

**Hiawatha Parks and Recreation**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**April 10, 2018**

Dan Wilkes called the meeting to order at 6:18p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Dawn Ewoldt, Dan Wilkes, Michelle McIllece, Brandon Lynch Absent: Deb Theis Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Administrative Coordinator, Kim Downs, City Administrator, Bill Bennett, Mayor. Guests: Dan Hoffman.

Motion by Dawn Ewoldt, second by Michelle McIllece to approve the April 10, 2018 agenda as amended. Motion carried. Motion by Brandon Lynch, second by Dawn Ewoldt to approve the minutes of February 13, 2018. Motion carried.

**Amateur Radio Field Day June 22<sup>nd</sup> through 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018** - ARRL Field Day is the most popular on-the-air event held annually in the US and Canada. On the fourth weekend of June, more than 35,000 radio amateurs gather with their clubs, groups or simply with friends to operate from remote locations. Field Day is an education event that is self-sufficient and teaches Amateurs to operate in abnormal situations in case of emergency instances. June 22-24<sup>th</sup> a local Amateur Group in the Hiawatha/Cedar Rapids area would like to use Clark Park as a designated location. With that said it would require that the park stay open 24 hours, past our 10PM curfew. There would be 24 hours shifts that these Amateurs would cover to connect with as many stations as possible that weekend (the whole objective of the event). The park would still be open to the public besides the disc golf course. They would need to set up portable antennas that would be between 30-40ft high. This group carries insurance and is very self-efficient. This year the Hiawatha Fire Department will not be involved so we will be asking for a \$1,000.00 refundable damage deposit along with the Clark Pavilion Rental. This is CVARC's fourth year having ARRL in Clark Park and has not had any trouble with the club in the past. Dan Wilkes, Chair, asked what the club would do to prevent damage to the park in the event of rain. Dan Hoffman, CVARC member, advised that if the grounds were wet they would find the driest spot to drive on and in the event the park was soaked they have had ATV's available to bring in equipment piece by piece.

Motion by Brandon Lynch, second by Michelle McIllece to allow Cedar Valley Amateur Radio Club to operate ARRL Field Day in Clark Park from June 22<sup>nd</sup> through June 24<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried.

**Farmers Market Meeting:** About 15 Farmers Market Vendors attended the Farmers Market Meeting on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. Karen Thornton from Linn County Public Health spoke on regulations and licensing for vendors, four advocates for the SNAP program explained how the program would be ran and answered questions regarding the program, Kelly went over Farmers Markets rules and then vendors were shown their placement on the map. About six vendors are signed up for the SNAP program and overall the meeting went very well.

**Live Healthy Iowa 5K:** Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 a.m. in Guthridge Park the City of Hiawatha Parks & Recreation have once again partnered with Live Healthy Iowa to host 1 of 14 5K races around the state of Iowa in conjunction with the Live Healthy Iowa 10 Week Challenge. This partnership

is a collaborative effort in a way to combat Iowa's growing obesity problem and to make strides toward the goal of making Iowa the healthiest state in the nation! The 5K will begin at 8:00a.m. with a kids 1K to follow at 9:00a.m. Register at [LiveHealthyIowa.com](http://LiveHealthyIowa.com) We will need volunteers for this event specifically for registration, handing out medals and post-race refreshments.

**Fitness Classes:** Zumba has been a great addition to our community. Our instructor Tara Allen has so much passion and drive to help the community and have fun in the world of Zumba. She has a great following and changes up her Zumba style each month to keep it fresh and exciting. Classes are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 6pm in the Community Center. Did I mention it's FREE! Zumba April 11<sup>th</sup>, Yoga April 26<sup>th</sup>, Jazzercise at the Market May 6<sup>th</sup>, Zumba Gold May 9<sup>th</sup>, Jazzercise at the Market May 20<sup>th</sup>, Yoga May 31<sup>st</sup>. Zumba and Yoga is held in the Hiawatha Community Center at 6pm. Jazzercise at the Market will be at noon or 12:30pm. Time will be determined soon.

**Branching Out Grant:** We will be planting 17 trees in Guthridge and Tucker Park on April 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm with the Xavier Key Club students. We are excited to work with a group of new volunteers in the community. Please mark your calendars and help plant more trees in our parks.

**Trees for Kids Grant:** Another tree grant awarded! We will be planting 24 trees with Hiawatha Elementary on May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:45pm with their Go Green Club of 15 students. Please mark your calendars, if you are available to help, we would greatly appreciate it!

**Seasonal and Adventure Camp Posting:** We have completed interviews for our Park Maintenance seasonals and found three great candidates. We will be starting Adventure Camp interviews April 12-13<sup>th</sup>. We have seven candidates so far and have six positions to fill. We have been using Facebook and the City website to post and it has been working well.

**Spring Preparation:** With the crazy weather patterns, we are hoping to get the park pavilions open over the next couple weeks. We will be working with the Water Department to get the water turned on to all the restrooms.

**Friends Foundation Drinking Fountain:** The Park and Recreation Foundation has purchased a new drinking fountain for Guthridge Park that will be installed this spring! The funding raised from the Reindeer Run in December went toward this project. The new fountain will be handicap accessible and pet friendly. This feature will be placed near the brown pavilion for trail users and pavilion renters.

**Playground Inspections:** All three parks will be inspected by our ICAP insurance company on April 25<sup>th</sup>. This will give us a good baseline of our equipment and what we might need to prepare for in future years moving forward. Currently, we use a playground safety check list from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission that we use to do inspections. It will be a great opportunity for us to use ICAP since they have a certified playground inspector on their team and to see if our check list is covering all the basis.

**Memorial Bench and Tree Program:** We will have two memorial trees and a bench to add this spring in Guthridge Park. One of the trees and bench will be added in remembrance of Jennifer Koenighain, who passed away in the recent i380 accident earlier this year. She was a park and rec intern for us in 2011

helping organize Playing for Keeps and some of the summer activities. What a great way to remember Jennifer.

Motion by Brandon Lynch, second by Michelle McIllece to adjourn at 6:33 p.m. Motion carried.

Dan Wilkes, Chairperson

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ATTEST: Kelly Willadsen, Parks and Recreation Director

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