Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

To:	Park and Recreation Commission
CC:	Mayor and City Council
From:	Kelly Willadsen, Park and Recreation Director
Date:	September 4, 2018
Re:	Park and Recreation Report

Reports:

- **Fall Festival:** Join us for trick or treating, a bounce house, trackless train, performance by Prestige Dance Studio, Hi-Crew Kiwanis Costume Contest and New Horizons Band Concert on Sunday October 28 from 11am to 2pm. Volunteers are needed for the Bounce House if you're available.
- **Hiawatha Farmers Market:** Make sure to stop out on Sundays from 11am-2pm, many vendors are starting to stock up! Corn will be here before we know it!
- **Yoga:** Yoga is still going strong! Save the date for October 25 at 6pm in the community center.
- **Movies under the Moon:** Due to weather The Lion King was cancelled. We can reschedule it for 2019 at no cost.
- **Free Fitness in Hiawatha Community Center:** October 10 Strong by Zumba at 6pm in the Community Center.
- **Whispering Pines Painting:** Paint a pumpkin on October 17 at 6pm in the Hiawatha Community Center. Always BYOB & snacks! Fee is $35 cash or check only. To register text Donita at 319-270-1112 *Minimum of 6 participants *Maximum of 30 participants
- **Fall Soccer:** Fall soccer had 28 kids this season. There were some weather delays but overall it was a fun program!
- **Program Brochure 2019:** We are in the process of planning activities and special events for 2019. Stay tuned for our completed brochure in December. If you have any program ideas let us know, we are always looking for new ideas!

Parks:

- **Dog Park:** Tree removal is on our list to get completed this fall/winter. Our hopes are to get the area cleaned up to see how much sun light we will be able to work with come next spring. We will work with Linn-Coop in March to get accurate ground maintenance scheduled. This will be to get rid of the weeds so we can get grass planted. Fencing, water and entry ways will be to follow, hoping to get the project completed by the end of next year.
- **MSA Professional Services**: Kim and I met with MSA on Wednesday, October 3rd to go over the 6-month plan for our Comprehensive Park Plan and NW Territory Concept. We will be compiling a small group of City Staff, Park Commission members and City Council to help start the discussion of what are City's wants and needs are. MSA will collect the information and meet with focus groups to find a better understandings of what our communities wants and desires are. This will help us move forward in planning our NW Park and future City projects.
- **Park Closures**: The parks will be closing down the last week in October after the completion of our Farmers Market on October 29th. Guthridge and Clark park will have a port o potty from November 1st to April 1st for park users.
- **Splash Pad Resurfacing**: We are looking at new surfacing for our splash pads coming this spring. I will prepare information for you on a new surface paint for the November 13th meeting.
- **10th Avenue No Parking Signs:** Council approved no parking on one side of 10th Avenue at the September 19th council meeting. The public works department posted signage at the end of September. We hope this will alleviate some of the congestion during the farmers market, kids league and other park events.
- **Memorial Tree:** We received another memorial tree donation that was planted in Guthridge Park near the ball diamonds early last week. This year we have planted four memorials one of our largest years yet. We hope this program has continued success!
- **NRPA Conference**: I had the privilege of attending the National Recreation and Park Association Conference in Indianapolis during the last week in September through a scholarship provided by the Iowa Park and Recreation Association. I was blown away by the information I gained from this conference and all it had to offer. I was able to attend sessions on dog parks, programming, and marketing. Along with visiting the exhibit hall and bringing back information on our splash pads and other park amenities. I am so grateful for this opportunity and hope to go back in the near future!