

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, March 9, 2010

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

PRESENT: Bob Blocker, Tom Blocklinger, Gary Harjehausen, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Paul Hoffmann

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

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE: It was moved by Harjehausen, seconded by Nadeau, to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2010, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

BOY SCOUT REQUEST TO WAIVE ENTRANCE FEE TO EAGLE POINT PARK; VOTE: Tyler and Dillon Runde were present representing the Boy Scouts, asking to have the entrance fee to Eagle Point Park waived for persons attending their pancake breakfast on Mother's Day. This request is the same every year, and in exchange for waiving the entrance fee, the scouts do a service project at Eagle Point Park.

It was moved by Nadeau, seconded by Lyness, to waive the entrance fee to Eagle Point Park on Mother's Day, May 9th, for anyone attending the Boy Scout pancake breakfast. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSS CAMPGROUND PROCEDURES AT MILLER RIVERVIEW PARK:

Acting Leisure Services Manager Pat Prevenas told commissioners that we are considering some changes to the reservation process for camping at Miller Riverview, so we will be reviewing the system during this coming season. We have had suggestions from citizens such as: • require payment when reservation is made – this would involve issues with credit card payment information security, privacy, phone lines, computer access, etc; • do not take reservations at all, have first-come, first-served system – may have increased revenue because people would need to come to the campground sooner to get a weekend and it would eliminate “no shows” for held reservations that had not paid. This year we will have the park ranger talk to campers throughout the season, watch the operation and get their opinion on reservation process.

This year reservations will be taken April 1st for holiday weekends only, starting at 7:00 a.m. for in person and 8:00 a.m. for telephone. All other dates for the 2010 season can be reserved starting April 2nd.

RAGBRAI UPDATE:

Manager Prevenas said Ragbrai will finish in Dubuque on July 31st at the Port of Dubuque. The route is tentatively scheduled to go through Industrial Center West and Bergfeld to Radford Road, to Pennsylvania, to Chaney, to Hillcrest, to Clarke Drive, to Madison Street hill, through downtown and over 3rd Street overpass to Port. There is a wedding reception scheduled at the Amphitheater that we are trying to get changed since there could be 15,000 bikers in that area; they may move to the Grand River Center.

PET PARK FEE
UPDATE:

Manager Prevenas told commissioners that the final budget hearing is tonight for the City Council and they will be passing a resolution to initiate pet park fees effective May 1st. General comments from commissioners included: ● will there be a low income waiver or special fee? ● how will we keep track – special tag to go with city license tag: ● after this fall can we do an expense/revenue comparison to evaluate and make sure expenses are being covered? ● citizens will have higher expectations for amenities at the park since they have to pay a special fee to use it. Mr. Prevenas said he didn't think we would spend more than revenue that comes in and checking for tags at the park would be done by periodic stops by the park patrol and the animal control officer

PARK DIVISION
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch updated commissioners:

◆ Drew Cook and Sons will begin demolition of the new park site at Grandview Avenue and Rockdale Road. The two low bidders both dropped out. The building should be down by the end of March. Bob Fritsch is doing the design for the park. ◆ park cleanup has begun; ◆ Park Division will be in charge of the two large planters on the south side of the IBM building; ◆ new section of Bergfeld Recreation Area trail has been added and is done except for the parking lot; ◆ Eagle Scout project for the tile at the rest area of the Trolley Line Trail is completed and looks really nice; ◆ city received a DNR Water Trail Grant to have signage placed at A.Y. McDonald Park and boat ramp at McAleece for informational purposes for paddle sports.

RECREATION
DIVISION
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas updated commissioners:

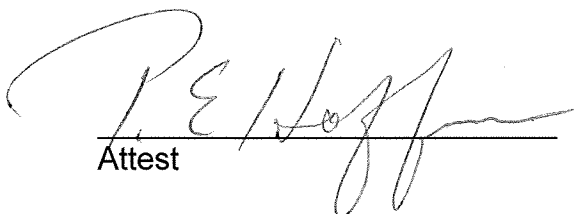
◆ softball registration deadline is tomorrow; ◆ alumni basketball tournament deadline is today; post season basketball tournament is in progress; ◆ indoor soccer open gym offered on Wednesdays at Audubon has about 20 participants; ◆ Hempstead has open swimming on Sundays.


OTHER
BUSINESS:

- Since the City Expo is the second Tuesday in April and both managers would be involved with that, the April meeting will be changed to APRIL 20TH.
- Summer meetings: request to have a meeting in the new bridge complex when it is completed and some of other summer meetings at department facilities.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

It was moved by Blocker, seconded by Noble, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.


Attest


Chairperson