

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation



To: Park and Recreation Commission
CC: Mayor and City Council
From: Kelly Friedl, Interim Park and Recreation Director
Date: October 8, 2013
Re: Park and Recreation Report

Pavilion/Band shell Update:

Land Acquisition Update: No further discussion has been made with the property owners as of yet to move forward with the land acquisition discussion. Dick Ransom has provided the City with the contact information for property owners G1, Sharon Taylor and J1, Varlyn Fink. Our hope is to have a discussion with them in the next month to see if purchasing their land is even a possibility. Kelly will be looking into possible grant opportunities that the City can apply for

Hiawatha Kids League Concrete Proposal and Sink Updates: The Hiawatha Kids league would like to install a concrete slab in front of the Hiawatha Kids League's garage. The concrete would be located between the shed and the Guthridge park trail. The photos are attached with a bid from Tim Heim Bobcat and Concrete. The Hiawatha Kids league will be paying %100 of the cost.

The Linn County Public Health Department did a review on the Concession stand this summer. They inspected that the concession stand is in the need to have another sink installed to have a rinse, wash and sanitize station as well as other updates you will find on their inspection form. It needs to be up to code by next spring for the Kids League to sell concessions. The concession stand is City property but we do not make any revenue off of their sales. They would like us to pay for half of it which would amount to \$3,787.16.00. They have provided bids and a total of the expenses to look over and the cost is a lot more than we thought it would be. Approval will be needed. Attached is the Health Department review.

Adventure Camp: Looking over the Adventure Camp fees the City of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation are considerably low compared to surrounding communities. Before Angie Cole left she recommended we look at adjusting the cost to make it more competitive to other cities. The Adventure Camp staff from the 2013 season mentioned that many kids would show up whenever they would like, when many kids were on a waiting list to be in the program. The staff believes that

is due to the lost cost of the program and that they aren't losing any money if their child does not show up. Right now our prices stand at Tot Lot: \$75, Playground: \$100 and Youth in Parks: \$75. These programs run four weeks and include a t-shirt with registration. If you break down the costs it equals about \$5.00 a day per child not including a t-shirt. As expenses for transportation and field trips increase it is important to bring in enough funding to cover those costs. Attached you will find price comparisons from surrounding communities. Kelly's recommendation would be to increase the prices by \$25.00 for each program for the 2014 Adventure Camp Program.

Farmers Market: Dave Saari the Farmers Market manager for this year and next season has explained how successful the market has been this year. He believes that Hiawatha's prices are far too low compared to other locations. Vendors are definitely getting "bang for their buck." Looking into prices from other community's shows you how ours is compared to theirs. Right now fees are \$200.00 for a seasonal vendor for 27 Sundays between April and October and \$10 for every day vendor. Iowa City and Coralville stand at \$247.00 and \$219.00 for seasonal passes, and \$14 a day or \$30 for a 5 time punch card. Noelridge Park Farmers Market stands at \$360 for a season pass as well as provide 13 time punch cards going for \$156.00 (1 stall) or \$254.00 (2 stall). As those are bigger cities compared to ours I would like to see what your recommendations are and if you feel our prices are reasonable prices for the City of Hiawatha. Attached are other local prices.

Park Updates:

Recreation Updates:

UICCU Kids Movie Night- The first kids movie night took place on September 13th. We had around 35 kids in attendance. Dawn Ewoldt, Frank Glaser, Bill Hornett and Kelly Friedl were in attendance. The second Kids Movie Night will be on October 11th showing *Hotel Transylvania* for our Halloween showing. Kids are able to wear their costumes while we pass out goodie bags to all the kids. We received an extra \$50.00 from UICCU for this month and the fact that they won't be able to supply Kirby for the rest of the year. Please let Kelly know if you can make it as we will be getting ready for Playing for Keeps as well that evening.

Splash a Smile 5K: Splash a Smile 5K run walk took place on Saturday, September 28th. They had over 1,500 in attendance and had a successful event even though it rained.

Merry Not Scary: Merry not Scary took place on October 5th at the Eastern Iowa Sports Complex. Cedar Rapids Titans, Planet X, Macaroni Kid and Hiawatha Parks and Recreation participated in the fall event with a costume exchange and many more activities. Pumpkins and apples were provided by Fred Johnson who is part of the Hiawatha Farmers Market. Other activities that took place included a haunted miniature golf, bobbing for apples, pumpkin patch, face painting, trick or treating and inflatable's. There were over 500 kids in attendance.

Playing for Keeps 2014: Playing for Keeps will be held on October 12th, 2013 at the Cedar Rapids Toyota Scion showroom, 1190 Boyson Road from 6 to 9PM. We are in need of a few volunteers to sell beverage tickets, work the cashier's desk and other miscellaneous tasks. Please let Kelly know if you are interested in volunteering this year.

