

PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

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

PRESENT: Bob Blocker, Paul Hoffmann, Karen Lyness, Evelyn Nadeau and Mark Noble

ABSENT: Tom Blocklinger and Gary Harjehausen

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

MINUTES APPROVED;
VOTE: It was moved by Hoffmann, seconded by Lyness, to approve the minutes of the July 14, 2009, meeting with one correction; Evelyn Nadeau should be added to the "absent" section. The motion passed unanimously.

NARROW THE LIST OF POSSIBLE DOG PARK SITES;
VOTE: Leisure Services Manager Gil Spence reminded commissioners that after having the tour last Friday, the plan was to narrow the list of possible pet park sites to three and then contact all neighbors within 200 feet radius of each site to explore their interest. A public hearing would be scheduled for neighbors and any other interested parties to receive feedback. At the meeting, there would be a station for each park site and citizens could go to each station and write their comments/concerns on the cards provided.

Commissioner Blocklinger was not present but told staff his first choice would be to keep the current park; his second choice would be the site by the bridge. Commissioners Lyness and Nadeau would like to see one large site and two smaller sites. As commissioners went around the table and listed their three top choices, the three sites with the most votes were Industrial Center West property, IDOT property at Dodge and Locust and Thermo Fisher Scientific.

It was moved by Blocker, seconded by Lyness, to recommend the Industrial Center West site, IDOT site at Dodge and Locust and Thermo Fisher Scientific site as the three possible pet park sites for the public hearing. The motion passed unanimously.

UPDATE ON C.I.P. PROJECTS:

Manager Spence informed commissioners:

- Contracts are back for Phase 2 of the Iowa 32 Hike/Bike Trail from Highway 52 to Plaza Drive; project should be completed October 15th.
- Contracts are back for the 1.8 mile trail at Bergfeld which would run from the pond to the east and back to the north, to Pennsylvania Avenue; should be completed by November.
- Rain garden project at Flora Park should hopefully be completed this fall.
- The Department will be working with Dubuque Community School District students to renovate the Bridge Complex pavilions at Eagle Point. We will try to get as close to the original design as possible. When the project is completed, the Bridge Annex North and South will be combined into one rental and just called the Bridge Annex.

continued

REVIEW EAGLE
POINT PARK
100TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch reported the following regarding Eagle Point's 100th birthday celebration:

◆ The day went very well and had great attendance, a lot of families; over 1,500 vehicles entered the park during that time. ◆ The music events were well attended – the band shell was always full. ◆ Had 600 cupcakes – probably could have doubled that number; beautiful decorated cake with picture of Riverfront Pavilion on top. There were also three food vendors selling items. ◆ PowerPoint presentation was running continuously on a laptop and there were historic displays/pictures that were well liked. ◆ Activities included the music events, magic, face painter, bounce houses and balloons.

PARK DIVISION
REPORT:

Park Division Manager Bob Fritsch informed commissioners:

◆ The playground addition at Burden Park has been installed and completed. ◆ Staff is pushing to get caught up this month on replacing mulch around playground equipment in parks, where needed. ◆ Another project for this month is to clean up the Hill/Bryant area and improve the landscaping, et cetera. ◆ Mums will be coming in early September; fall baskets will be coming; will be refurbishing the beds by the Roshek building at the end of the month after the grand opening. ◆ Some of the injured full time staff is now back at work.

RECREATION
DIVISION
REPORT:

Recreation Division Manager Pat Prevenas informed commissioners:

◆ Summer programs ended last week. ◆ This was the best July for golf in five years. ◆ This was the worst July for pools since they opened and the third worst June.

OTHER
BUSINESS:


Vendors in Eagle Point Park: Mr. Fritsch mentioned that some of the vendors at the Eagle Point birthday celebration asked about the possibility of allowing food vendors in the park on a regular basis. Some of the questions would be what type of items – food only? Where in the park would they be located – tent? Would this be something that would have to go through the City Council? Would it be put out for bids? Mr. Fritsch will investigate further.

ADJOURN;
VOTE:

It was moved by Hoffmann, seconded by Lyness, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:20 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.



Chairperson



Attest