

MINUTES
Park & Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, June 5, 2024 – 5:30 p.m.
Lower Level Conference Room

Members Present: Gina Othmer, Sarah Hoeg, Delmar Kuhlers, Pete DeGabriele, Rick Bierman, Dana LaRue

Members Absent: Brad Bark

Staff Present: Rich Klimes, Jennifer Eagle

Guests Present: None

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 p.m.

LaRue motioned to approve the minutes of the May 1, 2024 regular meeting as distributed. Seconded by Othmer. All ayes; motion carries.

Update – Indoor Sports Complex Construction Schedule

- Resolution of Public Hearing at City Council on June 6, 2024.
- Public Hearing on June 20, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers.
- Opening Bid Date is set for July 23, 2024.

Update – Weed Park Lagoon Project

The Weed Park Lagoon Project bidding closed & bids were opened. Official award of the project to be announced at the City Council meeting on Thursday, June 6, 2024.

Discussion – Indoor Sports Complex Usage/Scheduling

The Committee was given a copy of the updated City of Muscatine Parks & Recreation Facilities Scheduling Guidelines for review.

Public and private meetings will start occurring with the community.

Hoeg motioned to approve the City of Muscatine Parks & Recreation Facilities Scheduling Guidelines as presented. Seconded by Kuhlers. All ayes; motion passed.

Discussion brought to the table by DeGabriele about concerns of monopolization of the dome usage. Klimes responded, “The scheduling goal presented states that the city will manage the athletic facilities in an efficient cost-effective manner that maximizes the community resource to benefit the recreational and business interests where opportunity and accessibility are realized for all. This is used to ensure everyone gets a chance to use the facilities we provide.”

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Updates – Programs and Projects Updates

The Aquatic Center is open for the season. All Parks & Recreation facilities are now open. New scoreboards have been delivered & will be installed soon at the Soccer Complex. Greenwood Cemetery Chapel restoration is underway. We hope to see the construction work finishing up at Taylor Park in the next week or so. Musser Park will be getting a new Musco Light installed as well. The new Retail Sales and Office Operations Agreement will start July 1 at Greenwood Cemetery.

Update – Special Events

Farmers Market weekly event has started for the season. Almost Friday Fest has had their first event with a successful turnout. The American Cruise Line Tours will be coming to Muscatine 10 times this year starting June 17, bringing 150-200 people to enjoy our beautiful City.

Other Business

Kuhlers brought up some golf course issues:

- Golf cart paths need to be re-done.
- Senior Tee boxes & grass quality issues.

Member Bark could not be present for the meeting but had this to say prior to the meeting:

“Director Klimes and Commission Members,

I will not be able to attend Wednesday’s meeting, but would like to give my input. I would like to thank the staff for the recommendation of the schedule changes for the Indoor Sports Complex Usage/Scheduling. I appreciate the DNA of the Parks & Rec which is Opportunity for all. If you need anything please feel free to contact me.

Be Your Best!

Dr. Brad Bark”

All Parks & Recreation Staff and Advisory Board Members would like to thank Dana LaRue & Rick Beirman for their time as members on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Eagle
Officer Coordinator