

MINUTES
Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, September 7, 2016 – 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

Members Present: Angie Haller, Brad Bark, Dana Kraft, Kim Warren, Tim Riley and Greg Harper

Members Absent: Al Wagner

Staff Present: Rich Klimes and Nick Gow

Guests Present: John Hintermeister, Julie Hintermeister, Ajay Srookanth, Sara Carroll, Blaine Carroll, Melanie Steckel, Carol Ward, Sheila Allison, Brenda Meineke, Kevin Jenison and Julie Edmonds

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

Motion to approve minutes of the July 13, 2016 regular meeting. Moved by Harper. Second by Warren. All ayes; motion carries.

Presentation – Pickleball Request

Carroll gave a brief presentation on Pickleball that included a video presentation and a handout. A petition was given to the Commission with 80 signatures in support of pickleball in Muscatine. Commission members noted that many of the signatures had Quad City addresses.

Klimes asked the Pickleball group what they were requesting of the City and of the Recreation Advisory Commission. Carroll responded that he wanted the support and development of Pickleball courts in the Muscatine Park System.

Ward handed out a petition from the Great River Tennis Association thanking the City and the Muscatine Parks and Recreation Department for providing and maintaining great tennis courts in Muscatine. There were roughly 80 signatures on the petition with almost all from Muscatine.

Carroll stated that he did not believe that all the tennis courts were needed for tennis and that some should be converted into Pickleball courts.

Klimes gave a summary of how many tennis courts were in the Park System and how there has been a decrease over the years in available tennis courts to play on.

Steckel from the Community Y stated that Pickleball provided by the City will not be a conflict as long as the events were coordinated.

Commission Member Kraft motioned to approve pickleball court development on City property as long as it is not on current open tennis courts, does not displace current usage groups, and has an approved concept plan with an identified funding source. Seconded by Commission Member Haller. No further discussion. All ayes; motion carries.

Klimes requested the organization of a development group comprising of (2) two members of the Tennis Association and (2) two members of the Pickleball group. Both groups said they would provide representation for the committee.

Presentation – Weed Park Master Plan

Klimes distributed and discussed the City's current (5) five year Capital Improvement Plan which included the individual components of the Weed Park Master Plan.

Update – Greenwood Cemetery Steps

Klimes stated the Friends of Greenwood Cemetery Steps group said they have raised enough money to continue with the project. Klimes will meet with them on Friday to discuss a concept plan and cost estimate.

Update – Dog Park

Klimes stated the Dog Park Committee will seed the designated area this Fall. The group will be responsible for maintaining it until they have raised all funding for the project.

Update – R.E.A.P. Grant Project

Klimes gave an update on the phases of the R.E.A.P. Grant Project. The final two phases which are to rip-rap the harbor and to replace the long dock are on hold due to high water.

Update – RAGBRAI – Post Event Review

Klimes asked the Commission if they had any comments, questions or concerns regarding RAGBRAI. Commission members said they heard very positive comments in regards to the event. Riders were in favor of the new route and would love to come back more often.

Discussion – Code of Ethics

Klimes distributed and discussed the Code of Ethics with the Commission and requested that they sign the agreement.

Selection of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Warren moved to elect Brad Bark as Chairperson. Riley moved to elect Dana Kraft as Vice-Chairperson. Second by Harper. All ayes; motion carries.

Other Business

Klimes discussed the following:

- Deer Hunt proficiency test schedule
- Soccer Club Tournament results
- MHS 5K Run Weed Park
- Aquatic Center attendance results
- Boat Show results from Labor Day Weekend
- Day of Caring Project Schedule

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Rexroth
Office Coordinator