

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

4:30 p.m., Snack Bar, Bunker Hill Golf Course

PRESENT: Bob Blocker, Tom Blocklinger, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Gary Harjehausen, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble

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

NEW  
COMMISSIONER: Mr. Bob Blocker was welcomed as the new member of the commission.

MINUTES  
APPROVED;  
VOTE: It was moved by Noble, seconded by Blocklinger, to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2009, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

ELECT  
OFFICERS;  
VOTE: It was moved by Lyness to elect Blocklinger as Chairperson, seconded by Noble. It was moved by Lyness to elect Noble as Vice-chairperson, seconded by Blocklinger. It was moved by Blocklinger to elect Hoffmann as Secretary, seconded by Noble. All motions passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON  
EAGLE POINT  
PARK 100TH  
BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION: Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch reported the following regarding Eagle Point's 100th birthday:

◆ There will be two musical groups performing – Dubuque Main Street Jazz Band and Tri-State Wind Symphony; ◆ LT Amusements bounce house; ◆ free cake, cupcakes and lemonade will be provided (cake will have a digital picture on it); free admission into the park; historical display; Telegraph Herald will run an article the week before to invite citizens to come and share memories.

Commissioners Lyness and Blocker asked about food vendors selling food items. Mr. Fritsch said he would look into it.

NAMING FIELDS  
AT McALEECE: Mr. Chuck Spielman was to be present with a request about naming softball fields at McAleece but he was not present at the meeting.

DOG PARK SITE  
SELECTION  
PROCESS: Leisure Services Manager Gil Spence was not at the meeting but he had sent a memo to commissioners outlining a process for selection of a pet park site, suggested by the city manager: 1) schedule a trolley tour to visit the top seven to ten sites; 2) after the tour, narrow the list the most feasible sites and contact the property owners to explore their interest and terms; 3) invite property owners within 200 feet of each site, and any other interested parties to an open house to receive feedback; 4) after open house, commission would narrow the choices to three and hope a public hearing for more public input; and 5) after the public hearing the commission would make a recommendation to the city council.

Commissioners would like the tour to be scheduled for 6:00 or 6:30 p.m. They asked for Mr. Spence to pick several dates, get back to commissioners, and then choose the date where the most commissioners would be available.

PARK DIVISION  
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch informed commissioners:

◆ Mr. Fritsch told commissioners that Terry Trueblood, former department manager, had passed away after a battle with pancreatic cancer. ◆ The division has four to five people off work due to retirement and/or health. We got some extra seasonal help but it took a while to go through the required process. ◆ More areas to landscape are getting added all the time; we ordered perennials for Iowa Street and 11th Street steps area; replenishing mulch around playground areas, which is behind; ◆ video surveillance was installed at Veterans' Memorial park rest room to hopefully cut down on vandalism. We have \$25,000 budgeted for video surveillance at Comiskey building (four corners) and two more at Allison-Henderson and Flora rest room by the horseshoe courts. ◆ will be paving an additional section of IDCW bike-hike trail at Bergfeld this fall. ◆ huge amount of people at A.Y., Eagle Point and Miller Riverview parks for fireworks; no problems. Commissioner Blocker commented that the change in procedure this year worked well to lessen vehicular traffic at Miller Riverview. ◆ Bio swale filtration system at Flora Park will be getting underway in the next few months. There will be interpretive signage to let people know what the system is supposed to do.

RECREATION  
DIVISION  
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas informed commissioners:

◆ June 22nd had a record 2,900 swimmers at Flora Pool; the rest of the week the pool water was 82 degrees. Sunday the temperature dropped from 82 to 69 degrees in twenty-four hours; new session of swim lessons started Monday; this June was the third lowest for swim lesson registrations since 1991 when the pools opened. ◆ Golf through June is the best since 2005; the fiscal year is in the black by about \$60,000. ◆ Registration numbers are up for recreation classes; baseball / softball numbers are not that good; tennis numbers are ok.

OTHER  
BUSINESS:

**Fight at McAleece:** On Friday after doubleheader softball games a fight ensued with about thirty people involved. Spectators and players had been jabbering back and forth throughout the games. One team had 95% players underage and parents were buying alcohol. Several people were arrested and charged. The department suspended both teams for the remainder of the season.

ADJOURN;  
VOTE:

It was moved by Hoffmann, seconded by Blocker, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:15 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

Mark S. Nord  
Chairperson

John Blocker  
Attest