

AGENDA

HIAWATHA PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

August 12th, 2014

MEETING WILL BEGIN AT 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers .

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Approval of:
 - a. Agenda
 - b. Minutes of past meetings – April 1, 2014
3. Business:
 - a. Pavilion Rental Rates
4. Reports
Monthly Park and Recreation Update

Adjourn

Work Session to follow. Please bring ideas of what you would like to see happening in our department (new programs, special events, updates, equipment, NW Territory ideas etc).

Hiawatha Parks and Recreation



To: Park and Recreation Commission
CC: Mayor and City Council
From: Kelly Friedl, Park and Recreation Director
Date: August 12th, 2014
Re: Park and Recreation Report

Business:

Pavilion Fees:

As you all know the bandshell/pavilion is complete and the building department did the final inspection on Friday, July 17th. We are very happy with the outcome and the first concert was a success. With that said, I have added this feature to our online system and researched how our pavilion rentals are doing along with who is renting our facilities. Looking at the data I found that we had 343 rentals from June 2013 to July 2014: 200 of those rentals were non residents, with 143 of those from Hiawatha residents or Parks and Rec staff. With pavilions in high demand and another pavilion added for maintenance and upkeep, I would like to recommend to commission to add a non-resident pavilion fee of \$45.00 and a resident fee of \$35.00 effective January 2015. This will give Hiawatha Residents a price break as well as compensate for additional time spent cleaning and up keeping all facilities.

Recreation Updates:

North West Territory Updates: I met with Kim Downs, Jon Bender the City Engineer and the Mayor on Tuesday, August 6th to go over what we need to do to move forward with the NW Territory land and lodge acquisition. As I have mentioned at previous meetings, Kim talked with Jane and Varlin Fink about our proposal and gave them ideas on what we are thinking to use their land for. They are not opposed to our ideas but would like a clearer vision of what we are anticipating. I will be working with Nick Streng, the City Construction Observer and Landscape Architect to put together a concept over the next few months to get some ideas to give to them. Once we complete this process we will bring the plans to you so you can help make decisions on what works best. Originally we asked for 8-9 acres of land but now the city would like to ask for 40 acres which could include another public safety building or police substation. This is our time to dream and look into long term plans. I am excited to work with Nick on some concepts.

Touch A Truck: Touch A Truck is this Friday, August 8th at the Guthridge Park 10th Avenue parking lot. The intern and Ambyr have worked on this event and have majorly improved the event from last year. We are excited to have many more vehicles for the kids to see. HACAP will also be in attendance to collect non perishable food items for the food reservoir. The Do's and Don'ts will be in the bandshell from 6-

9pm!

Movies on the Square: The second Movies on the Square took place on Friday, July 25th. We didn't have the turnout we were hoping for from the first movie back in May, but were happy the weather held off so we could show Enchanted. We had around 150 people at the event and sold \$300.00 worth of concessions by the Friends Foundation. We are already looking into more cost effective options to keep this event going years down the road. We didn't have the support from New York Life like we did last year so we are looking at the possibilities of showing the movies in the new bandshell for next summer. There are many positives and negatives to the event so I will be working with the Foundation to figure out what we can do. I would hate to get rid of an event that can bring in 200-300 people to Hiawatha.

Farmers Market: The Farmers Market has been booming this summer and we couldn't ask for a better turnout. With the great weather vendors are doing well. Ambyr and I have been working on new ideas to bring to the Farmers Market during the season and one idea we have so far is to bring in a Halloween themed market that we can get the vendors involved with. We are looking at having a trick or treat day during one of the last markets where vendors can hand out candy or any goods they please. We had already talked to Fred Johnson a loyal vendor who said he would donate pumpkins and possibly apples for kids to paint and bob for apples. Instead of partnering with the Titans the past few years we think we will get more benefit making one ourselves. This will also keep the vendors there at the end of the month as the season winds down. We hope this will bring success and the kids will enjoy something new.

HiBRAI: We are gearing up for HiBRAI August 16-17th! The Friends Foundation is ready for another successful year. Right now we have 120 riders which is a little down from last year but we know that will change as the final days get here. Ameriprise is our biggest sponsor again this year donating \$1,000.00 with many other area businesses donating beverages and food. We are excited for another fun event and look forward to seeing what we raise this year for our youth programs and park updates.

Adventure Camp: Adventure Camp is officially over. Overall it was a year without injuries and few issues. The organization ahead of time helped staff out from the beginning. The hardest part is to try and find counselors that are interested in the job and will take leadership throughout the summer. There are many things to approve upon after my first year of planning but overall we had a great turnout. I will have a finalized budget for you next month with the Friends Foundations assistance and the city budget.

Meeting with Marion: I will be meeting with Marion Parks and Recreation on Tuesday before our meeting go over current partnerships, as well as new and upcoming programs we would like to implement together. Our Adult Kickball program did not take place due to low registrations. We think this is because it is a busy time of year with many vacations and kids getting ready to go back to school. We hope to get this program off its feet next year.

Blastball Updates: 140 participants signed up for the 2014 Blastball Season. There were 19 teams with "candy bar" names. Pictures were taken by Jeff Kirkpatrick of PortraitEFX and turned out really well. A new green screen technology was used to "cut and paste" the participants together to get a unified picture. We had no injuries or complaints and were very happy with how things went.

Parks Update:

- The parks staff has been busy all summer. I have heard nothing but positive remarks from community members and how clean we maintain our parks.
- Picnic tables have been stained and they are ready to be put in the new bandshell.
- Both splash pads have been power washed and cleaned to help eliminate slips and falls.
- The basketball court cracks will be filled over the next month.
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Work session ideas:

A few things we are looking into-

1. Babysitting Basics
2. Basketball with Cedar Rapids Kennedy
3. Cooking with Kids/Mother Daughter Tea Party (Wright Touch Bake Shopp)
4. Bus Trips with Marion or area Bank