

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation



To: Park and Recreation Commission
CC: Mayor and City Council
From: Angie Cole, Park and Recreation Director
Date: August 7, 2012
Re: Park and Recreation Report

Lions Club request for Guthridge Park

A request has been submitted for Guthridge Park use by the Hiawatha Lions Club for Hog Wild Days. This year was a great year with minimal damage to the park and great clean up post event. I see no conflicts with the dates they have requested.

Fay M. Clark Memorial Park priorities

Per our Parks and Recreation Commission meeting last month we emailed out and have provided a spreadsheet for you to rate the amenities available to Clark Park. The Parks and Recreation Department as a whole has prioritized the amenities ourselves to help with your review process. Our department agreed that the pavilion/lodge is the first priority but the second priority comes with some decisions to be made. A determination needs to be made regarding what type of park we'd like Clark Park to be. Our department agreed we have 2 options: 1) sports park: including soccer fields, softball fields, volleyball, etc. or 2) natural leisure park: including a large lodge/pavilion for weddings and events to entertain our citizens and public use, pond, scenic garden area and smaller activity areas.

From the July meeting: "Angie Cole stated she would put it on the next agenda for discussion. Marty Bruns stated the Commission would need to present a list of priorities with cost and value the Commission. Deb Theis asked Marty Bruns what he meant by "value to you". Marty Bruns stated, "The Parks Commission's job is to tell the City Council what you find valuable in a park and improvements that should be made for our citizens, so the Council would like your recommendations for what you value in a park and the costs associated with those values."

PARK UPDATE:

We are meeting with a group to try to form our garden club/Pride in Community Appearance group this month to start the formation of the organization.

Kim Downs has secured funds from Farmer's State Bank to purchase a flag pole for Guthridge Park near the tennis courts. I am working with an electrician and our crew to get it installed, lighted and landscaped. We may consider new stamped concrete in this area to include a flower bed as a CIP project.

The Parks employees have been busy with basic cleaning and maintenance of the parks including faucet repair, removing a dead tree from 6th Avenue and edging right-of ways. They cleaned out the 6th Avenue fence line along the interstate and Emmons Street. The next project will be working with the water department to repair drain tiles that drain off the Sportszone property into the creek area.

RECREATION UPDATE:

We had 185 registered for Blastball ending on August 16th. The children played at Guthridge Park and the coaches held scrimmages on the diamonds. The year-end parties will take place in the Green Pavilion in Guthridge Park on August 15th and 16th. Tennis Session #3 started on July 30th and we have 14 registered for Thursday night sessions with instructors from Westfield Tennis Club. The high school volleyball league had a total of 60 players with about 25 players on average in any given week. The league enjoyed the new sand and came up with a top six for the summer to be the winners. This program continues to grow and become more successful as the years go by. We are grateful to Ray Amsler from Kennedy High School for facilitating this league for us throughout the years. Our Accelerated Adult Volleyball League also continues to grow in popularity with the new addition of the softer sand. This league will continue to generate revenue with the league continuing until October.

Please MARK YOUR CALENDARS for an exciting fundraising event, Playing for Keeps, to help maintain our summer youth programs. This event includes a live and silent auction, wine tasting from Cedar Ridge Vineyards, beer sampling from 7G Distribution, Hors d'oeuvres from Bata's Catering, and live music from Nassor Cooper. With your continued support we are able to help fund programs and keep costs minimal for our participants. Our goal is to continue to improve these programs to preserve our children's success in the future. Playing for Keeps will be held on October 6th, 2012 at the Cedar Rapids Toyota Scion showroom, 1190 Boyson Road from 6 to 9PM. Proudly sponsored by World Class Industries, CR Toyota, , Evans United Shows, Roasters Coffee House, Master Tool & Mfg, University of Iowa Credit Union and DAD Manufacturing collecting \$6200 in sponsorships already.

HiBRAI is going to be another exciting year with a record 98 riders currently registered (and counting)!!! Last year there were 86 riders which was a record year for the ride and we are pleased to have surpassed our current record in just one year. There are no more rooms available at Riverside but we are still anticipating a few more to register that have already booked a hotel room. The Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation are grateful to Ameriprise Financial, Hawkeye Redi-Mix, Hiawatha Bank & Trust, and ABC Disposal for sponsoring this event. Also big thanks to many local businesses that have donated necessary supplies for our riders including: Big 10 Mart, 7G Distributors, Campbell Supply, Culver's Frozen Custard, Fareway, Fastenal, Hy-Vee, and Linco Water Services.

Music in the Park went great with around 150 in attendance. Kevin Burt and the Instigators did an amazing job. Kiwanis concessions went well and Dan Wilkes was there to start the concert by thanking our sponsor and encouraging people to attend the next 3. Parks staff will be present at each concert to make sure things go smooth. Additional picnic tables will be put out at the next concert for those that don't bring chairs.

This is our last week of Adventure Camp which included Discovery Science Camp the mornings of the first week, Police Pal speaker on Stranger Danger, Super Skate, Twisters, Noelridge Pool, Collins Road Theaters, Cedar Amateur Astronomers, Lost Island trip for Youths in Parks, volunteering at Hiawatha School garden and a day packaging meals for Kids Against Hunger. In evaluation our programs we will be sending out surveymonkey.com link, rather than a paper form, to do online surveys to all our participants to rate our programs. One question we will include will be changing the hours of Playground programs from 9-4 pm to 8-3 pm due to the weather we had this year.

Please review the spreadsheet below for revenue generated on the Cogran system since it has been active:

Paypal activity

	Sales	Fees	Net Revenue	# transactions
January	2464	83.62	2380.38	40
February	4001	131.51	3869.49	51
March	10341	339.54	10001.46	131
April	5454	191.48	5262.52	110
May	5055	176.64	4878.36	99
June	4451	153.34	4297.66	80
July	\$1,870.00	\$66.11	\$1,803.89	39
Annual Total			\$32,493.76	550