

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

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

PRESENT: Bob Blocker, Tom Blocklinger, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and David Schlueter

ABSENT: Mark Noble

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

ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE: Paul Hoffmann, reappointed to another three-year term, signed the Oath of Office papers.

MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE: It was moved by Lyness, seconded by Nadeau, to approve the minutes of the August 10, 2010, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

REPORT FROM LEISURE SERVICES MANAGER MARIE WARE: Leisure Services Manager Marie Ware was not in attendance at the meeting but e-mailed commissioners a "What's going on in Leisure Services" information update sheet which may be found as part of the original minutes. Information included updates on Mystique Community Ice Arena, E.B. Lyons Interpretive Center, Dubuque Bruisers lease, McAleece parking lot, AmeriCorps grant program, ownership of Veterans' Memorial at Chaplain Schmitt Island, FEMA storm damage, flowers / flower beds, improvements to Miller Riverview campground, full time program supervisor job, upcoming CIP budget and Allison-Henderson building.

PARK DIVISION REPORT: Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch updated commissioners:

◆ Dragon Boat Festival at Miller Riverview Park went well. Rip rap work had been done along the river so there was not a lot of access to the water directly from the park. ◆ Crews will be switching mums in baskets at the Port of Dubuque this week. ◆ We have been giving Comiskey a lot of attention and making a special effort to keep the playground area and park clean and well maintained. ◆ Rockdale / Grandview Park is coming along. Klein will finish the landscaping; flags, antique lights and water fountain will be installed next week. ◆ Parking lot for trail at Bergfeld (on Pennsylvania) is completed. The Bergfeld area and trail is so popular and well used that we have to send a crew out seven days a week to clean rest rooms. ◆ Pet Park revenue summary sheets were distributed and may be found as part of the original minutes. It was noted that April through June amounts were Fiscal Year 2010 and July through September were Fiscal Year 2011 amounts. A true picture of revenue for a full year would not be available until the end of the fiscal year (6-30-11). ◆ Park patrol received some bikes from the Police Department and they have been using the bikes at Eagle Point and on trails – going very well.

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Commissioners had a few general questions about parks: ♦ Commissioner Nadeau asked when are rest rooms shut off for the season? Mr. Fritsch said when it is still ok for the plumbing. Last year a port-a-potty was placed at A.Y. McDonald Park and Bergfeld for the winter. ♦ Commissioner Blocker said several campsites were washed out at Miller Riverview and need some limestone and areas that need re-seeding. Mr. Fritsch said he has been going around the campground with several "regular" campers and making a list of items to improve / maintain the park. ♦ Commissioner Blocklinger asked about the division employee meeting – how did it go? Mr. Fritsch said it went well. Manager Ware collected written comments from all present at the meeting and her, Bob and foremen have had two subsequent meetings to look at ways to improve and be more efficient. There are a couple foremen looking at retirement in the next couple years.

RECREATION
DIVISION
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas updated commissioners:

♦ **A Recreation Division Report for summer 2010** was distributed and may be found as part of the original minutes. Pools had an average year but surprisingly, during August when it was hot and very humid, people stopped coming to the pools; only one doggie dip was held – at Sutton; triathlon numbers were down from last year; family swim pass purchases were down but youth numbers were way up; recreation classes numbers were down a little; playground sites with free lunches served 2,500 over four sites; golf for August was better than 2009 and we are having our best season since 2005. ♦ **Dubuque Bruisers football** has not been able to get the funding they needed to lease a section of FDR Park but they are using Veterans' Memorial park two times a week for practices. ♦ Health and Leisure Services Departments are cooperating to offer the **deer hunt** program again; 60 hunters so far this year have passed the proficiency test. ♦ **Flora Pool** had to close early due to a problem with the pump – 30,000 gallons of water were coming out of the top of the pump so closed Flora and kept Sutton open longer. The doggie dip at Sutton had to be postponed in order to be open for public swimming and it was rescheduled to Monday, August 23rd. The five-year capital improvement budget has money to renovate the pump this year. ♦ **Bunker Hill irrigation:** bids were received for renovation of the golf course irrigation system with the bid going to Midwest Irrigation of East Dubuque. There was \$180,000 budgeted -- \$80,000 from tax support and the balance from golf development fund. The renovation includes replacing pump house to left of #3 green, replacing satellite controller and central controller. ♦ A dirt **BMX bike track** is being constructed at McAleece for teens and young adults, with most of the work being done by volunteers. Commissioner Lyness asked if there was a BMX bike track as part of the Roosevelt Master Plan and Mr. Prevenas said it was a mountain biking area in that plan.

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OTHER
BUSINESS:

Commissioner Blocker asked if there had been an armed robbery at Comiskey Park on one of the movie nights – a citizen asked him to check out the story. Mr. Fritsch said there was a report of a weapon being brandished but the police responded immediately and nobody would talk to them or give them any information so the report was unfounded.

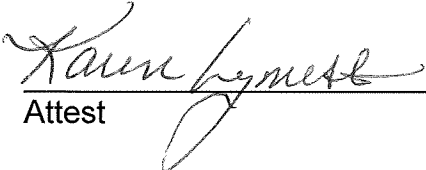
Ken Clayton, campground manager was present to invite commissioners to the campground on October 2nd for the Halloween party and parade. Some of the campers go all out – there is a prize for best costume, best decorated camper, et cetera.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

It was moved by Blocklinger, seconded by Blocker, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:05 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Chairperson



Attest