Hiawatha Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting
October 8, 2019

Dan Wilkes called the meeting to order at 6:03p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Dan Wilkes, Chris Klostermann, Charles Uthe. Absent: Michelle McIllece and Dawn Ewoldt. Employees: Ambyr Severson, Administrative Coordinator and Kim Downs, City Administrator. Guests: Dan Hoffmann.

Motion by Chirs Klostermann, second by Charles Uthe to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Charles Uthe, second by Chris Klostermann, to approve the minutes of September 3, 2019. Motion carried.

Hiawatha Kids League Request for Guthridge Park Baseball Diamonds 2020: Severson explained that Hiawatha Kids League made a request to use the ball diamonds for the spring and summer of 2020, as they've done for many years now. She added that they've been a great asset to the department taking care of the ball diamonds and concession stand over the years. She advised that there are no conflicts with the departments schedule and the proposed dates and that with the boards approval they would be welcomed back. Wilkes added that we are fortunate to have this group with how well they take care of the parks and how many people they bring into the parks throughout the summer.

Motion made by Charles Uthe, second by Chris Klostermann to approve Hiawatha Kids League request to use Guthridge Park Ball Diamonds in the spring and summer of 2020. Motion carried.

HiCREW Kiwanis request for 2020 concessions: Severson explained that the HiCREW Kiwanis group had requested to sell concessions at the Music in the Park concert series in August of 2020. She explained that no other nonprofits had shown any interest and that HiCREW has been a great partner giving back to the department to support playground projects, the Fall Festival and Fun Fest, just to name a few. Uthe asked if this omits the possibility of having food trucks. Downs explained that food trucks had been discussed but it went back to the mission of giving back to nonprofits. The exception is Kona Ice when they come to the concert after Touch a Truck but they offer something different than what Kiwanis offers and gives back to the department also. Wilkes added that he is a Kiwanis member and has watched as donations from GreenState Credit Union have helped to build the audience over the last six years. Kiwanis accepts donations from WalMart and makes about $200 per night after it's all said and done.

Motion made by Charles Uthe, second by Chris Klostermann to approve HiCREW Kiwanis request to sell concessions at Music in the Park in 2020. Motion carried.

FY19 Year End Report: Severson advised that because this report was given out a week ago that she assumed everyone had read it and asked if there was any questions or comments or if Ms. Downs had anything to add. Downs added that between sponsorships and fees, the Parks and Recreation department

can easily bring in more than $100,000. This is due to events that Hiawatha is providing such as summer programs and where groups like Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation comes into play. She also added that the tennis and basketball courts are going to be resurfaced. And that Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation, is currently putting together numbers on Community Center and Park Rental availability. She wants to see at what percentage they're being rented out in comparison to how often they're available. For example, if the Community Center is being rented 95% of the time, then we're at capacity and need another venue. Same goes for park rentals. This will provide our community members with statistics to see the value in our facilities.

Uthe asked if the increase in Farmers Market revenue is normal. Severson stated that the Farmers Market has almost reached it's capacity. Dawn has not had to turn anyone away but the increase is not surprising knowing that the market is full each week. Downs added that the increase shows the relationships that Ewoldt is building between vendors and customers weekly.

Downs also added that the City purchased Sandy Brewers property as an extension to Hodge Property next to Tucker Park. This area is just under four acres in a flood zone. The current plan is for the Fire Department to provide testing out of the mobile home on the property over the next two to three years. The City purchased this property for $4,000.

Klostermann asked if this document would be provided for the public to read. Severson advised that it has not been available to the public in the past but it's something we could consider.

Parks: Severson advised that the last seasonal left on September 29th and that staff is gearing up to close restrooms and parks in the next few weeks. She also mentioned that with the help of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Foundation, Alliant Energy and HiCREW Kiwanis Club, Tucker Parks renovated playground should be open soon!

Recreation: Severson advised that the Teal Trunk or Treat is October 25th and that the department is looking for more trunks to attend. If interested contact her asap!

Motion by Charles Uthe, second by Chris Klostermann, to adjourn at 6:31 p.m. Motion carried.

Dan Wilkes, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

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