

MINUTES
Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, December 7th, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.
City Hall – Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present: Kim Seligman, Larry Buster, Greg Harper, Jennifer Livermore, Janell Kassel

Members Absent: Tim Riley and Steve Brown

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

Motion to approve minutes of the November 2, 2011 regular meeting. Moved by Seligman.
Second by Kassel. All ayes; motion carries.

Motion to approve minutes of the November 9, 2011 special meeting. Moved by Livermore.
Second by Harper. All ayes; motion carries.

Klimes discussed the request for Melon City Criterium to use Weed Park on May 27th, 2012. Harper removed himself from the vote. Klimes stated if this request is endorsed tonight, it will go next week to City Council for approval. Harper explained what the event consisted of. See flyer. Buster asked how much money is pumped into the economy from this. Harper stated it costs \$50 per person and there are about 400 riders. He stated that he tries to get the riders to stay in Muscatine over the weekend, which fills up many hotels.

Motion to approve the request for Melon City Criterium to use Weed Park on May 27th, 2012.
Moved by Livermore. Second by Seligman. All ayes; motion carries.

Livermore asked group to move on to second request, which is the use of Weed Park for the Hon Picnic on August 19th, 2012. Klimes discussed Hon's annual picnic. He stated the public cannot access Weed Park or the Aquatic Center on this day. If this request is approved it will be taken to City Council next week. Harper asked the times. Klimes stated they would have the park from 9

AM to 4PM. Harper asked if they pay a fee. Klimes stated yes they do, per head. Livermore asked if anyone had questions. There were none.

Motion to approve Hon's request for the use of Weed Park on August 19th, 2012 with the understanding the park will be closed for the day. Moved by Seligman. Second by Livermore. All ayes; motion carries.

Presentation – Department FY 12/13 Budget Request

Klimes stated each supervisor is going to walk the committee through their budgets.

➤ Park Administration

Klimes discussed the Administration department. He stated the total expenditures for this division for the FY 10/11 was roughly \$2.4 million. Total revenue for the division was roughly \$1.35 million. Harper asked if the committee could see hard copies of the budgets. Klimes explained that that was done in the past and the committee decided they no longer wanted to receive them. He stated he would be happy to go over them in his office anytime though.

➤ Recreation

Beatty discussed the recreation department. He stated the goal is to find new activities and seek out sponsors. He stated last years budget was \$116,000. This years budget he is requesting \$120,000.

➤ Pools

Beatty discussed the pools. He stated they hire and train at least 60 staff members a year. He stated June and July are the busiest months for the Aquatic Center. He informed the group that the Aquatic Center brought in 10,000 people in June and 20,000 people in July. The Aquatic Center also had 87 rentals this summer. Beatty stated that last years budget was \$187,000. This years budget he is requesting \$181,000. He stated the decrease in the budget is due to the phase out of Carver Swim Center over the next three years.

➤ Park Maintenance

Dennis gave an overview of the Park Maintenance and Cemetery. He stated that Greenwood Cemetery averages 100 burials a year. He also stated there were 25 community events throughout the parks this year.

➤ Right of Way Mowing and Street Trees Program

Even discussed mowing, the Street Trees Program, and the Rose Garden. He discussed how much time and effort it takes to maintain the Rose Garden, which they renovated this year. He also discussed the deer hunt. He stated they have already removed 42 deer this year, which has surpassed last years numbers.

➤ Kent Stein

Gow discussed Kent Stein. He stated that sometimes baseball fields are used for soccer practices, due to not enough space. He also stated softball field #4 received field of the year in Iowa. He talked about how Plamor Lanes is now doing the concessions. He stated concession revenues went up about \$30,000 due to this change. He stated requests for Kent Stein's budget this year involve fencing and more lighting.

➤ Soccer Complex

Gow discussed the Soccer Complex. He stated in 1995 and 2001 the complex received National Soccer Complex of the Year, which is the only complex to receive this award twice. He stated that 80,000 to 100,000 people attend the complex every year. He also stated concession revenues went up almost \$4,000. He talked about usage groups and stated there were 250 more usages this year. He discussed his requests for next years budget. He stated field #3 is infested with an unsafe grass called poa annua and will need to be resodded. He stated there is a drainage issue by fields 7 and 8 that need to be addressed. He talked about some land that has been donated to the department. He stated there could be a multi use facility built here.

➤ Golf Course Maintenance

Moeller discussed maintenance of the facilities at the Golf Course. He talked about how they have added cart paths to limit damage to the grass. He stated they also did some tee box renovations. His requests for this years budget are replacing old cart paths, more tee box renovations, and replacement of old equipment.

➤ Golf Course Club House

McGinn discussed Club House operations at the Golf Course. He stated revenue is down about \$50,000 this year. He stated they lost around 1800 rounds of golf in March and April. He stated season pass holders were down as well. Kassel asked if he considered changing the season pass holder prices. McGinn stated they haven't changed much over the past few years. Klimes stated they also have the golf simulator at the club house, which generates more money than is spent on it.

➤ Wellness

Beatty discussed wellness for city employees. He stated this will be evaluated this year since it is being transitioned over to him.

Other Business

Klimes discussed the Phase III Committee and introduced the members. He stated anyone can attend the meetings. He stated the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 20th, at 5:30 p.m.

Seligman stated her husband and her will be moving to Northeast Iowa in the middle of January. She stated she will be resigning due to this. She thanked everyone for the opportunity to be a part of the committee.

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting will be held at the Muscatine Municipal Golf Course Clubhouse at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4th, 2012.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Shaw
Office Coordinator