

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, June 8, 2010

4:30 p.m., Annex Room Pavilion, Eagle Point Park

PRESENT: Bob Blocker, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Tom Blocklinger and Gary Harjehausen

OTHERS: Staff present: Marie Ware, Pat Prevenas, Bob Fritsch and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED;  
VOTE: It was moved by Hoffmann, seconded by Lyness, to approve the minutes of the May 11, 2010, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON TRAIL PROJECTS: **Bergfeld Trail:** The Bergfeld trail is complete except for the parking lot at the Pennsylvania end. The Engineering Department was asked to review the site stopping distances. After review it was determined to move the entrance 80 feet to west. The walking trail around the pond had ground water going over it and moss growing. Parks did a temporary fix a few years ago but now excavated and backfilled a 100-yard area and put in drainage tile. We have received a lot of positive feedback about the area – employees from Hormel, Medline and Kendall Hunt use the trail a lot and think the whole area is wonderful.

**Northwest Arterial:** Asphalt laying is complete on phase 2 and a punch list is being created for the contractor. Laura Carstens, Planning Services Manager is looking at a REAP grant for phase 4.

**Catfish Creek:** A meeting was held with property owners in late May. There were several people that do not want the trail but MSA reiterated that it was just a feasibility study. The study shows if it can be done and a number of ways to do it. The next step is the public hearing. We would publicize and anybody would be welcome to come. After discussion it was decided to have the **public hearing on Tuesday, June 29th from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.**

REQUEST FROM MCFC TO HAVE BOOTHS AND VENDORS AT JACKSON PARK;  
VOTE: Tara Velez from the Multicultural Family Center is requesting permission to have information booths and vending opportunities highlighting local African-American owned businesses at the Music in Jackson Park celebration on Sunday, June 13th. Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware said we have allowed several things like this in the past but don't seem to have a totally consistent policy. She is recommending the commission approves this request but then look at the ordinance and current practices as a winter project. Commissioners agreed that we need to look at the current "policy" versus current "practice" and change the actual policy and/or ordinance accordingly.

It was moved by Nadeau, seconded by Hoffmann, to approve the MCFC request to have booths and vending opportunities for Sunday, June 13th concert/celebration at Jackson Park, for this year only to allow for policy review. The motion passed unanimously.

PARK DIVISION  
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch updated commissioners:

◆ Mike Horsfall has done a tremendous job with the **planters by the Roshek building**. He worked with Mary Gronen in February. They are doing six more planters this week. We are billing Gronen Restoration for those hours, estimated at \$4,000. The planters should look fantastic in late June or July. ◆ **Iowa Workforce Development** is working with us to employ at risk or disadvantaged youth. There are two people for twelve weeks, paid by the state with an AmeriCorps person to train them. They will focus on work at the Roshek Building doing weeding and watering plants etc. There could be up to five workers. Our staff will be teaching them landscape maintenance. ◆ **BMX bike track at McAleece**: City Council approved the project and diverting money from other CIP projects. Kids and bike shop owners will be invited to be involved in construction of the BMX track. It is hoped they will want to take some ownership and help maintain the track. ◆ **Grandview/Rockdale entry**: development should be done within about eight weeks. Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch is working with an Eagle Scout on the retaining wall and plantings. Additionally, we will be doing brick pavers, lights and ornamental landscaping.

RECREATION  
DIVISION  
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas updated commissioners:

► golf rounds were down for May but it was about the same average month as the last ten years. ► pools had a decent Memorial Day opening with good weather; a middle school pool party is being offered at Sutton Pool on June 13th with DJ and games, etc. ► summer classes start Monday; we have been registering the last two months.

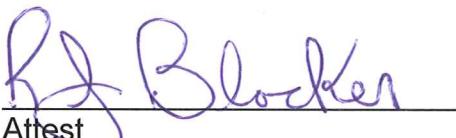
OTHER  
BUSINESS:

► Commissioner Nadeau asked if department attempts to get middle school age students more involved in activities had been successful. Mr. Prevenas said only so-so.  
► Manager Ware said it has been very busy and if commissioners were out and about and saw employees working, thank them for their efforts. The phones have been crazy and the office very busy.

ADJOURN;  
VOTE:

It was moved by Blocker, seconded by Lyness, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:40 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

  
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Chairperson

  
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Attest