

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
Tuesday, June 9, 2009
4:30 p.m., Snack Bar, Bunker Hill Golf Course

PRESENT: Tom Blocklinger, Chuck Duggan, Gary Harjehausen, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Evelyn Nadeau

OTHERS: Staff present: Gil Spence, Pat Prevenas and Eileen Trimble

MINUTES APPROVED;
VOTE: It was moved by Blocklinger, seconded by Harjehausen, to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2009, meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON EAGLE POINT PARK 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION: Leisure Services Manager Gil Spence 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 houses; ◆ clowns doing face painting/balloon animals; ◆ will be putting an article in Julien's Journal; ◆ Telegraph Herald will do some articles; ◆ continue to work on historical display; ◆ free cake, cookies and lemonade will be provided.

Commissioner Lyness asked if we would have some posters that commissioners could help get out and suggested we look into having the Colts perform. Commissioner Duggan asked about free admission to the park that day and suggested we have a hot dog vendor selling hot dogs.

It was moved by Blocklinger, seconded by Duggan, that admission to Eagle Point Park be free for the entire day of the anniversary celebration, Sunday, August 2, 2009. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON PET PARK: Manager Spence told commissioners that Councilperson Resnick sent an e-mail to the city manager suggesting a portion of Veterans' Memorial Park by field I be used as a pet park. Mr. Spence said the area is approximately 500' from the apartments and 600' from homes on Balboa Drive. Staff considered this area before but feels since it is only .84 acres it is too small; foul balls could hit dogs or people; winter snow removal would be an issue because we do not normally clear the lot in winter. Commissioner Lyness said dogs would be barking all the time there were activities on the field.

Commissioners reviewed some maps of areas that have been considered for alternative sites. ► **Dubuque Industrial Center West**: the yellow area is up against Middle Road and the dark line by trail is area looked at with 2 x 2 for joint project. ► **McAlece**: there are still talks between ice arena group and USHL. The City Council received a letter from the Yacht Basin lawyer objecting

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to this area being used for a pet park. ► **Thermo Fisher Scientific**: four acres including parking lot so probably about two acres for the park; neighbor withdrew previous objection so this is the leading possibility. Thermo Fisher Scientific was originally willing to lease the area to the city. It should be a reasonable cost – it's somewhat flat and hopefully parking could be worked out with Bowling and Beyond and/or Thermo Fisher Scientific. ► **Triangle on 16th Street** southeast of 15th/bridge: small but city-owned and it has a parking lot, but the city manager feels it is too small an area for people in that end of town. ► **Bluff and Dodge**: long and narrow; state owned; objections about noise going up bluff. ► **Terminal Street** is commercial property and want to save that area for commercial development. ► **Old A.Y. McDonald site**: still waiting on EPA approval and the city is hesitant to invest \$100,000 for only a five-year lease.

Commissioner Lyness asked about commissioners and council members doing a trolley tour of all the above sites. Commissioner Duggan suggested re-opening discussion with Thermo Fisher Scientific and Bowling and Beyond and see what they say first.

UPDATE ON
TRAILS:

Manager Spence told commissioners:

► Trolley Line Trail into Eagle Point Park: the city received a R.E.A.P. grant for this project. The contract was awarded Monday and the work should be done this fall. ► Iowa 32 hike/bike trail: on Northwest Arterial from Kennedy Road to Plaza Drive; bids will be initiated in July and contract awarded in August. ► Bergfeld trail: 1.8 mile addition to current trail around the pond at Industrial Center West.

PARK DIVISION
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch was on vacation. In his absence, Manager Spence updated commissioners:

◆ Division is short 5 full time staff – 1 retirement; 1 with pneumonia, 3 off from surgery/injury. We will be hiring a couple seasonal workers to help out. ◆ Contractor has done additional work on planting beds at Comiskey Park. ◆ Play unit for Burden Park was bid out. ◆ Interviews will be conducted next week to fill the maintenance worker position from Jerry Weber's retirement; Jim Kean will be retiring at the end of July and his vacation will go to the end of September.

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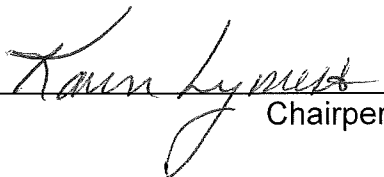
RECREATION
DIVISION
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas updated commissioners:

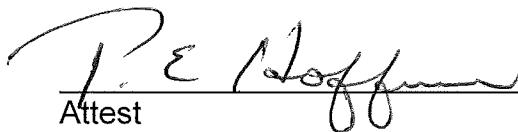
◆ This has been a good spring for golf and the best year since 2005; best May for golf rounds since 2003; weather cooperated. ◆ Not a good spring for pools because the weather has been cool. UV disinfection systems are up and operating at both pools. Pools are 19 and 20 years old; Kevin Grace is doing a great job since we are short staffed. It has been a team effort to get the pools up and running. ◆ Programs start Monday; registration revenue is down 4 to 5% from 2008 but 40% of registrations have been done online.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

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



Chairperson



Attest