

**MINUTES**  
**Recreation Advisory Commission**  
**Wednesday, November 7, 2012 – 5:30 p.m.**  
**City Hall – Lower Level Conference Room**

**Members Present:** Janell Kassel, Greg Harper, Al Wagner, Kim Warren, Dana Kraft, and Brad Bark

**Members Absent:** Tim Riley

**Staff Present:** Rich Klimes and Mark Even

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

*Motion to approve minutes of the August 1, 2012 regular meeting. Moved by Harper. Second by Wagner. All ayes; motion carries.*

**Update – Golf Course Irrigation Project:**

Klimes stated construction started Monday on the double row fairway irrigation project. The final cost of the project will be a little over \$300,000 and is being funded by an internal loan with the City. The project should be completed in four to five weeks. There will be some closure on the course during this time. Klimes stated all golfers are being told this when they arrive at the course.

**Update – Lagoon Shelter Project**

Klimes stated Leadership Muscatine established the Lagoon Shelter project and raised \$22,000 from the community to replace the shelter. The project is complete and the shelter has been elevated so water no longer runs through it. Harper asked if they intend on putting a sidewalk from the Lagoon Shelter to the Aquatic Center. Klimes stated not at this time. Harper asked when it will be open for usage. Klimes stated as soon as the sod has set.

**Update – Phase III Development Project**

Bark stated he gave a speech on Monday at the Rotary Club to about seventy or eighty people. The main questions he received were on parking. Also, many people liked the idea of having a track around the facility. He informed the group that other activities may take place there besides sporting events.

Klimes stated the Recreation Advisory Commission will be hearing more about this project soon. The Phase III Development Committee is currently working on getting grants for funding. People are also going to be sending letters to the editor. The entire community can benefit from this.

**Update – Weed Park Central Corridor Project**

Klimes stated contact has been made with a large corporation for funding for the Weed Park Central Corridor Project. The idea of the project is to put a restroom and new shelter in the middle of the park. Bark stated it would be nice to expand on the Aquatic Center. Kassel stated she spoke to some citizens and they would like to see the old tennis courts go. Klimes asked the committee to go survey the area and get some ideas for the project.

### **Discussion – Greenwood Cemetery Markers**

Klimes informed the committee there is a gentleman in town that would like to donate money to fix damaged markers. In order to fix the stones, staff will have to stand stones up and put frost free footers in. Warren asked how many stones need fixed. Klimes stated hundreds need repaired and it will take a lot of staff time to complete. Harper asked if there is some other marker that would be cost effective if the stones are not legible. Klimes stated the department would like to create an early settlers marker and place all names on it. Kraft stated she liked the idea of placing all names on one marker. By consensus, the Commission felt strongly that all graves that currently have markers should continue to have the grave marked.

### **Discussion – Playground Surfacing**

Klimes stated the Playground Project started about ten years ago when all playground surfaces were replaced with rubber surfacing. Musser Park, Weed Park, and Fuller Park's rubber surfacing now needs repaired or replaced. It will cost about \$60,000 to repair Weed Park with rubber in itself. Klimes asked the committee if they had an opinion on replacing the surfing with synthetic turf or fixing the existing rubber. Warren asked how much it would cost to replace with synthetic turf. Klimes stated he did not know yet, but should know by budget time.

### **Discussion – Downtown Planting Plan**

Even stated he had a meeting today with Gregg Mandsager, Les Dennis, and Rich Klimes, in regards to filling the downtown beds with plants and trees. The idea of the plan is to achieve uniformity throughout the downtown area. It will cost about \$25,000 to \$50,000 to fix all existing planting beds. Klimes asked the committee their thoughts on the plan. Bark stated it would be a great asset to the downtown area. Kassel stated she thinks it is a great idea but isn't sure what businesses will think. Klimes informed the committee door knockers will be placed at businesses advising them to contact the Parks and Recreation Department if they have any questions. Warren asked if the department plans on meeting with downtown businesses to get their opinions. Klimes stated the department will look into community information resources to get the message across to the public.

### **Other Business**

Wagner stated a gentleman contacted him recently requesting geocaches being placed in Greenwood Cemetery. Wagner informed the man he may put some in back by the trees, however, he did not want them around the stones.

Klimes handed out last fiscal year's budget to the Commission. Please review the budget before next months meeting.

### **Next Meeting Date:**

The next meeting will be held at City Hall in the lower level conference room at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, December 5, 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shaw  
Office Coordinator