Hiawatha Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting
October 11, 2016

Vice- Chair Brandon Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:07p.m. in the Council Chambers at Hiawatha City Hall. Present: Deb Theis, Dan Wilkes, Dawn Ewoldt, Brandon Lynch Absent: Lynda Hembera Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Administrative Coordinator. Guests: Dan Hoffman and Aime Wichtendahl, City Council Member and Parks and Recreation Liason.

Motion by Dan Wilkes, second by Deb Thies to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Deb Thies, second by Dan Wilkes to approve the minutes of September 13, 2016. Motion carried.

Hiawatha Kids League Request for Guthridge Park base ball diamonds 2017: Kelly Willadsen advised the commission that Hiawatha Kids League is again requesting to use the ball diamonds for 2017. Peg Bader, Hiawatha Kids League Secretary, wrote that the diamonds would be used Monday through Friday starting April 3rd through July 23rd and Saturdays and Sundays the weekends of June 3rd, July 15th and July 22nd. As in years past, HKL would set up their own diamonds and service the diamonds as well.

Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation, stated that all of the dates were available for the Hiawatha Kids League to have use of the Baseball Diamonds.

Motion was made by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Dan Wilkes to approve dates as stated. Motion Carried.

Survey Results: Unfortunately, there wasn't as much feedback as hoped for. From what was received, constituents are happy with how clean the parks are and the activities offered. A couple suggestions were to add more accessibility equipment, light the trails and more programming in the fall and winter. Once the City of Hiawatha Survey goes out there should be additional feedback to compare.

Reports:

- **Community Center Audio Visual:** During the October 5th council meeting Council approved the request to upgrade the Community Center Audio Visual from Conference Technologies. I have been in contact with the company and we have scheduled the upgrade for December 13-14. We are very excited to have the system working smoothly!
- **Kids Movie Night:** November 11th is our next Kids Movie Night and we will be featuring Angry Birds. This will be the last Kids Movie Night of 2016 and will be able to start fresh with our new system for the January movie featuring Finding Dory. Dawn would like to set up an additional speaker as the audio visual will not be upgraded yet.
- **Fall Festival:** Fall is here! During the farmers market on October 23rd we will be having our second annual Fall Festival! We were shocked with the turnout we received last year and hope to bring in the same. We will have photos, crafts, trick or treating through the vendors, face painting and so much more!
- **Fall Soccer:** Soccer is officially done for 2016! About 40 people including coaches participated in our first ever fall soccer league. It was much smaller than our summer leagues but still just as much fun! Pictures and ribbons were handed out on the last day and the end of the season was celebrated with many friends and family in attendance. We're so lucky to have such a great community!
- **Special Needs Dance:** October 21st Barber's Etc. will be sponsoring the Special Needs Dance in the Community Center. Those in attendance are encouraged to wear their costumes. Snacks and drinks are provided.
- **Farmers Market:** The last farmers market will be October 30th. This is to allow WIC and senior participants to use their farmers market vouchers that are good through the end of October.
- **Sustainable Tree Grant:** A lot of hourshave been put into this grant and everyone has learned so much. One of the last of two parts takes place on October 13th – Roots and Beer Event. Many business leaders in the community will help plant several trees in Clark Park. With the grant, eleven classes have taken place since January of 2016, the tree inventory has been updated and almost ten thousand dollars worth of trees have been planted. One of the most valuable parts is the completion of the tree inventory. This shows the diversity in the community, where the ash trees are to prepare for the EAB, and where more diversity is needed.

Parks:

- **Splash Pads:** The water department collected reports since the change or our splash pad hours and season to see if there was a difference in cost and consumption. Surprisingly the consumption went up by quite a difference at Guthridge and similarly at Tucker besides the month of May. We will keep the hours as changed to see if next year has any differences. We didn't have many complaints on the changes and it allowed for the guys to clean in the morning if needed.
- **Bathrooms:** Bathrooms will be closed right after the last farmers market (October 30th) pending the weather. We will have one port a john placed in Guthridge and Clark Park for the winter months.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Dan Wilkes, to adjourn at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried.

Lynda Hembera, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director

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