

PARKS, WATERWAYS & RECREATION COMMISSION MINUTES – 10/18/16

The Cedar Rapids Parks, Waterways & Recreation Commission met on Tuesday, October 18, 2016 at City Services Center, 500 15th Ave. SW, Cedar Rapids, IA 52404.

PRESENT: Jeff McLaughlin, Jackie Thompson-Oster, Darrel Wridler, Bill Unger, Don Clow, Chris Thoms (phone), Mary Lee Malmberg, Felicia Wyrick, Debbie Schroeder, Lindsey Podzimek
STAFF: Sven Leff, Lisa Miller, June Schumacher
ABSENT: Michelle Barker, Becky Stonawski

1. Meeting called to order at 7:35 am.
2. Don Clow motioned to approve the 09/20/16 Minutes, Bill Unger seconded, minutes approved as written.
3. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
4. **OLD BUSINESS:**
5. **NEW BUSINESS:**
 - a. Organization Assistance Application – Kids on Course submitted an application for assistance with programs. The amount of the request is for 50% reduction in programs throughout the year, however, the cost with the reduced pricing was still significantly more than the maximum allotted. After discussion as to how we can still help provide programming for this organization, Bill Unger moved to give Kids on Course the \$500 maximum at the 50% reduction rate with the ability to request another \$500 once that is depleted. Felicia Wyrick seconded, motioned carried.
 - b. Flood Impact – Sven reported on the impact from the flood on Parks & Recreation locations and facilities. The city did a great job preparing for this flood event. The most impacted areas were Jones Golf, Ellis Harbor, Ushers Ferry, Seminole, Amphitheatre, and Ellis Softball. Ellis Harbor will have substantial electrical repairs. Will need to get a quote for that. The total estimate for repairs for the department is \$500,000. Jones Golf Course will be the most costly due to loss of revenue. Jones and Cheyenne Dog Park remain closed. Ushers Ferry is cleaning up the buildings that took on water but not doing anything with electrical. The harbor has no electricity at this time.
 - c. FY18 Budget & Fees – Sven reported that it would be a net even budget for FY18. Parks & Recreation will submit two operations funding requests: 1) Minimum Wage increase for approximately \$111,000 and 2) Department of Labor “Final Rule” increases of \$26,000 in overtime. Also requested is \$425,000 in CIP funds for trails, pools, and Forestry tree plantings. Chris Thoms asked about the maintenance mowing budget. Daniel Gibbins reported that he had a rate model done on our mowing using our seasonal crews and we can actually mow for approximately \$20/hr. If that were to be contracted out it would cost \$40/hr. Daniel also gave an overview on the decisions regarding the mowing process and locations. Lindsey reported that the skate park was in need of some repairs including new welds.

Fees: Angie Cole presented the recreation fees. Lisa Miller presented the golf fees. Jackie Thompson-Oster stated the harbor fees seem to be low. There are ADA issues and repairs that need to be addressed at the Harbor. Sven reported that those fees may be revisited once estimates on these things come in.

6. **REPORTS:**
 - a. Sports Tourism Report:
 - The NAIA decided to follow the NCAA’s example and voted to move the Men’s & Women’s Cross Country Nationals out of North Carolina. They championship is scheduled to take place November 19, 2016. Originally Mount Mercy said they would be willing to take on the event with short notice if it had to be moved. However, the opportunity came right as the Cedar River was cresting. Due to the circumstances Mount Mercy felt it was in best interest of all parties to decline the offer. We are still waiting on the decision for the 2018 & 2020 championships.

- Registration has opened for the GO CR Fat Sac & Fox Enduro Ride December 9-10.
<https://www.bikereg.com/gocrfatbike>
 - b. Director's Report – The Director's Report was distributed via e-mail.
 - c. Public Input – There was no public input.
 - d. Commissions Report/Agenda Items: The Parks crew did a great job on the flood. Felicia reported the Friends of Cedar Lake was tweaking the Master Plan. Don Clow reported that Cedar Lake got to 14'. Jackie reported the Cedar Rapids Parks Foundation obtained their 501(c)3 status and are moving forward. Jeff McLaud reported that he was proud of the city and staff, they really stepped up during the flood.
7. Motion to adjourn, Don Clow, seconded by Felicia Wyrick – Meeting adjourned at 9:15 am.

NEXT MEETING –Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 7:30 AM – City Services Center – Five Seasons Conference Room – 1st Floor.

Respectfully submitted, June Schumacher