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## **AGENDA**

### **ROLL CALL**

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

### **AGENDA ITEMS**

- 1. Approve Meeting Minutes - January 17, 2024**
- 2. Receive & File Director's Report - January 2024**
3. Fitness Connection
4. Pool Updates
5. Baseball & Softball Registrations
6. Commercial Club ball field improvements
7. Aquatic Center employment
8. Commission Member Comments
9. Set Next Meeting Date

### **ADJOURNMENT**



## PARKS & RECREATION

Lower Level Council Chambers  
Wednesday, January 17, 2024  
6:00 PM

### MINUTES

#### ROLL CALL

Meeting called to order by Megan Scherrman at 6:01 pm.

#### PRESENT

Jason Lang, Jon Scherbring, Megan Scherrman, Sarah Goldsmith, Casey Frye

#### ABSENT

Nathan Huebner

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Scherrman asked for review and approval of the agenda. Motion made by Goldsmith, seconded by Scherbring.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

Motion Carried

#### AGENDA ITEMS

##### 1. **Approve** Meeting Minutes - December 13, 2023

Scherrman asked for comments or changes and there were none. Motion made by Goldsmith, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

Motion Carried

##### 2. **Receive & File** Director's Report - December 2023

Scherrman asked for comments or changes and there were none. Motion made by Goldsmith, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

Motion Carried

##### 3. Aquatic Center Hours

Huehnergath sent the results of his Survey Monkey regarding the Aquatic Center to the entire commission. They thought the information was good for planning purposes. We discussed that there will not be a set temperature to open the pool for the adult swim at 6:00 am. We do not

want to cut back on our lessons because this is at least 50% of our revenue.

Therefore, Huehnergath is recommending the following aquatic center hours & services:

Adult Swim 6 am - 7:30 am (Monday - Friday)  
 Swim lessons 9 am - 12:50 am (7 weeks) | 6:30 pm & 7:30 pm (3 weeks)  
 Afternoon Adult Swim 12 pm - 12:50 pm  
 Weekday Open Swim 1 pm - 7 pm (2 - 10 minute breaks at 3 pm & 5 pm); 1 pm - 6 pm (Sat/Sun)  
 Evening Adult Swim 7 pm - 8 pm (Monday - Friday)  
 Parties 7 pm - 9 pm any day of the week  
 Special late night themed events once a month ( ie. Teen Night, Movie Night, etc.)  
 Concessions open from 1 pm - 6 pm

Huehnergath is also recommending that we have a parent & toddler time at 12 pm - 12:50 pm for parents with little kids under the age of 5. The parent is required to be in the pool with the child. The commission voted on the new changes to the Aquatic Center.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

Goldsmith also stated that in the Survey Monkey there were comments/recommendations to make some changes at the Aquatic Center. She would like us to start discussing ways to make improvements. For example, there were several comments regarding the grassy area at the pool and wanting more seating. There were comments as to how we could utilize this space in a better manner.

#### 4. Fitness Connection

Goldsmith got a group together to examine the information from the National Fitness Campaign to construct an outdoor fitness area in our parks. Her group is referred to as Fitness Connection with Goldsmith & Scherbring as the liaison. The group includes members of the community that are involved in fitness activities and active in the community. They, at first, thought it might be a great idea. However, after looking at the needs of the entire community, they have backed a bit. They are focusing on the Well-Being & Fitness of our community. They decided to make a few goals. They would like to see improvements in our current parks. They would like to see more fun runs as well. Scherrman recommended making something like they have on Heritage Trail, stations that you can access as you run. The committee is concerned about how the community would feel about raising a large amount of money for this type of addition to the parks. They reached out to members of the community and they were not very excited about this idea. We have other areas that need our attention and funds. The Fitness Connection will meet again in the near future.

#### 5. Soccer Girls League

Huehnergath is looking at having an all girls league (6th - 8th grade) that would play 4 games for a trial league. We would start earlier in August than the Co-Ed league and the games would be on Wednesday nights. Frye had mentioned this to some of the coaches and they seemed very excited about this opportunity. It was asked if we could just split it into a girls league and boys league. We decided to start with the girls and see where it goes from there. Huehnergath recommended doing another survey after the season is over to get feedback. He wants it to remain a recreation league and not be so competitive that inexperienced kids don't want to play. Goldsmith asked her middle school students/parents and they were excited about the idea.

Huehnergath is hoping to get 4 teams. We voted on the instituting of this new league.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

It was also discussed that we will have a requirement with girls playing on the Co-Ed team. 1 to 2 girls need to be on the field at all times. In the past, some of the girls have gotten limited playing time. The referees would monitor this new rule. We will address this in the future.

**6. Commission Member Comments**

The commission would like the rules for Prairie League to be closer to high school rules for the older grades. Huehnergath is unsure how much he can do to change these rules, but he can bring in up to the league. For example, having home plate open for Softball 7th & 8th graders or being able to lead off in 6th grade. Huehnergath thought having East & West divisions worked well last year. Frye thought the City Tournament in July was one of the best experiences for the kids.

**7. Set Next Meeting Date for Wednesday, February 28, 2024 at 6:00 pm.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 P.M. on a motion made by Goldsmith, seconded by Scherbring.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Goldsmith, Frye

Motion Carried

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Sandy Oberbroeckling

January 17, 2024  
Date

Memorandum

TO: City Council, Parks and Recreation Commission  
From: Adam Huehnergath, Parks and Recreation Manager  
RE: Monthly Directors Report January 2024  
CC: Mick Michel, City Administrator  
Date: February 19, 2024

**Aquatic Center:**

We have advertised the last two weeks for openings for lifeguards, facility assistants and assistant managers. The deadline for applications is February 28th. The number of applications as of now is low but I am figuring the labor pool for lifeguards waits until the last minute. Last year was the same way. I am going to try to recruit at local high schools this week during their lunch hour. About 11 of the crew from 2023 has verified that they will return. I would like to add nine more for this summer. We had a total of 17 lifeguards last year, but having a higher total will give us more flexibility for different programs throughout the summer. One of our assistant managers is returning and is helping to craft a solid crew and develop operational plans.

**Summer Programs:**

The earlier spring weather puts our summer programs on everyone's minds. Registration for all sports opened up February 1<sup>st</sup> and continues until February 28<sup>th</sup> for baseball and softball. Like past years I anticipate a high participation percentage. Residents have been reminded many times and many different ways (online, in print and posters around town) to register on time. I have to let the Prairie League know by March 1<sup>st</sup> the number of teams and field availability. The first games will start the week of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The commission decided this year to divide the T-Ball league into two groups. The PreK kids will still play with the required tee but the K group will have the option of having a coach pitch to them. We also put an age requirement that they have to turn four by May 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 to be in the league. By separating the two groups we feel the games will be better for the kids and the coaches to keep skill levels somewhat separated.

**Live Healthy Iowa Kids Track Meet:**

On March 1<sup>st</sup>, registration opens for our 2<sup>nd</sup> track meet to be held May 11<sup>th</sup> at Beckman HS starting at 9am. This is a completely free event open to anyone from the area for kids ages 8-14. They will compete in two field events and running events from a 50yd dash to an 800yd run. The first and second finishers in each race earn the opportunity to race at the state meet held in Marshalltown on June 1<sup>st</sup>. Last year we had over 80 competitors and hope to increase that this year. I will work with Todd Troutman and Beckman students to get enough volunteers to move the meet along smoothly.