

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, March 8, 2016
4:30 p.m., Snack Bar, Bunker Hill Golf Course

PRESENT: Robin Kennicker, Ken Klinge, Kate Larson, Karen Lyness and Jennifer Tigges

ABSENT: Paul Hoffmann and David Schlueter

STAFF PRESENT: Marie Ware, Steve Fehsal, Dan Kroger and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED;
VOTE: It was moved by Lyness, seconded by Larson, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2016, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE LEASE WITH DUBUQUE WATER SPORTS CLUB; VOTE: Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware told commissioners that the lease is the same as last year with current dates and updated insurance. Commissioner Lyness commented that the Club has maintained the property well.

It was moved by Larson, seconded by Klinge, to renew the lease with Dubuque Water Sports Club for May 1, 2016 through April 30, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

LEASES / AGREEMENTS PROCESSED: Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware shared with Commissioners that the lease and license agreements for **Stone Cliff** are completed and approved. The lease for the **Storybook Hill Zoo** and **Tri-State Modelers** was reviewed and reapproved for a three-year timeframe. Renewal of lease with Dubuque **Jaycees** for community garden at Veterans' Memorial Park is in progress.

PRESENTATION BY CORI BURBACH ON RESILIENT COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMISSION: Cori Burbach, Sustainability Coordinator was present to discuss the Resilient Community Advisory Commission. She explained that one of the top five priorities of the City Council is to develop a resilient community advisory commission. Cori and Mary Rose Corrigan, Public Health Specialist are attending meetings of various city commissions and also going out to 25 community organizations. There will be a public meeting in April presenting a draft of all the information collected from these engagement sessions and then a recommendation to the City Council in May.

Ms. Burbach asked for feedback on: what does resiliency mean to you; what do you think responsibilities of resiliency commission should be; what activities would the commission oversee and are they meeting city goals; what qualifications should we require resiliency commissioners to have; what is the role of commissioners in terms of planning / research / community engagement; and any specific topics the commission should work on the first year?

Discussion from commissioners: **Resiliency:** strong; overcomes difficulties; cooperation / communication / collaboration; bouncing back after adversity (financial setbacks or problems of some kind); attracting and retaining residents. **Responsibilities:** make sure policies and things that are done

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have some flexibility; work with other boards and commissions; connect neighborhoods. **Oversee:** performance measures – what are the city's goals and are they being met; start with city policy and break down from there; think broader; don't include anything that other groups are already doing – don't duplicate; bring all the information together in one spot; look at all the sustainability principles and all the data collected and see where we need to focus our time. **Requirements** for commissioners: diversified backgrounds and different areas of expertise. **Role:** a way to hold City Council accountable to make sure community needs are being met; be the voice of some of the parts of the community that are not represented or are not coming forward; good to give the City Council feedback. **First year:** budget and spending; prosperity / living / job wages for all; increase number of people that live and work in community; look at issues important to people that would consider living here – things to do / environmental issues including good air quality, good water, etc.

PARK DIVISION
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Steve Fehsal informed Commissioners:

■ Facilities Supervisor Ben Alden worked with Kelli Buchenau in the Public Information Office on a new campground brochure. It has the new map and online reservation information. Claytons are coming back again this year to manage. We hope to open April 15th. We are working on a news release for when three holidays can be reserved and the reservation timeframes. ■ There are three public skate park meetings scheduled to gather input on potential locations for proposed new skate park – March 10th at Hempstead, March 16th at Comiskey and March 23rd at Irving Elementary School. Meeting notification letters were sent to neighbors near potential sites. The information to be discussed at meetings is the same so people can attend any one of the three meetings. The proposed locations are Flora Park (5 potential locations); Usha Park (one potential location); and Bee Branch (one potential location). A public input form is online for people that can't attend a meeting. The skate group is working with the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque. Commissioner Tigges said the group set a fundraising goal of \$250,000 including in-kind donations. ■ Greenhouse is getting filled up; transplanting and growing flowers. ■ Tree crew is taking down Ash street trees when they can. They will start injecting when leaves come out because the best time to inject is when trees fully leaf out – hopefully April. If treatment is injection, it is done every three years; soil drench option is done every year. Commissioner Kennicker said kudos to the tree crew because they take care of things and clean up the area they work in. ■ Seasonal laborers will start about the end of April. ■ Mr. Fehsal attended his second year of a two-year NRPA Management School that centered on maintenance. It was a good learning and networking experience with 120 to 130 students representing 37 states. There was a lot of information about tracking data and best practices. ■ Bids have been published for contract mowing at 11 smaller parks. A second bid will be going out for most areas where we use push mowers.

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RECREATION
DIVISION
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Dan Kroger informed Commissioners:

■ Front nine holes of the golf course may open Friday. ■ This year Bunker Hill, The Meadows, Lacoma and Timberline will partner to offer the PGA Junior Tour. Each course will have a team and they go to the other courses and compete. ■ The Boys' Club wants to expand the program they offered last year where they provided funding for youth to receive golf lessons. ■ The summer brochure comes out April 1st. ■ Our Easter egg hunt is 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Mystique Community Ice Center with free ice skating after the hunt. ■ The Community Engagement Plan for safe parks was approved by the City Manager. Mr. Kroger will be meeting with eighteen different community organizations. ■ The pool pass project with cameras and point of sale system is moving forward. We hope to sell season memberships beginning April 4th. Staff has a half-day training on March 9th.

MANAGER
REPORT:

Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware informed Commissioners:

■ The final budget hearing is March 14th at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend. Certified budget is due to state on March 15, 2016. Ms. Ware thanked the commissioners that attended department budget hearing. ■ The research was completed that compared Dubuque to other cities. ■ Ware is spending time with orientation for new MFC Director and projects related to Five Flags and Grand River Center. ■ The integrated pest management (IPM) work group has met twice. Manager Fehsal came up with a list of nine areas that we propose to make pesticide free. Once a plan is proposed, the IPM work group will bring it to the Park and Recreation Commission.

COMMISSION
COMMUNICA-
TIONS OR
QUESTIONS

As a possible way to draw business to the Marina, Commissioner Kennicker suggested scheduling some events during the time the National River Museum has the interactive dinosaur exhibit and/or have the lighted boat parade theme this year coincide with the exhibit.

Commissioner Larson asked if any signage is up at the Marina yet. Manager Kroger said the Facilities Supervisor is putting together a proposal for Planning Services. A flag pole with a windsock is planned.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by Larson, that the meeting be adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Kate Larson

Chairperson

D. Kroger
Attest