

**MINUTES**  
**FORT MADISON PARKS, RECREATION & DOCK BOARD**  
**REGULAR MEETING – WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2015**  
**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 5:00PM**  
**FORT MADISON, IOWA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Chapman, Sue Pieper, Mary Ann Gaudette, Jim Decker, Jesus Garcia and Tara Johnson

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Lauri Wondra

**CITY STAFF PRESENT:** John Luna, Dawn Helling, City Manager David Varley, Councilman Rusty Andrews

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Andy Andrews, Shelley Dowling, Bob Huffman, Linda Lair, Mark Lair

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Johnson at 5:00 p.m.

**Approval of Minutes:**

Chapman MOVED and Gaudette SECONDED a motion to approve the minutes of the July 1, 2015 meeting. MOTION CARRIED.

**Public Comments:**

Andy Andrews asked why the Lewis and Clark Drum & Fife Corp could not stay at the pavilion like they did in previous years. Luna shared it is because Harmony Bible Church has services there on Sunday morning. Andrews stated they will be out of there by around 7am. Luna stated the City has a contract with the church and it would not work out.

Shelly Dowling shared she has noticed the streets and parking areas are being relined and wondered why the parking lot at the Old Fort has not been done. Luna shared it is going to be done but the street department has not gotten to it yet. She has also noticed some of the signs at the parking lot to the Old Fort are old and should be removed because they refer to Catfish Bend customers. She feels new signs should be put up stating their hours. Chapman asked if she was a member of the Old Fort Commission. She said she wasn't but volunteers there once in a while.

**Old Business:**

None

**New Business:**

**A. CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS PERFORMANCE IN RIVERVIEW PARK:**

September 4, 2015, there has already been a straw poll on this and it was approved but needed to be voted on formally.

Decker MOVED and Garcia SECONDED a motion to approve CARSON & BARNES CIRCUS PERFORMANCE IN RIVERVIEW PARK. MOTION CARRIED

**B. TRI-STATE RODEO 2015 REQUEST TO USE FIELD #1 FOR RODEO STOCK:**

Johnson shared the Tri-State Rodeo has always used the fields in the past which the softball teams who are using field #1 did not realize. She has talked to the coaches; and others who are active with the teams, and they are okay with it as long as only the outfield

is used and the Rodeo Committee makes sure it is restored. Bob Huffman, Tri-State Rodeo Committee President, explained Cervi, who is the stock contractor, has asked to use a bigger area for the bucking horses because they need more room to move. The rodeo committee will provide the fences to corral the horses and they will make sure it is returned to the former state as close as possible. Chapman shared he asked others, via social media, what their opinion was of this and they stated they were not happy about it. He stated there were some items left behind last year that had to be picked up. He also did not feel animals should be on the fields. Huffman shared he was not aware of this. He stated they are willing to pay a deposit and he will personally go up there afterward to make sure everything is okay. Garcia suggested that the team coaches, Luna and Huffman go up there before and after. Decker said the only issue would be if it rains then the horses could tear up the ground, otherwise it would be okay. Garcia shared if someone has an issue they should share it at a meeting not on social media.

Decker MOVED and Gaudette SECONDED a motion to approve TRI-STATE RODEO'S 2015 REQUEST TO USE FIELD #1 FOR RODEO STOCK. MOTION CARRIED

- C. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON PROPOSED FORT MADISON MARINA "CUSTOMER FRIENDLY" SLIP RENTAL INCENTIVES:** Luna shared that he had sent this to the board members to look over beforehand so they should be familiar with it. He said the Mayor wanted to mend fences between the City and slip renters and feels the City will have more slip renters with these incentives. Luna would like to have the board vote on them as a packet. City Manager Varley stated they were asked to put this together to reward people who return to the marina. The City will lose a little money but will gain as more renters obtain slips.

Decker MOVED and Pieper SECONDED a motion to approve FORT MADISON MARINA "CUSTOMER FRIENDLY" SLIP RENTAL INCENTIVES. MOTION CARRIED

- D. **REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW FOUNTAIN ASSEMBLY & ACCESSORIES FOR KUHLMEIER FOUNTAIN:** Luna shared that Huffman's had initially repaired the pump but it still did not work after it was filled. He called Mohrfeld's to examine it and they found that there were electrical problems. It will be more cost effective to completely replace everything. Decker asked if there will be a warranty. Luna stated that Mohrfeld's can take the pump out every year before it freezes to make it last longer. The Kuhlmeier Foundation will pay up to \$6,000 on the Mohrfeld bill and the rest will come out of the Quality of Life bond. Luna also shared a professional landscaping business is going to be hired to deal with the weeds around the fountain then an organization is going to take over after that.

Decker MOVED and Garcia SECONDED a motion to approve the REQUEST TO PURCHASE NEW FOUNTAIN ASSEMBLY & ACCESSORIES FOR KUHLMEIER FOUNTAIN. MOTION CARRIED

**Directors Report:**

Luna included a report with the agenda. He shared the parks board may be getting contacted about the cemeteries. Due to lack of help from the inmates, it has been hard to keep up the cemeteries. There is only 2 full-time and 1 part-time parks employee, therefore, the inmates are relied on quite a bit to help with upkeep at the cemeteries and parks. There have been some phone calls complaining about the condition of the cemeteries. Gaudette asked if the supervisors over the inmates are required to work also especially when it comes to mowing. Luna shared they are not required to but often do.

Gaudette MOVED and Decker SECONDED a motion to adjourn. MOTION CARRIED and the meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

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Tara Johnson, Chairperson