

**AGENDA**

**HIAWATHA PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION**

**May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

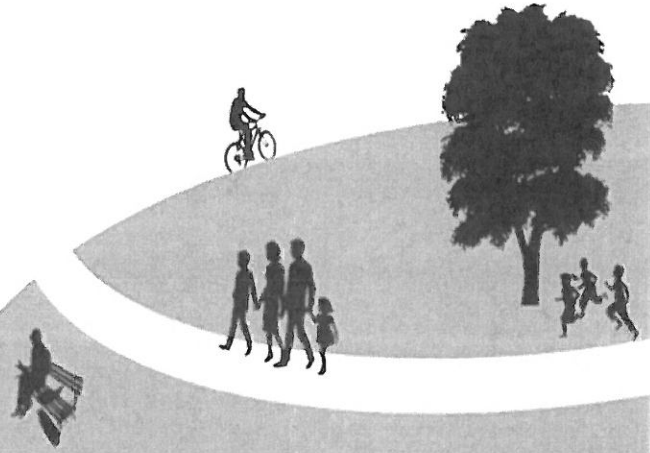
6:00pm in the Hiawatha City Hall Council Chambers

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Approval of:
  - a. Agenda
  - b. Minutes of past meetings – March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 and April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 work session
3. Business:
  - a. Unite Walk Approval
  - b. Dog Mayor
  - c. MSA Comp Plan Update
4. Reports

Monthly Park and Recreation Updates

Adjourn

# 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

Amyr 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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!) Save the date for BollyX on June 12th and Pound Fit on July 10th!
- **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:** 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! We've had 45 participants over the first 5 classes. Please come try one out for yourself!
- **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 28<sup>th</sup>. 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.
- **Red Cross Babysitting Course:** American Red Cross Babysitter's Training will provide youth who are planning to babysit with the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and responsibly give care for children and infants. This training will help participants to develop leadership skills; learn how to develop a babysitting business, keep themselves and others safe and help children behave; and learn about basic child care and basic first aid. Participants are required to bring a sack lunch.

Date: Friday, June 28

Time: 9am – 3pm

Place: Hiawatha Community Center

Age: 11-15 year old

Register: [www.hiawatha-iowa.com](http://www.hiawatha-iowa.com)

**Hiawatha Parks and Recreation  
Regular Meeting  
March 12, 2019**

Dan Wilkes called the meeting to order at 6:08p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Dan Wilkes, Chris Klostermann, Charles Uthe, and Dawn Ewoldt. Absent: Michelle McIllece. Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director.

Motion by Chris Klostermann second by Dawn Ewoldt, to approve the March 12, 2019 agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Chris Klostermann, to approve the minutes of February 12, 2019. Motion carried.

**Hiawatha Farmers Market Time Adjustment:** Kelly asked commission members when they would like to see the market take place after there had been suggestions from a Hiawatha Business about changing the market to an earlier time. Since the commission already approved changing the market by a half an hour at January's meeting a discussion was had on what the best needs are for the Hiawatha residents and the guests coming to the market. Chris shared that his family attends the market after church on Sundays, if we start the market too early people will have to get their produce before church starts and produce won't be as fresh if it sits in their vehicles on a warm day. Dan mentioned that the market has been around for years, and if we change the time too drastically, we will lose customers. Kelly mentioned that there is not enough data to support changing the market too significantly. "We don't know what Hiawatha residents want, we haven't heard any complaints about the market time and people still show. Is it worth changing something drastically if it's working okay?" Dawn mentioned the market dies down at 1:00pm currently. She is okay with not moving the market to the early morning but maybe shifting it by an hour instead and offering the market from 10am-1pm for a happy medium. People can show up after or before church depending on where they go, and vendors will only need to show up an hour earlier compared to what they do now. Marketing will also be more simplified by stating that the market will be offered on the hour from 10am-1pm. All members of the commission came to an agreement.

Motion made by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Chris Klosterman, to adjust the Farmers Market start and end time from 10:30am-1:30pm to 10:00am to 1:00pm for the start of the 2019 season. Motion carried.

**MSA Park Study:** Kelly gave an update on the MSA Comp Plan update notifying commission that they will have a **committee meeting #4 at 5:30pm** with a public meeting to follow on **April 1<sup>st</sup> 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 any way that you can! We will send out postcards and post on our City Website and social media outlets.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Charles Uthe, to adjourn at 6:34 p.m. Motion carried.

Dan Wilkes, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

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The Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Commission met in a work session in the Multipurpose Room on the lower level of Hiawatha City Hall on April 9, 2019. Dan Wilkes called the meeting to order at 5:33 P.M. Commission members present: Dan Wilkes, Dawn Ewoldt, Charles Uthe, Chris Klostermann and Michelle McIllece. Staff present: City Administrator Kim Downs, Director of Parks and Recreation Kelly Willadsen, Administrative Coordinator Ambyr Severson, Parks Maintenance Ted Olson and Hiawatha Council Member Aime Wichtendahl.

**Recreation Center Location:**

The work session started with a discussion on the potential recreation center location. Willadsen advised Clark is a possibility contingent on access and Taylor property is also an option but to keep in mind that this is a far-out project as the library and fire station is on the roster before a recreation center is even an option. Wichtendahl advised that Fire likely wouldn't get approved without a referendum. City Hall Bond doesn't fall off until 2027 and the fire station would start in 2030 so the recreation center wouldn't start until 2030's so deciding on where to place the center is neither here nor there at this point.

**Naming of Taylor Property:**

Wichtendahl guided that Tom Theis has been a mayor forever and would be a good way to honor him. Everyone agreed that they like the idea of keeping it historically related to the City. Other recommendations were Salvator Giunta who received the Medal of Honor in 2010 and nearby roads that could help identify the park.

**Taylor Property Amenities:**

Many recommendations such as

- Soccer fields
- Green space
- Multifunctional area
- Natural areas
- Trail & connections
- Shelter
- Playground
- Dog Park

**Current Focus**

- Bring current parks to ADA standards
- Update safety concerns

- Updating parks equipment

**Least Used Amenities**

- Education center
- Tetherball
- Horseshoes

**Most Used Amenities**

- Baseball
- Splashpad
- Trails

The commission made an overall decision to add an additional section for a recreation or event center to acknowledge that it's a goal but it's not possible for 2029. The commission and City Council will use the document as a goal setting document, to set priorities over the next ten years and shape the conversation.

Motion by Dan Wilkes, second by Charles Uthe, to adjourn at 6:47 p.m. Motion carried.

Dan Wilkes, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation

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**FRIENDS OF HIAWATHA PARKS AND  
RECREATION PRESENTS**

# **LIDS FOR KIDS**

**FREE HELMETS FOR THE FIRST 100 KIDS!**

**MAY 19, 2019**

**10AM - 1PM**

**HIAWATHA FARMERS MARKET**

**10TH AVENUE PARKING LOT**

**GUTHRIDGE PARK**

Helmets are sponsored by  
Iowa Association for Justice