



STATUS & INFORMATION REPORT

*This report includes a schedule of next week's meetings for elected officials. We cannot assure that all meetings are noted, since not all meetings are coordinated through City offices. This calendar is **not** an official posting.*

MEETING CALENDAR

<u>Monday, May 14</u>	6:30pm	Harbor Neighborhood Association meeting, (<i>Time Check Recreation Center, 1131-5th Street NW</i>)
	6:30pm	CR Neighborhoods Board Meeting, (<i>St Wenceslaus Resource Center, 1230-5th St SE</i>)
	7:00pm	Kenwood Park Neighborhood Association Meeting, (<i>Kenwood Park United Methodist Church, 175 34th Street NE</i>)
	7:00pm	Oak Hill Jackson Neighborhood Association, (<i>St. Wenceslaus Resource Center, 1230-5th Street SE</i>)
<u>Tuesday, May 15</u>	Noon	Urban Fishery Brown Bag, (<i>Council Chambers</i>)
	5:00pm	Financial Planning Meeting, (<i>Council Chambers</i>)
	7:00pm	Cedar Valley Neighborhood Association, (<i>Cedar Valley Park</i>)
	7:00pm	Linn County Emergency Management Meeting
<u>Wednesday, May 16</u>	6:00pm	Council Meeting, (<i>Council Chambers</i>)
<u>Thursday, May 17</u>	1:30pm	Employee Meeting with Jim Prosser, (<i>4th Floor Conf. Rm.</i>)
	5:00pm	Enhance Our Neighborhoods, (<i>Time Check Recreation Center, 1131-5th Street NW</i>)
	5:00pm	Convention & Visitors Bureau 2007 Recognition Reception, (<i>CR Kernels Stadium</i>)
<u>Friday, May 18</u>	10:00am	Economic Development Task Force Meeting, (<i>Council Chambers</i>)
<u>Saturday, May 19</u>	10:00am	Enhance Our Neighborhoods, (<i>Horizons, 819-5th Street SE</i>)

EMPLOYEE FEEDBACK COMMITTEE – The mission of the Employee Feedback Committee is to cultivate better communication between front-line employees and Supervisors, Department Directors and/or Management. Encouraging suggestions from front-line employees can help provide efficiency and effectiveness. The Committee reports communication problems within departments to the City Manager.

The Committee works to create effective communication between all employees. Effective communication is vital to excellent performance. When people communicate well in the workplace, their exchanges are likely to produce mutual understanding, agreement, and action. Poor communication can result in confusion, misdirection and unfulfilled goals.

The Committee will strive to assure employees their voice is heard and their ideas are being considered. A few options for sharing ideas/suggestions include direct communication with a Supervisor, Department Director or Management, and/or completing an Employee Feedback Suggestion form which is available on the intranet. Any communication provided by employees is considered confidential.

While the Committee has no authority to make decisions regarding systems, structures, or services, it will stay true to the mission - to foster communication and provide employee ideas, suggestions and recommendations to City management.

FIRE - The Battalion Chiefs and Captain Brown participated in Drill Tower evolutions which allowed our personnel to practice and enhance both fire fighting skills and Incident Command functions. The drills were conducted at the fire department drill tower located at our central facility.

Battalion Chief Stusak did a follow-up with several employees to discuss several suggestions received. Chief Stusak has asked shift personnel to submit suggestions that would aide them in performance of their duties and enable them to do their jobs.

Battalion Chiefs Stusak and English met with IT personnel assigned to the fire department to discuss how to improve data entries to our Fire Records Management System. Several dispatch issues were discussed in an effort to improve interaction between the two entities and improve service delivery.

Chief English attended a drill at the Post Office in Des Moines dealing with a simulated alarm of the Biohazard Detection System that they have which is exactly like the one here at the main Post Office in Cedar Rapids.

Chief English met with Regina Anderson from Audit and the representative from FEMA and the State to go over our grant request for the Public Assistance Grant covering the storm damages from February.

GOLF – The driving range at Gardner golf course has opened to public use through renting buckets of range golf balls. There have been a few inquires about the change over from a “non-paying” range which have been resolved through prompt correspondence.

The new Golf Department website (www.playcedarrapidsgolf.com) has been met with very high approval from the golfing public. The new website has information on golf fees, golf course amenities and history, player development programs, tournament/outing inquires, tee time reservation system and a on-line pro shop to produce merchandise sales. The site is very dynamic with changes in copy occurring nearly every day.

The first adult group lesson finished this week with 28 participants attending the 3 day session at Twin Pines. The next adult group lesson session is June 2, 5 & 6. Call Twin Pines (286-5583) for more information.

The first putter demo day was held at Jones golf course, Saturday May 5th. Callaway/Odyssey putters were available for participants to demo and 35 golfers attempted to qualify for the national Callaway Phil Drill contest. We had one participant, Robert (Bob) Hennessy, qualify for the national grand prize which will be drawn for in mid-June by Callaway Golf Company.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Another question regarding the reorganization process has been, “How are the reorganization plans being prepared?” Each department reporting to the City Manager is preparing a reorganization plan. Departments are responsible for getting input from employees within their department while preparing the plan. Once a draft plan is prepared, employees will again have the opportunity to provide comments and suggestions. The plans will then be presented to the City Manager for final review, modifications and approval. The City Manager is ultimately responsible to the City Council for the reorganization.

LIBRARY - Lori Barkema will be meeting with the Metro library directors to provide a budget update. Discussion will include the Metro statistics, ILL reimbursement, Linn County funding shortfalls, and a possible downloadable audio project.

Library staff members are meeting with Design Engineers to work on the bid and scheduling of the heat pump replacement. The process will likely take several months. There will be some disruptions for both staff members and the public, and we are working on planning for these.

Art conservators from the Corner House Gallery will visit the library to look at the “Land Wave” painting in the lobby. The painting has begun to ripple and needs repair. Corner House was recommended for the project by the staff of the Cedar Rapids Museum of Art.

Yongan Wu taught a class in the Ghosh Technology Learning Center on using email and offered one of his open labs, in which folks can ask for help with any computer program or technology. Kristine Male held a class on finding news items and one on navigating the Internet. Jo Pearson presented one of the popular word processing classes.

This week, library staff member Tom Jordan begins visiting area schools to encourage students to maintain their reading skills throughout the summer by using materials available here at the Library. He'll be distributing Summer Reading Program information and doing book talks.

PARKS - The Iowa State DNR has agreed to again participate in a goose roundup at Robins Lake in Ellis Park and along the Cedar River. City park crews and volunteers will herd the adult geese and goslings into prepared net traps. Once trapped, the birds will be put into cages and hauled by the DNR to other sites in the state and released. The date for this program is set for June 20th.

The Cedar Hills Booster Club donated ag-lime and base pegs for the ball fields the Club uses at Cherry Hill, Jacolyn, Delaney and other parks. The park crews have leveled the material and installed new base pegs for the annual Booster Club opening May 12th at Cherry Hill Park field #2 off Ivy Lane NW.

POLICE – The department has been receiving complaints about door to door magazine sales that were reportedly questionable. The sales were connected to charitable donations of the product with profit going to the company selling the wares. Checking on the company indicated there were no permits issued through the City Clerk's office. Anyone having questions about the legitimacy of these sales should ask to see a copy of the permit needed to operate as a peddler in the city. If they cannot provide this, a call to the police can alert our officers to attempt to locate them and check on their legitimacy.

The Department of Corrections High Risk Unit (HRU), CRPD Narcotics, and the Special Response Team (SRT) developed information for a search warrant that was executed at 1200 K St. S.W. Several persons were at that location where meth lab components were found. As a result of this warrant, another warrant was obtained and executed for drug related activities. A subject was found there and charged with other drug offense warrants. The Drug Endangered Children (DEC) unit was called out and used on this incident to care for children found in this drug use environment.

Sgt Robinson attended the monthly meeting at the Department of Corrections information exchange concerning high risk probations and other issues of mutual interest. Lt. Feldmann attended the regular Reintroduction orientation meeting for individuals scheduled to be released into the community. Officers Hansel, Peiffer and Lt. Furnish attended the Sex Offender Registry meeting to review offender status in the Linn County area.

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) has received the office equipment for several new workstations in the unit. They are busy configuring the equipment and tools used in the forensic examinations done for numerous investigations they are involved in. The CRPD Crime Prevention is doing an increasing amount of education dealing with children on the internet. They give preventive information for children and parents to avoid becoming victims of internet predators.

A subject was apprehended after about a month of searching for them on warrants. Officers Moyle, McDaniel, and S. Syverson were involved in the arrest. Another subject was arrested after a foot pursuit involving drug charges and interfering with official acts (IWOA) and a warrant out of Illinois. During the pursuit, this subject discarded a loaded 9mm pistol that was recovered and processed by the Identification Unit. His prints were found on the weapon that will go toward evidence of a drug user in possession of a firearm.

RECREATION – Julie Sina has provided an update on recent agreements completed. These agreements are being secured as the result of the City Council approval of the land use policy resolution on December 20, 2006. Agreements completed recently with expiration dates are:

LAMBA - use of Beverly Park for Mountain Biking – exp. 12/31/2009

Hiawatha Kid League - use of Nixon Park Baseball field for youth play – exp. 07/20/2007

Coe College - Daniels Park Baseball field usage for College play – exp. 12/31/2009

BMX Club - use of Cheyenne Park Dirt Bike Track – exp. 12/31/2009

K-9 Cola - Cheyenne Park Off Leash Dog Park – exp. 04/01/2008

Existing agreements with expiration dates:

Cricket Club - Seminole Park – exp. 06/02/2008

Skyhawks - Tuma Farm – exp. 10/31/2008

Cedar Rapids Blue Devils - Apache Park – exp. 12/15/2008

Seminole Valley – exp. 12/31/2011

Indian Creek Nature Center – exp. 07/01/2051

STREETS –

STREET CLOSURES

LOCATION	RESTRICTION	ACTIVITY	DEPT./ENTITY	COMPLETION
34 th St. SE @ Bel Air Dr.	1 – SB Lane Closed	Street Repairs	Street Dept.	4/30/07
1 st Ave. NE @ 34 th St.	1 – WB Lane Closed	Storm Sewer	Schmitt	4/18/07
Ellis Blvd. NW between. 18 th St. & Buckingham Dr.	Closed	Storm Sewer	Pierce Tobin	5/18/07
8 th St. SE between. 4 th Ave. & 5 th Ave.	Parking Lane	Street Repairs	Rinderknect	4/30/07
1524 26 th St. SE	Closed	Street Repairs	Sewer Dept.	4/30/07
3926 Nancy Jane Ln. NE	1 – EB Lane Closed	Hydrant Repair	Water Dept.	4/27/07
602 Greenvalley Terr. SE	1 – NB Lane Closed	Street Repairs	Street Dept.	5/4/07
Meadowbrook Dr. SE between. 29 th & 30 th St.	1 – EB Lane Closed	Street Repairs	Street Dept.	5/18/07
1000 block of Rockwell Dr. NE	1 – SB Lane Closed	Water Valve	Water Dept.	5/1/07
Houston St. NE @ 35 th St.	Closed	Water Main	Water Dept.	5/4/07
2316 4 th Ave. SE	Alley Closed	Water Leak	Kenway	5/9/07
3 rd Ave. SE @ 10 th St.	1 – EB Lane Closed	Manhole Repair	Sewer Dept.	5/10/07
105 Edgewood Rd. NW	1 – NB Lane Closed	Hydrant Repair	Water Dept.	5/4/07
‘J’ St. SW s/o Oklahoma Ave.	Type III @ E.O.P.	Road Ends	Traffic Eng.	7/31/07
3014 Oakland Rd. NE	1 – EB Lane Closed	Street Repairs	Water Dept.	5/11/07
‘O’ Ave. NE @ Oakland Rd.	1 – EB Lane Closed	Street Repairs	Water Dept.	5/11/07
7 th St. SE between 1 st Ave. & 4 th Ave.	1 – SB Lane Closed	Manhole Repairs	Com Tec	5/31/07
2 nd Ave. SW @ 2 nd St.	1 – WB Lane Closed	Line Relocation	Qwest	5/10/07
3210 ‘O’ Ave. NW	1 – WB lane Closed	Water Main	Water Dept.	5/18/07