

MINUTES
Park & Recreation Advisory Commission
Wednesday, February 5, 2025 – 5:30 p.m.
Council Chambers

Members Present: Gina Othmer, Delmar Kuhlbers, Mario Lebron, Sarah Hoeg

Members Absent: Brad Bark, Pete DeGabriele, Chris Boar

Staff Present: Rich Klimes, Jennifer Eagle, Blake Allington

Guests Present: Dr. Robert (Bob) Weiss, Carol Ward, Terra Simpson, Mia Simpson, Chelsea Carlson

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

Kuhlbers motioned to approve the minutes of the January 8, 2025 regular meeting as distributed. Seconded by Othmer. All ayes; motion carries.

Discussion – Indoor Tennis Court Project

Dr. Bob Weiss & guests of the Great River Tennis Association were present at the meeting to discuss their interest in putting a building or bubble/dome over the existing four tennis courts at Weed Park.

- Great River Tennis is a Non-Profit in Muscatine that began in 1982; working with both Adult & Youth.
- There are not any indoor courts in Muscatine.
 - Mia & Chelsea currently drive to Iowa City to practice
- USTA willing to reimburse \$50,000 per court
 - This could pay for resurfacing of courts
 - Project must be started in the next two years to lock in USTA assist in funding
- Great River Tennis is working to complete a feasibility study for the project.

Kuhlbers motions to explore the feasibility of the Weed Park tennis courts to become Indoor courts. Seconded by Lebron. All ayes; motion carries.

Update – Indoor Sports Complex Project

A. Fee Structure

- Commission reviewed Athletic Facility Comparison and the Musco Sports Dome fees.

Kuhlbers motions to approve the fee structure of the Musco Sports Dome. Seconded by Othmer. All ayes; motion carries.

Update – City Budget Process

- Commission reviewed numbers
- Discussed budget process

Updates – Programs and Special Events

A. Programs Updates

- Wrapping up winter programs.
- Get outside kickoff started with the first event at the golf course with a turnout of around 30 attendees. This program is to help get kids and families outside & more familiar with our community.

B. Special Events

- Easter Egg Hunt coming in April
- Triathlon and many other requests coming in for the year.

Other Business

A. Dome

- Change Order coming
- Council is leaning toward a yes for alcohol sales in the Dome.
- Bidding for concessionaire
- Assistant Director Position to start after July 1, 2025.

B. Council Items

- Eliminating age restriction at Weed Park.
- Removing non-resident fees to building rentals, programs, shelter rentals, cemetery sales, pool admissions, etc.
- Gator being purchased for the golf course for \$22,000.00 that was previously leased, rather than the \$40,000.00 for a new one.
- Logos at the Dome to be approved for \$33,000.00
- The Commission confirmed the endorsement to amend the Greenwood Cemetery Rules and Regulations.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Eagle
Administrative Specialist