

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

June 8, 2016

The Merrill Parks and Recreation Commission met on Wednesday, June 8, 2016 at 4:15 p.m. at the Smith Center.

Members Present: Mike Willman, Jean Ravn, Brian Artac, Ben Debroux, John Burgener and Melissa Schroeder

Members Excused Absent:

Department Staff Present: Dan Wendorf and Dawn Smith

Visitors: Erik Pfantz, City Administrator Dave Johnson

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Ravn to approve the minutes from the March meeting minutes.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

\*\*\*Motion by Burgener, seconded by Schroeder, to approve the claims.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

Public Comment: None

The next item on the agenda was to discuss park reservation policy as it relates to repetitive reservations from same organization. Wendorf stated that the request came from Gazebo Nights. They are doing a community service by offering music at the Gazebo on Thursday evenings and they don't have a cover charge to make money. Bands are sponsored by local businesses and there are people selling concessions at the events. Schroeder stated that if we do it for one organization than we have to do it for all. A suggestion was to charge the concession people for selling product. City Administrator Johnson stated that it is also costing the city money having the events there and someone has to be responsible for the bills. It was decided by the commission to stand by the policy and whoever uses the park has to pay for the park usage.

The next item on the agenda was a continued discussion on park concessions. Wendorf stated that most parks have concessions available where events are going on. Softball takes care of its own concessions and baseball takes care of their own. Wendorf doesn't feel we need to offer concessions in any other parks, people go to the parks to spend family time and the River Bend Trail for walking and exercise and don't think it is a good idea to bother people to purchase products while they are there enjoying the beauty of the parks. The commission thanked Wendorf for putting together a layout of the parks and which parks already offer concessions through varies organizations. The commission also agreed that at this time we do not need someone selling concessions on the River Bend Trail.

The next item on the agenda was the monthly board report given by Wendorf. Wendorf stated that they have been working on getting bike trails marked and hopefully being able to publish something to where all the bike routes are. Wendorf stated that the cross walks are going in and also at the MARC they are connecting the sidewalk to the existing trail at the MARC so the people on bikes have access right to the trails. Wendorf stated everything was all set for the

grand opening of the pool on June 15, 2016. Wendorf also stated the Swim Club will be having their first outdoor swim meet at the Aquatic Center on June 25, 2016.

\*\*\*Motion by Schroeder, seconded by Ravn to approve the monthly report given by Wendorf.

\*\*\*Carried Unanimously.

The next item on the agenda was a tour of the Bierman Aquatic Center.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for July 6, 2016 at 4:15 p.m. at the Smith Center.

\*\*\*Motion by Artac, seconded by Ravn to adjourn at 5:00 p.m.

\*\*\*Carried unanimously.

Dawn Smith  
Recording Secretary