

AGENDA

HIAWATHA PARK & RECREATION COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING

September 9th, 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 – August 12, 2014
3. Business:
 - a. Hog Wild Days 2015
 - b. Inflatable Policy Change
 - c. Program Budgets
 - d. Adventure Camp Increase 2015
4. Reports
 - Monthly Park and Recreation Update

Adjourn

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:

Hog Wild Day 2015-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 included lots of rain and some damage to one of the park's dugouts. I see no conflicts with the dates they have requested. I would like to recommend to this board to require a refundable damage deposit of \$500 as we have had some conflicts as to who is responsible for any damage that takes place during their event.

Inflatable Policy Change

Right now the Parks and Recreation Department does not allow inflatables due to liability issues. I have never found out the real reason why this decision was made. The only group that we have allowed over the past couple of years is GoDaddy's business picnic because they give their guest wristbands to allow only their guests in the bounce house. Council approved staff to make the decisions in 2012 but there is no certain procedure in place to approve or decline a person's request, if we currently have a rule not to allow them why was GoDaddy ever given permission to have one for their event? Looking at other cities, I have not found one that doesn't allow them at all.

Many cities including Cedar Rapids will charge an application fee and proof of insurance of at least \$300,000.00. This allows cities to monitor the use of inflatables in their parks. I have had H&H Fun Rides contact me multiple times to ask why we do not allow them when they have a \$2,000,000.00 insurance policy and we are the only City they know of that won't allow them.

I have attached an application for individuals to apply for an inflatable. Within this application it asks for a certificate of liability insurance of \$300,000.00 provided by the renter and the inflatable company, a \$25 dollar non-refundable user fee and limitations regarding what you can have. I believe there needs to

be a process in place so that I can clearly make an adequate authorization and give everyone an equal opportunity following the necessary guidelines. I don't believe we will have many more rentals in place with this change. I would like to recommend this policy change to the Park Commission for future authorization of inflatable's.

Program and Special Event Budgets 2014

Attached is a copy of our program budgets. We had a great year with lots of positive feedback. We look forward to another successful year and getting more business support for our program sponsorships.

Adventure Camp Increase 2015

As you look at the numbers from this year's camp we are still under budget. The Friends Foundation pays for all supplies, field trips and t-shirts which totals close to \$5,000.00. With their generous donation, I do not account for that when our budget is off balance. The portion I look at is staff wages at \$13,701.80 and revenue from participants bringing in \$13,350.00, which is still \$350.00 short of budget without a full camp for both sessions.

I would like to recommend increasing the fee by another \$25.00 for 2015 to balance the budget and give us room if we have higher registration numbers next year. If we increase the fee \$25.00 with the same number of participants that we had this year we will sit at \$17,150.00.

For Playground participants at \$150.00 for four weeks parents are only paying \$7.50 a day from 9-4pm which is less than a dollar an hour. For Tot-lot and Youth in Parks they would pay \$125 for 12 days paying about \$10.00 a day. I believe we have a great camp program but are sometimes taken for granted with how cheap our rates are. Below is what the rates would increase to for 2015 with your approval.

Playground: 2014-\$125.00 2015-\$150.00

Tot and Youth: 2014-\$100.00 2015-\$125.00

Recreation Updates:

Hiawatha Kids Movie Night: Kids Movie Nights will start back up Friday, September 12th. The featured animated film will be "The Nut Job" starting at 6:30PM. The other dates will be October 10th and November 7th. Please let me know if you can help Dawn with the movies!

Movies on the Square: Our last Movies on the Square was Friday, August 29th. Unfortunately due to the weather again the event was cancelled. We won't be making the event up due to Kids Movie Night starting Friday, September 12th in the Community Center.

Farmers Market: The Hiawatha Farmers Market has been a great success this year. I have heard nothing but positive feedback from not only the vendors but the patrons as well. We had a mixture of returning and new vendors this year so it will be interesting to see who have for next year. Our parking lots are full and people are parking on the streets. You will see how we have done on the attached budget.

HiBRAI: We had another successful year of HiBRAI with 190 riders. The weather was excellent and we had a smooth ride with no injuries. We raised \$8,500 in registrations, \$211.00 in donations, \$1,000 in sponsorships. Covering all of our other expenses with catering and supplies we came out raising about

\$6,500.00. We are very happy with the outcome and had the Gazette and Riverside Times submit a story. We look forward to next year's ride on August 14-15th 2015!

Music in the Park: All four concerts were a success this summer. We had no rain outs and the band shell worked great. We heard positive feedback from all four bands about how nice the new facility was. All four bands did not need to use the extra voltage we anticipated.

Playing for Keeps: This year the event will take place on October 18th, 2014 in the Hiawatha Community Center. This year we have Hy-Vee catering, Fleck Sales distributing beer samples and Cedar Ridge providing wine. We continue to get donations in as the event gets closer. If you can volunteer again this year please let me know and I will find a spot for you to help!

Parks Update:

- We have one seasonal left helping out in the parks department. Alan will stay on until the end of September early October.
- We will be keeping the Cedar Rapids Toyota Truck until the beginning of October.
- Picnic tables have been added to the new pavilion and a few rentals are now on the calendar.
- We are looking to add skate board prevention hardware to our new bandshell/pavilion since we have had some wear and tear already. Parks staff and myself have went to look at the Cedar Rapids amphitheatre on Friday, September 5th.
- Splash pads will remain on until cooler temperatures are consistent. We are going to turn them on only for the weekends now that kids are in school.
- We have checked with the water department to see what necessary procedures would need to take place to get water over to the new pavilion for maintenance accessibility. Water Superintendent, Carl Ransford has mentioned that he will look to see what water line is closest to add an additional line to the bandshell. He will put a quote together once they measure and look at what will be the best option.
- Council approved the non-residents rate for park pavilion rentals at the September 3rd meeting.