

PARKS, WATERWAYS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES – 06/15/16

The Cedar Rapids Parks, Waterways & Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at City Services Center, 500 15th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

PRESENT: Jeff McLaugh, Don Clow, Chris Thoms, Jackie Thompson-Oster, Darrel Wridler, Debbie Schroeder, Mary Lee Malmberg, Ron Gonder

STAFF: Sven Leff, Daniel Gibbins, Lisa Miller, Angie Cole, June Schumacher

ABSENT: Bill Unger, Felicia Wyrick, Michelle Barker

1. Meeting called to order at 7:33 am.
2. Chris Thoms motioned to approve the 05/17/16 Minutes, Don Clow seconded, Minutes approved as written.
3. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
 - a. Family Fun Day – Jackie reported that the event is coming along nicely and everyone is excited about it. The expected approximate amount raised for the scholarship program is \$3,000. Jason from VenuWorks is doing a nice job getting sponsorships. Jackie stated that she was still in need of a few pop up tents to protect from the heat. Jeff McLaugh volunteered to bring 2. June will check with Gail regarding t-shirts from I'm a Parks & Rec Kid campaign being provided for the Parks & Recreation representatives to wear. The event is really showing momentum.
 - b. Sven reported on the Color Run event that he and his daughter along with Dee McLaugh volunteered to work the water station. There were approximately 1600 runners.
5. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Thank you Ron Gonder – Sven Leff thanked Ron Gonder for his 20 years of service to the various commissions of Parks & Recreation. This is Ron's last meeting as a commission member. Sven also reported that Barb Hannon had resigned from the commission and he is looking into a replacement for that appointment.
 - b. Harbor Plan Review – A construction plan for an addition to a boathouse was submitted by Nick Nguyen, harbor tenant. Don Clow motioned to approve with the clarification that the 16' height is measured from the bottom of the frame to the highest peak. Chris Thoms seconded, motion carried.
 - c. Park & Recreation Facility Inventory – Sven showed the photos of various parks taken so far by commission members. It was suggested that trails be added to the inventory list. Chris Thoms suggested that signage be added to Cherokee Park for natural areas for the purpose of public education.
6. **REPORTS:**
 - a. Sports Tourism Report:
 - The Great Race will be rolling into the Downtown on 6/25 beginning around 4 p.m. The classic cars will be on display on the Third Avenue Bridge. GO Cedar Rapids was able to partner this event with the Freedom Festival.
 - Mary Lee gave the Regions Archery tournament director from Florida a tour of the Linn County Fairgrounds and adjacent Wakpica Natural Area for a potential stop on the 2017 3D Archery Bowhunters Pro/Am Tour. The tour took place on 6/15/16.
 - This month Iowa USSSA will be holding two state youth baseball tournaments at Tait Cummins Sports Park and other area facilities.
 - GoCR has submitted a proposal with Mount Mercy University and the Cascade Collegiate Conference to jointly host the NAIA Men's & Women's Cross Country Nationals. It would be held in the Pacific Northwest in 2017 and 2019 and at Seminole Valley XC Course in 2018 and 2020 if the event is awarded to them. Decision will be made by November.

- b. Director's Report – The Director's Report was distributed via e-mail. Sven updated the members on the ADA process.
 - c. Council Report – None – Susie not in attendance.
 - d. Public Input – Public comment was heard at this time.
 - d. Commissions Report/Agenda Items: Jackie Thompson-Oster reported on the Cedar Rapids Parks Foundation work and asked for members to give a tax deductible contribution for startup costs.
 - e. Angie Cole updated the commission on the incident at the Cherry Hill Aquatic Center.
7. Motion to adjourn, Chris Thoms, seconded by Darrel Wridner – Meeting adjourned 9:00 am.

NEXT MEETING –Tuesday, July 19, 2016 at 7:30 AM – City Services Center – Five Seasons Conference Room – 1st Floor.

Respectfully submitted, June Schumacher