

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation

Regular Meeting

April 14, 2015

President Dawn Ewoldt called the meeting to order at 6:04p.m. in the Hiawatha Council Chambers. Present: Lynda Hembera, Deb Theis, Dan Wilkes. Absent: Bill Hornett
Employees: Kelly Friedl, Parks and Recreation Director, Ambyr Young, Recreation Coordinator.

Motion by Deb Thies, second by Lynda Hembera to approve the April 14, 2015 agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Lynda Hembera, second by Deb Thies to approve the minutes of February 10, 2015. Motion carried.

Amateur Radio Field Day at Clark Park: 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 all over the world. Field Day is an education event that is self sufficient and teaches Amateurs to operate in abnormal situations in case of emergency instances. June 26-28th 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 and could have as many as 250 people over the course of the weekend. 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. The Hiawatha Fire Department will also be involved in this event as they have some members involved in Amateur radio. The Hiawatha/Cedar Rapids group will also be helping Mike Nessler, Fire Chief with RAGBRAI. This group carries insurance and is very self efficient. Commission members were concerned with ruts that may be left from driving vehicles on the property. **Greg Lent** advised that he is somewhat of a boy scout and would leave the park better than he found it. Lynda Hembera advised that the top part of the park is solid and she doesn't see a problem with it. Dan Wilkes agreed.

Motion was made by Dan Wilkes, second by Lynda Hembera to recommend to City Council to allow the Amateur Radio Field Day at Clark Park, allow the park to be open for 24 hours during the dates of June 26-28th and because Hiawatha Fire and Rescue is involved, to waive the \$1,000 damage deposit. Motion carried.

Park Updates:

- **Tree Inventory:** Nick Streng, our City Construction Observer now has all of our tree inventory from 2013 in our GIS system. This will allow us to modify and add any changes when we plant or remove any trees.
- **Branching Out Grant Planting:** We have received \$7,645.00 from Alliant Energy and Trees Forever from the Branching Out Grant. These plantings will take place along Boyson Road, in Guthridge and Clark Park. We are looking at planting sometime on April 29th with the Boy Scouts and Tree Keepers. If you are interested in helping plant please let me know! We will be adding these plantings to our GIS system after completion!
- **Guthridge Park Bandshell Faucet:** We now have running water to the Bandshell! Price Electric donated about \$600.00 of their work by helping trench the line to the pavilion. The Water Department also helped with the project connecting the lines. This will help save staff time cleaning the pavilion after rentals. We are excited to have this completed at a minimal cost!
- **Seasonals:** We have hired three seasonal employees for the next six months: one part time and 2 full time. Lynda and Bob Hembera and John Kadlec will be joining our team this summer.

Recreation Updates:

- **RAGBRAI Committees:** Now is the time to get involved! Let us know what you are interested in helping out with. We can use as many people as we can. The theme for 2015 is Throw Back Thursday, with our featured entertainment Dennis DeYoung! We are excited to start planning the hospitality phase to welcome riders into town as we know it will be a fun filled day!
- **Cork N Canvas Recap:** There were 17 participants in March's Cork N Canvas, with Amanda Happel leading the group. Martini glasses were the subject although some put their own twist on the picture. Rod Jasa painted a martini glass, Mt. Dew bottle and a glass of ice tea! The class was a creative bunch and most are already looking forward to the November class!
- **Kids Movie Night Recap:** Nearly 60 showed up to view Big Hero 6! Drawing names for t-shirt has been a hit! Parents and kids alike are thrilled to win. Our next Kids Movie Night will be in September.
- **Super Sitters Recap:** Michelle Altimaier, Mercy of Cedar Rapids, taught 16 participants valuable life lessons on caring for children. Instructions included basic first aid, choking rescue, fire and police emergencies, caring for children safely (picking up, holding, feeding, diapering), leadership training, the business of babysitting and understanding kids 0-10. Another Super Sitters is in the works for summer 2015.
- **Easter Egg Hunt Recap:** 5,000 eggs vanished in minutes and the weather was beautiful! We owe a big thanks to Roasters for sponsoring the event, Frank Glaser for bringing the PA system, Brittany Thies for being the bunny and to all those who volunteered!
- **Farmers Market:** The first Hiawatha Farmer's Market takes place April 26th. We have 30 vendors signed up and are receiving applications daily! Dave Saari is once again this year's Market

Manager and is working on the stall map. Don't forget on the last market of the year we will have a Fall Festival celebration with pumpkin painting, apple bobbing and trick or treats!

- **Live Healthy Iowa 5K:** The Live Healthy Iowa 5K will be on April 11th at 8am. Dan, Deb and Dawn have signed up to help at this event. We will keep you informed on where we will need your help. Awaken Chiropractic will be donating water, Quaker will be donating granola bars, Hy-vee will be donating bananas and KHAK will be attending as our MC for the morning. We expect to have 250-300 people registered for this year's event.
- **Movies on the Square:** Deb Thies expressed concerns regarding concessions at the movies since Tatyana's and Brickside are closing. Kelly advised that the department is looking into other pizza options such as Caseys, Little Ceasers or Paul Reveres.

Motion by Deb Thies, second by Lynda Hembera, to adjourn at 6:59PM. Motion carried.

Dawn Ewoldt, Chairperson

ATTEST: Kelly Friedl, Parks and Recreation Director
