

MINUTES
RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday, September 7, 2011 – 5:30 p.m.
Muscatine Soccer Complex

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Livermore, Kim Seligman, Greg Harper, Tim Riley

MEMBERS ABSENT: Steve Brown, Janell Kassel, Larry Buster

STAFF PRESENT: Heather Carlson, Rich Klimes, Nick Gow, Dan McGinn, Matt Beatty, Mark Even

GUESTS PRESENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2011 regular meeting. Moved, Seligman. Second, Riley. All ayes, motion carries.

Presentation – Soccer Complex Turf Conditions

Gow gave a brief history of the soccer complex as well as discussed the potential for Phase III of the complex (across the street). Gow provided a handout that provided the detail regarding the current conditions of the turf. The group toured the complex and took a close look at the turf areas that are having difficulties due to various disease and Poa annua. Gow gave an overview of why the turf conditions are suffering and what can/is being done to enhance the recovery of the turf. Klimes added that currently adult play and scrimmages are not being allowed to assist in the recovery of the fields. Gow said that full recovery is expected by next spring. Klimes said the life of field #3 was 10 years. It is now almost 20 years old, but the cost to re-do the field would be about \$50,000.00. The group then toured the concession area and administration area.

Update – Park Projects

- a. Musser Park trail – the trail has been cut in and will be paved in the next two weeks. Drainage was cut in during the project as well.
- b. Weed Park trail – The lagoon area will be done within the next two weeks. The Colorado St. project is coming soon.
- c. Musser Mausoleum Entryway Improvements – The fence is in and the tuckpointing is done.
- d. Boat Harbor Improvements – The electrical and water have been upgraded on the houseboat dock.
- e. Kent Stein – There are drainage issues along the trail and in #17 parking lot that are being addressed.
- f. Disc Golf Clearing – The park has been adopted by two families. The staff has been mowing, trimming and doing tree removal in order to open up the course for better visibility.
- g. Soccer Complex/Hershey Improvements – There is some paving left to do on Hershey, but it will be done soon—possibly by the end of September. The fence will now be at the

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top of the hill instead of in the middle, but the Department has mowers that will be able to handle the mowing of the hillside.

Update – City Deer Hunt

Even provided a handout with the State Regulations and City Code. Last year 27 deer were harvested from City limits. The season opens September 10th. The largest population was in Greenwood Cemetery. The proficiency test requires 3 of 5 bullseyes in a 5 inch circle from 20 yards.

Update – 2011 Summer Recreation Programs

Beatty said the goal is to develop skills to be able to use the various recreational facilities. There were 24 programs with 598 youth participating. The largest youth programs were swimming lessons, tennis lessons and t-ball. The adults had 15 sand volleyball teams. Klimes added that the Department provides low-cost active lifestyle activities and if anyone has a suggestion for a program to let us know.

Update – 2011 Summer Aquatic Center Participation

Beatty said the final number for the 2011 season was 41,620. In 2010 the total was just over 39,000.

Update – Municipal Golf Course Fall Programs

McGinn said the Junior Golf was restructured so that participants received more one on one attention. The participation was about the same, but a better program was offered than in previous years. Currently, the high school is playing. The last event for this year will be the Fall Shootout. The course will be open in October and November as weather allows. The simulator will be up starting in late September or early October with leagues and open play available. The current fall special is ½ price greens fees and carts between noon and 3pm, Monday through Friday. The ytd rounds are 25,000 and ytd beer sales are \$65,000.

Other Business

The Department has 10 Day of Caring projects that will have volunteers helping to complete.

The City has a new website www.muscatineiowa.gov. You can find a lot of information about the City and it's services as well as sign up to be notified by text or email of various updates.

Phase III Soccer will go forward if funding is available. Livermore, Riley, Seligman and Harper agreed to be on the steering committee for this project.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heather Carlson
Office Coordinator