

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

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Rich Klimes, Les Dennis, Matt Beatty, Randy Moeller, Dan McGinn, and Nick Gow

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

Motion to approve minutes of the November 7, 2012 regular meeting. Moved by Kraft. Second by Bark. All ayes; motion carries.

Presentation – Administration Budget

Klimes handed out performance measures for the Administration Division. Rentals for shelters, the Riverview Center, and the Pearl City Station increased significantly for the year.

Presentation – Park Maintenance Budget

Dennis gave an overview of the Park Maintenance Division. Accomplishments for the division were: Lagoon Shelter Project with Leadership Muscatine, new park sign at Taylor Park, new basketball surface at Lucas Park, assisted Public Works with weed control on airport runways, and stump grinding throughout the parks. In addition to daily operations, some goals for next year are: continue stump grinding, replace the restroom roofs on the riverfront, continue to clear disc golf course, and replace trees and grates throughout the downtown area.

Presentation - Cemetery

Dennis discussed the Cemetery Division. Accomplishments for the year were: fixed 45 stone markers, stump grinding throughout the Cemetery, painted street signs over the summer, and addressed drainage issues. In addition to daily operations, some goals for next year are: continue painting signs, remodel restrooms in the Chapel, and have map made of water service for the Cemetery.

Presentation – Right of Way Mowing/Street Trees Program

Dennis briefly discussed the Right of Ways and Street Trees Program.

Presentation – Boat Harbor

Dennis handed out performance measures for the boat harbor. There was a significant jump in boat slip rentals for the year. Accomplishments for the year were reconfiguring the docks to make things more uniformed. The staff plans on doing more maintenance to the docks in the future.

Presentation - Marina

Dennis discussed the marina operations. Kassel asked why there was such a drastic change in diesel from 2010 to 2011. Dennis stated Tom Meeker purchased a lot of diesel fuel that year.

Presentation – Recreation

Beatty discussed the Recreation Division. We are starting to offer more programs, which are self supporting. All direct costs are covered by attendance and sponsorships. A new event we will be offering is the Candy Cane Hunt on the riverfront next to the basketball courts. This will be held on Friday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. and is free for all children due to sponsorships. There will be refreshments for all who attend. Musco, MP&W, and First National Bank have donated flashlights for the event as well.

Presentation – Pools

Beatty handed out performance measures for the pools. Staff was recently directed to begin a phase out of the Carver Swim Center contract. Therefore, we will no longer be using Carver Swim Center. All swimming lessons have been moved to the Aquatic Center. Klimes stated the department has been in collaboration with Muscatine High School since 1981 in regards to Carver Swim Center. There are some people who are not happy with this decision. Beatty stated the Aquatic Center numbers increased considerably for the year. Season passes, as well as, scholarship passes were up too. Children qualify for scholarship passes if they are on free and reduced lunches at school, which means they can get in for \$1. Klimes stated if they can demonstrate they can't afford it then they get in free. The scholarship passes were a requirement from Carver Trust in order to receive the grant. Kassel asked how much it costs for pool rentals. Beatty stated for an hour and a half pool rental it would cost \$150 for residents and \$175 for non residents.

Beatty stated in this year's budget he is requesting money to replace fabric on the awnings. Also, ADA has changed their rules for compliance. By January 31st, all pools will be required to have lifts and handicap accessible stairwells. It will cost about \$7,500 total to install. The pool will also need to be repainted. This is done about every five years and will cost \$25,000. Lastly, we are requesting money to purchase an inflatable aqua track. It is removable and would be used for special events. The total cost for the aqua track would be \$10,000.

Presentation – Wellness

Beatty discussed wellness operations. The wellness program is for city employees and is funded by insurance funds. Spouses may participate in activities at half price. We also offer an Employee Assistance Program to all employees. We will continue to look for more opportunities to increase overall health of employees.

Presentation – Kent Stein Park

Gow discussed Kent Stein operations and performance measures. Due to good weather conditions, the park stayed open all season long which increased usage. Muscatine Soccer Club also started holding practices on outfields in the fall. In 1997 the Muscatine Community College and the Muscatine Community School District took over maintenance procedures at Tom Bruner Field. However, this year they requested our assistance which increased total revenues. In addition to daily operations, goals for next year are: replace chain link fences which are a safety hazard, try to get all ball diamonds on control link with Musco, and possibly develop a multi-purpose area in the park. We are requesting money in the budget to purchase fence ground covers to keep balls from escaping the diamonds.

Presentation – Soccer Complex

Gow discussed Soccer Complex operations and performance measures. Numbers will decrease a bit due to the girls state soccer tournament no longer being held here. Kassel asked why they

decided not to hold the tournament in Muscatine. Klimes stated he thinks the decision was made based on location. Gow stated accomplishments for the year were placing drainage around fields 7 and 8. There has been a large reduction in standing water on the fields due to this. In next year's budget we are requesting money to resod areas where there was poa annua.

Presentation – Golf Clubhouse

McGinn handed out performance measures for the clubhouse. Some numbers are estimates due to the clubhouse still being open. There were very few rainouts which made for great rounds. We need 8 more rounds to hit 34,000 rounds for the year. Beer sales increased significantly as well. Kraft asked why there was such a drop in food and beverage sales. McGinn stated the clubhouse isn't selling as much pop as they used to. Beer also has a bit more of a markup than pop. Riley asked if the simulator usage was down due to more rounds outside. McGinn stated he believes that is partly the reason. Another reason is due to the fact it's not as new, therefore, people aren't as eager to play it.

Presentation – Golf Maintenance

Moeller discussed golf maintenance operations. Accomplishments for the year were: completed #3 Tee Box Project, #9 tee box was leveled out, and drilled new wells due to both going dry during the summer. The Fairway Irrigation Project is currently in progress. They have completed the back 9 and hole number 1 so far. In addition to daily operations, future projects we would like to complete would be leveling out #15 tee box and cart path repairs. We would also like to purchase a driving range cement pad to put down in the spring time when grass isn't growing.

Other Business

Beatty stated next Saturday the Parks and Recreation Department will be holding the Elves Workshop from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at the Pearl City Station.

Motion to approve the fiscal year 2013/2014 Parks and Recreation Department budgets as presented. Moved by Bark. Second by Warren. All ayes; motion carries.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held at the Muscatine Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse at 5:30 P.M. on Wednesday, January 2, 2013.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shaw
Office Coordinator