The City of Palo currently uses this product and has been happy with the outcome. We will have three colors reinstalled on the splash pad: Purple, Green and Aqua Blue. We are excited to complete this project in hopes that we can complete Guthridge in the fall.

Park Maintenance Position: We have hired three individuals to help us throughout the summer season. David and Nolan have gotten started and have been a great help so far. Jamey will start this week as our weekend employee which will help us take care of rentals and park upkeep. If you see them say hi!

Trees for Kids Grant: On Thursday, May 9th thirteen Hiawatha Elementary Students helped plant 12 trees around Guthridge Park. They learned how to plant a tree from the Iowa DNR and then broke off into groups to complete the planting. We completed the planting in just over an hour. This is a great partnership project with the Hiawatha Elementary students!

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. May 15th will feature an ocean 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 June'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! Classes 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!

- **Soccer and Blastball:** Registration for soccer is now closed. Ambyr is compiling the numbers and organizing teams and t-shirts. Blastball deadline will be coming up in June. We are excited to get the kiddos outdoors while learning basic skills, sportsmanship and building friendships.

- **Tennis:** Tennis starts June 5th! Hiawatha offers tennis lessons through the Westfield Tennis Club. Classes will be held at the tennis courts located in Guthridge Park. Only rain dates will be made up. Payments will be for the entire session, not pro-rated for missed classes. Minimum class size will be 2 with a maximum of 6 students. If there are fewer than 2 students registered, the class will be cancelled. See the website for additional information.

- **Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet:** May 18th @ Marion High School Track. Join Hiawatha, Marion and Cedar Rapids as we work together to host the Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet at Marion High School where participants ages 7 to 14 can compete in various track and field events such as long jumps, softball throws, relays and dashes. If the child does well they have the opportunity to go to state to compete against other kids around Iowa. This event is free and does accept walk in registrants.

- **Lids for Kids:** We will be passing out helmets at the May 19th Farmers Market from 10-1pm. The Iowa Association for Justice donates 50 helmets each summer for the kids in our community to promote safety. The Friends Foundation members will fit the helmets on the kids for proper sizing and support. All helmets are free for families in need.

- **Adventure Camp:** Schools almost out and Adventure Camp's almost in session! Field trips, buses and speakers have been scheduled and staff has been hired! We have over half our staff returning this year which will be great for the parents and the kids.

- **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:** The first official Farmers Market started on April 28th. The weather wasn't as we expected but we had a great second week. Dawn has done a great job helping us organize this year's market and continue to build relationships with all the vendors.