

PARKS, WATERWAYS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES – 07/19/16

The Cedar Rapids Parks, Waterways & Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, July 19, 2016 at City Services Center, 500 15th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

PRESENT: Jeff McLaugh, Don Clow, Jackie Thompson-Oster, Darrel Wridler, Debbie Schroeder, Bill Unger, Lindsey Podzimek, Becky Stonawski

STAFF: Sven Leff, Daniel Gibbins, Gail Loskill, June Schumacher

ABSENT: Felicia Wyrick, Michelle Barker, Chris Thoms, Mary Lee Malmberg

1. Meeting called to order at 7:34 am.
2. Jackie Thompson-Oster motioned to approve the 06/21/16 Minutes, Don Clow seconded, minutes approved as written.
3. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
4. New Member Welcome: Sven introduced and welcomed Lindsey Podzimek and Becky Stonawski to the Commission.
5. Election of Officers: Jackie Thompson-Oster nominated Jeff McLaugh to continue as Chair, Don Clow seconded, motion carried. Jeff McLaugh nominated Felicia Wyrick to continue as Vice Chair, Jackie Thompson-Oster seconded, motion carried. Deb Schroeder nominated Don Clow to continue as Secretary, Jackie Thompson-Oster seconded motion carried.

Officers are: Jeff McLaugh, Chair, Felicia Wyrick Vice-Chair & Don Clow as Secretary.

6. OLD BUSINESS:

- a. Family Fun Day – Jackie reported on the event and thanked everyone who volunteered that day. The event raised approximately \$2500 and Jackie will be attending the wrap up meeting with VenuWorks. It was better attended than last year and Jackie feels that there can still be some adjustments to improve it. Special thanks to Bill Unger for reading the instruction manual for the waste water display. The insurance policy for the inflatables was discussed as that is the reason they backed out. There seems to be a need for clarification regarding the insurance issue. Josh Loeffler from VenuWorks reported that they are looking at the entire BBQ Roundup event to see where it can improve. The ground layout has been a challenge so that will also be reviewed. Jackie requested a September meeting with Josh. October 1 is a target date to have everything locked up.
- b. Scholarship request – June Schumacher presented the request from Four Oaks Total Child for a family swim pass for one of their families. Due to the time of year the request is being made, June suggested that the Commission approve two (2) punch passes which would provide 32 swimming opportunities. The pass could be reloaded if they use all of the punches. Bill Unger motioned to accept the recommendation, Darrel Wridler seconded, motion carried.

7. NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Athletic Venues and Recommendations – Sven handed out a list of current athletic venues. The discussion centered around how to make these venues better as well as determining what the users want. Bill Unger suggested getting input from the user groups to find out what they perceive to be missing. Becky suggested identifying the users and setting up a Survey Monkey. Daniel asked what the end goal for this information would be. It would not be good to get all the feedback but not be able to enhance or provide those things being identified due to funding constraints. The conversation needs to start with Mary Lee and possibly the Economic Alliance. Jackie stated she would be willing to be involved in that conversation. Bill Unger also stated that he felt the City was missing opportunities for golf events that were going to other area courses.

Would this be something that could be discussed with Mary Lee so the Cedar Rapids courses could possibly get those events?

b. FY17 Budget Initiatives – Sven distributed the FY17 Budget Initiatives and discussed.

8. REPORTS:

a. Sports Tourism Report: Mary Lee absent – No Report.

b. Director's Report – The Director's Report was distributed via e-mail. The NW Recreation Center ribbon cutting will be Thursday, August 25th at 3:00 pm.

c. Council Report – None – Susie not in attendance.

d. Public Input – No public comment.

c. Commissions Report/Agenda Items: Don Clow reported that the Five Seasons Ski Team has 6 shows remaining as well as some ski schools. The July 3rd fireworks had 40,000+ in attendance and the cleanup went great.

9. Motion to adjourn, Don Clow, seconded by Bill Unger – Meeting adjourned 9:07 am.

NEXT MEETING –Tuesday, August 16, 2016 at 7:30 AM – City Services Center – Five Seasons Conference Room – 1st Floor.

Respectfully submitted, June Schumacher