

MINUTES
Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, July 10, 2013 – 5:30 p.m.
City Hall – Lower Level Conference Room

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

Members Absent: Tim Riley and Dana Kraft

Staff Present: Rich Klimes and Les Dennis

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

Selection of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Wagner moved to elect Greg Harper as Chairperson and Kim Warren as Vice-Chairperson. Second by Bark. All ayes; motion carries.

Motion to approve minutes of the March 6, 2013 regular meeting. Moved by Warren. Second by Wagner. All ayes; motion carries.

Request – City fund and repair Cemetery steps

Klimes stated the staff is currently working on creating the five year Capital Improvement Plan. This will be presented to the Recreation Advisory Commission once completed.

Klimes stated there is now interest in repairing the Cemetery steps. Mike Lawrence informed the Committee he is here to represent Bob Bromwell who is currently in the hospital. Lawrence stated Bromwell started an online petition to get interest from anyone in Muscatine who would like to see the Cemetery steps repaired. Lawrence presented Klimes with the petition.

Joseph Preston stated he lives at 1022 Climer Street which is within walking distance of the Cemetery. Preston shared memories from the past when the Cemetery steps were open. Preston stated if the steps being closed can prevent vandalism and things of that nature maybe we should keep them closed.

Bob Bynum stated this is his eighth year on City Council and every year we get phone calls from citizens about opening the steps. Every year the City says find the money and we will repair them. Bynum stated we can never find the money to do this. Maybe we need to get a committee together to raise money for the project.

Klimes stated they need a recommendation from the Commission to move forward in regards to this. Kassel stated she's never seen the steps and would like to do so before making a recommendation.

Commission Member Kassel motioned to table the request until next Commission meeting so the Commission has an opportunity to visit the site. Seconded by Commission Member Wagner. All ayes; motion carries.

Request – Modify Provisions for use of the Parks and Recreation Trust

Klimes gave background information on the Parks and Recreation Trust to the Commission. Klimes stated the safety surfacing on the Weed Park Playground needs replaced and it has been requested that we use the Parks and Recreation Trust money to repair it.

Klimes asked the Commission if they concurred with the recommendation. Kassel stated she thinks it's a great way to spend the money.

Commission Member Wagner motioned to modify provisions of the Parks and Recreation Trust. Seconded by Commission Member Bark. All ayes; motion carries.

Other Business

Peggy Gordon stated the Dog Park Committee is starting to fundraise for the Dog Park project. This fall you will see lots of activity in regards to this. Klimes stated the Dog Park Committee is not requesting to use City property at this time. Klimes stated the Parks and Recreation Department will keep the Commission informed once more information is available on the project.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shaw
Office Coordinator