

**Hiawatha Parks and Recreation
Regular Meeting
May 11, 2021**

Charles Uthe called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers. Present: Charles Uthe, Chris Klostermann, Dan Wilkes and Heather Gibson. Absent: Michelle McIllece. Employees: Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation, Ambyr Severson, Administrative Coordinator and Kim Downs, City Manager. Guest: Dan Hoffman.

Motion by Dan Wilkes, second by Chris Klostermann to approve the May 11, 2021 agenda as amended. Motion carried.

Motion by Dan Wilkes, second by Heather Gibson, to approve the minutes of April 13, 2021. Motion carried.

Approval Soccer/Blastball Covid-19 Guidelines:

Willadsen informed the commission that the department plans on abiding by the same guidelines used in 2020. When staff is present, they are required to wear masks. Teams on the sidelines will also be asked to wear masks. Spectators will be asked to mask up when they're not able to maintain a 6ft distance from one another. These rules were put in place to protect players, coaches and spectators. It may be hard for three-year-olds to wear masks but we'll do what we can. We'll ask parents to stay home and keep their child home if sick and will inform the team of any infections or exposures and possibly call of practice if necessary.

Uthe asked what the next step is if parents don't abide.

Klostermann added that we would want to consider changing the verbiage to make sure it's consistent and that we have defensible ground.

Willadsen answered that we can certainly change the verbiage.

Motion made by Heather Gibson in support of the soccer/blastball Covid-19 guidelines with small verbiage changes, seconded by Chris Klostermann.

Hi-CREW Kiwanis Permission to Sell at Concerts in the Park for 2021:

Willadsen advised that the Parks Department will provide a stencil to space out spectators at the August Concert in the Park to promote social distancing. We'll try it with HiYOGA first to see how it works out.

Kiwanis requested to sell concessions at concerts in the park. Staff and volunteers will wear masks. As a reminder, they are a nonprofit to raise money for schools, park projects and more.

Motion by Chris Klostermann to approve the Kiwanis request to sell concessions at Concert in the Park this August 2021, second by Heather Gibson. Motion carried.

Village Center Plaza concept includes restrooms and a trailhead. We're excited about the possibilities including Food Truck Friday, acoustic concerts and more. Project completion is expected to be September or October. We hope it will bring developers to the area. It will be a great area to congregate in the future.

Willadsen advised that she and Jon Fitch, City Engineer, met with MSA to go over the plan. Bids will go out at the end of June or beginning of July. The concept includes a playground similar to Guthridge and Tucker but nature themed.

All seasonals are on board. We have a woman doing an internship through Kirkwood. Another seasonal worked at Blooms and the other gentleman has maintenance experience. Adventure Camp staff has been hired as well. Full time position is open.

Farmers Market: The first Farmers Market took place on May 1st. We had excellent weather for the first market with a total of 32 season vendors. We had a great turnout and look forward to the season ahead.

Pavilions will be reroofed in the next two to three weeks. Red, brown, blue, yellow and green all need done based on damage.

Celebration of life banner will be put in front of City Hall as a COVID-19 memorial. A preview will be in the May newsletter.

HiBRAI will be a full ride this year.

Movie in the Park will take place July 16th.

HiYOGA takes place June 26th and Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation is running the 5k.

Emerald Ash Borer has been confirmed in Hiawatha. In five years, it will affect every ash tree in the community. Ash trees in the right-of-way will be taken down if their health deteriorates. The goal is to re-inventory in the spring and summer of 2022.

Motion by Chris Klostermann, seconded by Dan Wilkes to adjourn at 6:49 p.m. Motion carried.

Charles Uthe, Chair

ATTEST:

Kelly Willadsen, Director of Parks and Recreation