PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, February 9, 2010
4:30 p.m., in the snack bar, Bunker Hill Golf Course

PRESENT:
Robert Blocker, Tom Blocklinger, Gary Harjehausen, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble
Staff present: Pat Prevenas, Bob Fritsch and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:
It was moved by Harjehausen, seconded by Blocker, to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2010, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT FOR BUNKER HILL GOLF COURSE WITH GMS, INC.; VOTE:
Acting Leisure Services Manager Pat Prevenas reviewed the management agreement for Bunker Hill Golf Course with GMS, Inc. It is pretty much the same as last year with a 3.3% raise for a total of $65,500. As in last year's contract, bonuses will be awarded based upon staff hours not exceeding the following for each category during the 2010 season:
Assistant Golf Professional, 1,300 hours, $500 bonus
Pro Shop Attendant, 2,900 hours, $500 bonus
Concession Worker, 2,800 hours, $500 bonus
Total Seasonal Hours, 7,000 hours, $500 bonus

Bonuses will also be awarded based upon exceeding the following increased revenue in golf operations: Snack Bar Revenue, exceed $190,000 goal, $900 bonus; Golf Cart Revenue, exceed $169,200 goal, $900 bonus

It was moved by Harjehausen, seconded by Hoffmann, to approve the management agreement for Bunker Hill Golf Course with GMS, Inc. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVE MENU PRICE INCREASES AT THE GOLF COURSE; VOTE:
Manager Prevenas said the golf pro is recommending increasing the price on four items based on our cost: Bloody Mary Mix, mozzarella sticks, cheese curds and breakfast sandwiches. The last overall increase was at the beginning of the 2008 season. Staff is recommending these four increases this year and may have to come back next year with others.

It was moved by Noble, seconded by Nadeau, to approve the four price increases recommended by staff for the snack bar. The motion passed unanimously.

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Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch told commissioners the agreement is the same as last year with the exception of revising #7 to require all funds received for camping to be deposited in the city bank account on a daily basis. There were some concerns last year regarding poor job of keeping rest rooms clean and not enough policing of late night noise, but Mr. Clayton worked to correct those issues as the season went on.

Commissioner Blocker asked about the campground manager calling for help if some of the neighboring campers get into disagreements. Mr. Fritsch said he will remind Mr. Clayton to call park patrol and/or police before situations get out of hand. Commissioner Noble suggested maybe the park patrol can work with Mr. Clayton and give him some pointers on how to deal with some of these situations.

It was moved by Lyness, seconded by Nadeau, to approve the management agreement for Miller Riverview Park with Ken Clayton. The motion passed unanimously.

Update on Second Pet Park:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch has met with DOT regarding the Dodge and Locust Street location that we were hoping to have for a second pet park site. The DOT is going to use part of the area for a driving area so a large section will be asphalt for that purpose. We can re-visit the site in the spring (May) after the DOT project is completed, and see if there is enough space left over for a pet park. There may be about two acres left in the north and west sides of the property, adjacent to the road.

Pet Park User Fees; Vote:

Manager Prevenas told commissioners that the City Manager wanted us to include an improvement level request in the budget to have user fees at the pet park. Annual passes would be sold, $25 per dog for resident and $35 per dog for nonresident or patron could pay $1.00 on a daily basis. There would have to be some type of self-registration device at the park for the daily fees. The annual passes would be sold at Leisure Services office, and possibly at City Hall and/or from the website. The city manager is estimating approximately $6,000 in revenue, less approximately $800 for self-registration device, signage, passes or tags, et cetera.

General discussion included: revenue estimate is really high; enforcement; how do we get the word out; negative impact of charging fee; cost of current operation; low income, et cetera. Mr. Prevenas said enforcement would be done by park patrol and animal control officer stopping at the park periodically.

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The consensus of the commission was that tax payers have already paid for the park and for pet licenses and it would be another negative impact to start charging fees right now, especially with just the one small park available to the public.

It was moved by Blocker, seconded by Nadeau, to not initiate any pet park user fees for Fiscal Year 2011 budget year. The motion passed unanimously.

PARK DIVISION REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch informed commissioners:

- A copy of the C.I.P. budget recommended by the City Manager was distributed to commissioners and a copy may be found as part of the original minutes; changes are marked in red. Mr. Fritsch explained that due to budget restraints many projects were dropped or moved to a later year, and funds for several park development projects were lowered to include only the design fees in FY 2015 and then the development costs would need to be re-submitted in a future year.  
- The bridge complex project at Eagle Point Park is going well. The old north and south annex will have a partially enclosed area and partially open café type setting. The students should be able to paint in April and be open for rentals the second week in May.  
- Snow removal is going well; brooms that were purchased are working very well and we are using less ice melt because the brooms get down to the bare pavement.  
- Comments from the public hearing on the Roosevelt Park master plan were distributed to commissioners and may be found as part of the original minutes. There were approximately 40 attendees with 34 written comments submitted. Most of the comments were from mountain bikers that don't want to lose the current area they use for mountain biking and they want more area added for mountain biking. Comments supporting the multipurpose field were school soccer coaches.

RECREATION DIVISION REPORT:

Acting Leisure Services Manager Pat Prevenas informed commissioners:

- Recreation C.I.P. changes included dropping the family rest room at the pools in FY 2015. We are getting $180,000 in FY 2011 ($100,000 from golf improvement fund and $80,000 in property tax) to replace the master controller, pump and pump house for the golf irrigation system, which is very badly needed.  
- Molly Weis retired effective January 29, 2010. We hired two part-time people for now, one to take care of after school sports until the end of that program the first week of May. The second person will take care of the recreation classes part of Molly's job, working with instructors and scheduling classes that will be in the summer brochure. That person will work for a few months and get us through those programs. After the Leisure Services Manager is hired, we will advertise and interview for the full time position.  
- We are using Hempstead for public swimming on Sunday afternoons; swim lessons scheduled on Saturday

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mornings and Wednesday evenings. ♦ We started an indoor soccer program at Audubon School gym on Wednesday evenings and we had about twenty participants show up, half adults and half children. Due to the good turnout we split the time to children at 6:30 and adults at 7:30 p.m. ♦ Live Healthy Iowa classes are held every Monday evening at Prescott School; getting around 40 participants each week.

OTHER BUSINESS:

♦ Commissioner Hoffmann commented about Usha Park not being developed and continually getting cut from the five-year C.I.P. budget. He feels we should do some things to let the Mullapudi family know that we care and haven’t forgotten about the park. Can we go back to the City Manager in the next year and see about putting smaller amounts of money over several years for Usha and dropping other less urgent projects.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

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

Chairperson

Mark S. Noble
Attest