

AGENDA
AMES PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
City Hall Council Chambers – 515 Clark Avenue
Thursday, May 16, 2019

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC: The Parks and Recreation Commission welcome comments from the public during discussion. If you wish to speak, please complete a green card and hand it to City staff prior to the meeting. When your name is called, please step to the microphone, state your name and address for the record, and limit the time used to present your remarks to three minutes in order that others may be given the opportunity to speak. The normal process on any particular agenda item is staff may first give a report on the agenda item, Commissioners may ask questions for clarification, input is received from the audience, a motion is placed on the floor, the Commission is given an opportunity to comment on the issue or respond to the audience concerns, and the vote is taken. In consideration of all, if you have a cell phone, please turn it off or put it on silent.

1. Call to Order: 4:00 p.m.
2. Election of Officers
 - a. Chairperson
 - b. Vice-Chairperson
3. Approval of Minutes from March 28, 2019
4. Public Forum (For items not on the agenda)
5. Director's Report
 - a. Update: Healthy Life Center
 - b. Commission Action Form: JAX Outdoor Gear Request
 - c. Commission Action Form: Piano in the Parks
 - d. Commission Action Form: Green Hills Health Care Center, Inc. Agreement
 - e. P & R Commission Meeting Dates
 - f. Project Update
 - i. Brookside Restroom
 - ii. Homewood Clubhouse
 - iii. Ukena Family Tennis Complex at Ames High School
 - g. Correspondence
6. Monthly Report
7. Commission Member Comments
8. Next Meeting:
 - a. Thursday, June 20 at 4:00 PM (Tour)
9. Adjournment

AMES PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: March 28, 2019

COMMISSION

PRESENT: Sarah Litwiller, Sarah Cady, Ed Moran, Jeremy Bristow, Kelsey Culbertson, Eve Lederhouse, Sean Carlton-Appleton

ABSENT:

STAFF: Keith Abraham, Joshua Thompson, Craig Kaufman, Kellee Omlid

CALL TO ORDER: 4:02 PM

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Bristow with second by Litwiller, to approve the February 21, 2019, meeting minutes. No discussion. No opposition. **Motion Approved**

PUBLIC FORUM

No Public Forum

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

At the prerogative of Chairperson Moran, agenda item **b** was discussed prior to item **a**.

b. Commission Action Form: Ames on the Half Shell Request

Kaufman went over any changes in the Commission Action Form for this event. He wanted to point out the fact that this event has a good history and the Ames Police Department have reported no incidents. Staff recommends Alternative #1.

Moran states it is a good event and the Jaycees donate back the profits to the scholarship fund as well as other projects in the city.

It was moved by Bristow with second by Culbertson to approve alternative #1. No discussion. No opposition. **Motion Approved.**

a. Commission Action Form: Request to Allow Swimming in Ada Hayden Heritage Park Lake

Abraham informed the Commission that the name of the company is not True Time Racing as stated at the last meeting. The correct name of the company is Iowa Multi-Sport. Abraham went over the Commission Action Form including additional information requested by the Commission at the February meeting. Abraham stated that Syhlman has presented his event to the Special Events Committee and made requested changes to the proposed route. Syhlman has also changed the event date to June 30. Abraham feels the conversations been very collaborative back and forth. Abraham also informed the Commission that the DNR has approved the plans in place to provide a safe environment

for participants. Abraham informed the Commission that Staff has not changed their position on this matter.

Tim FencI (1425 Maxwell)

FencI spoke in favor of lifting the swimming ban for this event. FencI also read a letter from an unnamed person who would like to compete as a para-athlete.

Alex Syhlman (1828 Thornton Ave, Des Moines)

Syhlman stated that he appreciated the staff meeting with him and he is working hard to refine the timeline and plans. He reported to the Commission on the safety items they referred back to him at the last meeting.

Lederhouse referenced a letter provided to the Commission from Syhlman stating that Hickory Grove hoped to have the event back next year. She asked Syhlman if this would change his request for an annual event at Ada Hayden. He informed Lederhouse that it would not. He stated when Hickory Grove finished renovations and filled back up he could look into an event there.

Lederhouse asked if para-athletes were allowed to use Hickory Grove. Syhlman stated it is a matter of accessibility.

Carlton Appleton asked Syhlman to address concerns regarding the threat to wildlife and environmental degradation. Syhlman does not feel that this event is any more harmful to the wildlife than the activities that already go on at the park.

Bristow asked about the Department of Natural Resources approving the permit. Abraham stated that the DNR approved the permit to use the lake for swimming conditional on local approval of the event. The DNR can't give approval to have the event.

Jeff Kopaska (2529 Northwood Dr)

Kopaska informed the Commission that he oversees the technical aspects of the event. The DNR reviews event plans regarding safety of participants and adequate insurance. The approval is based on those aspects of the event.

Wolfgang Oesterrich (2001 Wyngate Dr)

Oesterrich stated he is a daily park user and a member of the friends group. He tracks animals, insects, reptiles and birds at the park. He is neutral on this event. He has some concern with people parking on the grass, which has often happened at these events. His main concern is the use of gas powered motors on the lake. It is his opinion that the event sponsor should use canoes, kayaks or electric motored boats on the lake.

Kristina Swenson (221 Sheldon Ave)

Started that she started participating in triathlon when she was eight and spoke of the positive impact this sport has had on her life.

Laura Moeller (1903 SW Vintage Pkwy, Ankeny)

Moeller spoke representing the Triathlon Racers of Iowa. She sees this as a way for the city to promote health and wellness and include para-athletes. She feels Ada Hayden will be a phenomenal location.

Jim Pease (3840 Stagecoach Rd)

Pease informed the Commission that he is the President of the Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park. He states that the design of Ada Hayden does not have ballfields, tennis courts or brightly colored playground equipment because those things are not in keeping with the character of the park. The park was designed to protect water quality and provide ecological services to the area. This includes storm water wetlands, wildlife habitat, protecting and improving savannas and prairies and lastly to provide recreational opportunities that are compatible with these uses. There are constant demands to compromise and modernize the wild nature of the park. He hopes that the Commission will help the Friends who work to protect the park every day.

Alan Bierbaum (3222 Tupelo Cr)

Bierbaum spoke in favor of the event. He understands that it is difficult to vote against staff recommendations and friends groups. He respectfully disagrees with the Friends of Ada Hayden Heritage Park regarding the compatible use of the park.

Bristow, appreciated all the work that Syhlman has done to address concerns and provide clarification when needed.

Cady feels hosting these kinds of events in the community does raise awareness for health and wellness. She stated that marquee events are lacking in Ames. In terms of the conservation concerns, she thinks wild spaces need to be conserved and be accessible. She does not feel that it is incompatible use.

Culbertson feels there are enough people who care about the park and will be there volunteering to make sure the park is taken care of.

Litwiller stated that she put on this type of event in a suburb of Chicago. The swim portion was held in an indoor pool. She is curious as to why swims couldn't be done in an indoor pool. Moran also noted that the outdoor pool would be available as well. Syhlman stated open water is where the athletes want to be.

Lederhouse stated she is also familiar with triathlons using an indoor pool. She wondered if indoor swims were an option, but not Iowa Multi-Sport's preferable option. Syhlman stated races in pools do exist, but Iowa Multi-Sport does not put on any races in pools.

Cady stated that Abraham mentioned this race could be a qualifier for other events. She wondered if the racers had to be in open water to qualify. Syhlman informed her that he did not know as Iowa Multi-Sport does not do pool swims.

Carlton-Appleton asked why do participants prefer indoor or outdoor one over the other. Syhlman states using an indoor pool can be a bottleneck, have a cap on the number of participants, and draw out the total time needed for an event to take place.

Carlton-Appleton asked about the impact on the park. Syhlman does not think this event is going to damage the park. Carlton-Appleton also asked about spectators. Syhlman stated that spectators are usually in the transition areas.

Kelly Welsh-Wyngate (1117 Wilson Ave)

It is her point of view that she would not participate in a pool swim because to her it is swimming laps.

Motion by Cady and second by Bristow to approve Alternative #1.

No further discussion. Motion Approved 5-2. Opposed Lederhouse, Litwiller.

b. Commission Action Form: Ames Little League Agreement

Thompson informed the Commission that agreement had not changed and that Staff recommends Alternative #1.

It was moved by Litwiller with second by Culberston to approve Alternative #1.

No discussion. No opposition. **Motion Approved.**

c. Commission Action Form: Ames Cyclone Aquatics Club Agreement

Omlid informed the Commission that the only change was a raise in the insurance requirement. Staff recommends Alternative #1.

Moved by Cady with second by Culbertson to approve Alternative #1. **Motion Approved** (Abstain, Lederhouse)

d. Update: Healthy Life Center

Abraham went over the financial commitment of each of the entities involved in this project. He informed the Commission a discussion will be held at the April 9, 2019, Ames City Council meeting to determine if the project is viable. If it is determined that the project is viable, then a discussion will occur regarding the date and amount of a bond issue.

e. Project Updates

i. Homewood Clubhouse

Council directed Staff to move forward with current design, continuing to incorporate as many energy efficiencies as possible.

ii. Edwards Park

Staff sent out over 1,500 post cards for the public meeting and only 20 people attended. There was good conversation with the top four amenities being a walking path, open space, a shelter and a spray pad.

f. Correspondence

g. Recognition:

Ed Moran has been on the Commission for eight years. His advice to the rest of the commission members is to keep listening.

MONTHLY REPORT

Staff is working on preparing the parks for the summer including getting the water turned on. Homewood golf course will be opening in early April.

COMMISSION MEMBER COMMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by to Lederhouse to adjourn. The meeting concluded at 5:55 PM.

Next Meeting: Thursday, April 18, at 4:00 PM

COMMISSION ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: Request from JAX Outdoor Gear to Rent Canoes and Kayaks at Ada Hayden Heritage Park and to Waive 10% of Gross Sales

BACKGROUND:

Due to the popularity of Ada Hayden Park, JAX Outdoor Gear in Ames would like to rent canoes, kayaks, and stand up paddle boards to the public on Saturdays and Sundays (Noon – 5:00 PM), weather permitting.

Because stand up paddle boards (SUPS) have the greater potential of users going into the water, it is important to educate users that safety is a priority and swimming is prohibited. To this end, the following conditions will be enforced:

- All paddle board renters must wear a personal floatation device (pfd).
- JAX rental staff will educate and inform renters that the paddle boards are not to be used as a diving platform and that swimming is not allowed at Ada Hayden.
- SUPS would come with an ankle leash that attaches to the paddler and board and is designed to keep the board close to the paddler if they were to fall off.

JAX will also team up with the local VERB program to offer free half hour rentals for kids on Sundays. They have been offering this opportunity during the last eight years and they report that it is a very popular program.

JAX has provided this service to park users since 2005 and following is the number of rentals and total income for the past five years:

2014: 365 rentals = \$3,289
2015: 449 rentals = \$4,054
2016: 574 rentals = \$5,183
2017: 535 rentals = \$4,825
2018: 584 rentals = \$5,264

Rental rates for 2019 would be for 30 and/or 60 minutes as follows:

Canoes	\$10 / \$13
Kayaks	\$10 / \$13
Stand Up Paddle Board	\$10 / \$15

No storage of equipment would occur at the site as JAX would transport equipment to the site each day.

With the initial capital costs that JAX has incurred with purchasing equipment and with the uncertainty, due to weather, of how many additional rentals will occur in 2019, JAX is requesting the 10% of gross sales payable to the City for 2019 be waived.

At the end of each season staff meets with JAX' employees and evaluates the success of this venture. Our assessment during each of the past years is that the City's partnership with JAX in this effort works well. The public appreciates rental equipment being made available at the site and the City does not have to invest in the capital cost of purchasing equipment nor the ongoing operation expenses of staffing the operation.

The City requires JAX to provide a Certificate of Insurance. It should also be noted that JAX provides and requires life jackets to be worn at all times and that the minimum age to rent equipment is 18 years old.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the request from JAX Outdoor Gear to rent canoes, kayaks, and stand up paddleboards at Ada Hayden Heritage Park during 2019 and waive the 10% fee of gross sales.
2. Approve the request from JAX Outdoor Gear to rent canoes, kayaks, and stand up paddleboards at Ada Hayden Heritage Park during 2019 but deny the request to waive the 10% of gross sales.
3. Deny the request from JAX Outdoor Gear to rent equipment at Ada Hayden Heritage Park during 2019.
4. Refer back to staff

STAFF'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

As noted above, this is a win-win proposition between JAX and the City. Park users have the opportunity to rent a variety of equipment at the site, yet no tax dollars are required to purchase the necessary capital equipment or to staff the operation.

Therefore, staff recommends Alternative 1; to approve the request from JAX Outdoor Gear to rent canoes, kayaks, and stand up paddleboards at Ada Hayden Heritage Park during 2019 and waive the 10% fee of gross sales.

COMMISSION ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: PIANOS IN THE PARKS

BACKGROUND:

In April 2016, Patricia Izbicki requested the Commission consider adding public pianos to the park system. She shared this is being done in Des Moines, Chicago, and other cities across the country and felt this would be a great addition to Ames. In 2017, the Commission approved the placement of pianos in Tom Evans Plaza and Campustown Court from April 1, 2017 to October 31, 2017. Patricia worked with local businesses to ensure the pianos were covered on a nightly basis. Feedback received from the public was very positive.

In 2018, Patricia placed only one piano in Tom Evans Plaza due to the piano placed in Campus Town Plaza was unplayable after the 2017 season. Patricia is again proposing only placing a piano in Tom Evans Plaza again for 2019. After the success of the installation the past two seasons Staff is comfortable with partnering with Patricia again in 2019 for the placement of the piano in Tom Evans Plaza. The Public Arts Commission was very enthusiastic about this project the last two years and was also a co-sponsor. The Public Arts Commission will be discussing co-sponsoring the project for 2019 at their next meeting on June 6.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Piano in the Parks agreement with Patricia Izbicki to place a piano in Tom Evans Plaza for the 2019 season contingent upon the Public Arts Commission agreeing to co-sponsor this project. The piano will be in place until October 31, 2019.
2. Do not approve the Pianos in the Parks agreement with Patricia Izbicki.
3. Refer back to staff.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

This was a wonderful project in 2018 and the feedback from the community was very positive. Patricia is very enthusiastic and passionate about the arts and was instrumental to the project's success the last two years. She brings that same enthusiasm to the project this year and is excited to get a piano back in Tom Evans Plaza for the upcoming months.

Therefore, staff recommends Alternative 1 as stated above.

**CITY OF AMES DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION
PIANO IN TOM EVANS PLAZA AGREEMENT WITH PATRICIA IZBICKI**

Agreement made this 16th day of May, 2019, between Patricia Izbicki (Grantee) and the City of Ames Parks and Recreation Department (Grantor), 515 Clark Avenue, Ames, Iowa.

The parties agree that the following rules apply to the placement and upkeep of the piano on park property:

1. The Grantor gives permission to Grantee to place a piano in Tom Evans Plaza beginning May 17, 2019 and ending October 31, 2019.
2. The Grantee will arrange for the piano to be moved to the specified park location and incur all associated costs.
3. The Grantor will secure the piano in an agreed upon location. Method and materials for securing the piano will be provided by the Grantee after receiving approval by the Grantor.
4. Tuning will be arranged and paid for by the Grantee.
5. The Grantee will recruit and coordinate volunteers to cover the piano no later than 10:00 PM each day.
6. The Grantee will keep the Piano in good condition (clean, accessible). This includes providing materials and labor to make needed repairs.
7. The Grantor and the Grantee will inspect the piano periodically to make sure they are kept in a safe condition.
8. The Grantee will remove the piano once they are deemed by the Grantee and/or the City to be in an unsafe or unusable.
9. The Grantor shall not be responsible for any vandalism or damage to the piano.
10. The Grantor will provide liability insurance under its blanket insurance binder to protect the City.
11. Failure to abide by any of the terms of this agreement, as determined by the Director of the Parks and Recreation Department, shall result in the loss of the use of the park space by Grantee.

DATED AND EXECUTED AT AMES, IOWA, THIS 16TH DAY OF MAY, 2019.

The City of Ames, Iowa
Parks and Recreation Commission

By: _____

Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission

Grantee: Patricia Izbicki

By: _____

COMMISSION ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: AGREEMENT WITH GREENHILLS HEALTH CARE CENTER, INC.

BACKGROUND:

The Executive Director of Green Hills Retirement Community (GHRC) contacted staff in 2011 inquiring as to the feasibility of GHRC contracting with the Parks and Recreation Department to provide fitness and aqua exercise classes for their residents. The population served at GHRC is comprised solely of older adults. For decades, the Parks and Recreation Department has successfully programmed public fitness and aqua exercise classes for this population. The Commission had approved agreements with GHRC to provide wellness services in the past and both GHRC and Parks and Recreation had been very pleased with this arrangement. However, with the FY 2015 - 2016 agreement, GHRC staff began teaching fitness classes offered solely for their residents.

Thus, the last four agreements eliminated the wellness service and was changed to a Facility Use Agreement as GHRC continued to make its fitness facilities available to the Parks and Recreation Department to conduct fitness and aqua classes that are open and available to both the general public and residents of Green Hills. In addition, GHRC allowed the Parks and Recreation Department to use the pool for public swim lessons. Based on a review of the facility use with GHRC, there are no proposed changes to the agreement.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE AGREEMENT (Attachment A):

- Conducting older adult fitness and aqua classes for the general public and Green Hills Residents
- The City will pay GHRC \$6 per participant / per session for fitness and aqua classes
- Conducting swim lessons for the general public
- The City will pay GHRC \$3 per participant / per session for swim lessons
- Either party can terminate the Agreement by providing a 30 day written notice.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a Facility Use Agreement with Green Hills Health Care Center, Inc. from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.
2. Do not approve a Facility Use Agreement with Green Hills Health Care Center, Inc.
3. Refer back to staff.

STAFF RECOMMENDED ACTION:

GHRC has appropriate facilities that allow City Wellness staff to offer additional public fitness and aqua classes to older adults within our community, while freeing up space and time at Parks and Recreation Department facilities. In addition, GHRC has open pool time throughout the week that allows City Aquatics staff to offer public swim lessons at the facility, which moves some of the Parent/Child and Private lessons from Municipal Pool. This arrangement allows more classes to be added and ultimately more participants into swim lessons.

Therefore, staff recommends the Commission approve Alternative 1; approving a Facility Use Agreement with the Green Hills Health Care Center, Inc. from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

The parties agree that the residents of Green Hills and its staff will pay the public fee and shall have one week's advance registration for the fitness and aqua classes that are open to the public at large.

THIRD: COMPENSATION

THE CITY agrees to compensate GREEN HILLS for the use of its facilities by paying a facility fee in the amount of Six Dollars (\$6.00) per participant for fitness and aqua classes, including any Green Hills residents or its staff members, per session.

The CITY further agrees to compensate GREEN HILLS for the use of its pool for swim lessons by paying a facility fee in the amount of Three Dollars (\$3.00) per participant per session.

FOURTH: PAYMENT

Payments to GREEN HILLS by THE CITY will be made at the conclusion of each session. THE CITY shall reimburse GREEN HILLS Six Dollars (\$6.00) per participant, per session for fitness and aqua classes and Three Dollars (\$3.00) per participant per session for swim lessons, within 10 days after the end of the applicable session.

FIFTH: INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR

THE CITY represents that it has, or will secure, at its own expense, all personnel required in performing the SERVICES under this Agreement. Such personnel shall not be employees of, nor have any contractual relationship with GREEN HILLS. THE CITY, consistent with its status as an independent contractor, further agrees that its personnel will not hold themselves out as, nor claim to be, officers or employees of GREEN HILLS by reason of this Agreement.

SIXTH: INDEMNIFICATION

Neither party hereto shall be liable for any damages proximately resulting from the negligent or wrongful actions or omissions of the other party, employees, agents or contractors performing under this Agreement.

SEVENTH: INSURANCE

THE CITY agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to obtain and keep in force throughout the term of this Agreement, the following insurance coverages and policies:

- Commercial General Liability providing no less than \$1,000,000 combined single limit of liability per occurrence/\$2,000,000 Aggregate.

- Worker's Compensation in including Employer's Liability, covering injury to or death of employees as provided in laws of the State of Iowa.

EIGHTH: FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

GREEN HILLS agrees, at its sole cost and expense, to maintain the fitness and aqua facilities in a safe and clean condition.

NINTH: TERMINATION

This Agreement may be terminated by either party hereto upon thirty (30) days written notice in the event of substantial failure by the other party to perform in accordance with the terms of this Agreement through no fault of the terminating party.

TENTH: NONWAIVER

No failure or waiver or successive failures or waivers on the part of either party hereto, their successors or permitted assigns, in the enforcement of any condition, covenant, or article of this Agreement shall operate as a discharge of any such condition, covenant, or article nor render the same invalid, nor impair the right of either party hereto, their successors or permitted assigns, to enforce the same in the event of any subsequent breaches by the other party hereto, its successors or permitted assigns.

ELEVENTH: NOTIFICATION

All notices required or permitted under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed sufficiently served if served by Registered Mail addressed as follows:

TO THE CITY: City of Ames
 515 Clark
 Ames, IA 50010
 ATTENTION: Director of Parks and Recreation

TO GREEN HILLS: Green Hills Retirement Community
2205 Green Hills Drive STE 100
Ames, IA 50014
ATTENTION: Executive Director

TWELFTH: APPLICABLE LAW

This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Iowa.

THIRTEENTH: EXTENT OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement represents the entire and integrated agreement between THE CITY and GREEN HILLS and supersedes and replaces all terms and conditions of any prior agreements, arrangements, negotiations, or representations, written or oral, with respect to this project.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Agreement has been executed by THE CITY and GREEN HILLS, effective from the day and year first written above.

CITY OF AMES

By _____
Chair of Parks and Recreation Commission

DATE

GREEN HILLS

By _____
Rod Copple, Executive Director, Green Hills
Health Care Center, Inc.

DATE

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION
MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2019/20 TERM**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Type</u>	<u>Location</u>
April 18, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
May 16, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
June 20, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
July 18, 2019	7:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
August 15, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
September 19, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
October 17, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
November 21, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
December 5, 2019	4:00 PM	Special Meeting (CIP discussion)	Parks & Recreation Office 1500 Gateway Hills Park Drive
December 19, 2019	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
January 16, 2020	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
February 20, 2020	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue
March 26, 2020	4:00 PM	Regular Meeting	Council Chambers 515 Clark Avenue



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TO: Keith Abraham, Director of Parks and Recreation

FROM: Staff

RE: Monthly Report May 2019

PARKS AND FACILITIES:

1. Staff completed turning on water to all restrooms, fountains, and irrigations systems for the 2019 summer season.
2. Staff has completed filling the pool basins at the Furman Aquatic Center in preparation for the 2019 season.
3. Staff has been preparing softball fields and soccer fields at North River Valley and South River Valley Parks for youth and adult programs.
4. Staff started mowing parks turf the week of April 29. The mowing standard is to have each park mowed every seven to ten days. In 2018, each park was mowed on an eight day rotation.
5. Staff have completed tilling the flower beds for the Adopt A Flower Program. Volunteers will begin planting over 40 flower beds the week of May 13. For over 20 years, Holub's Garden and Greenhouse has donated all of the flowers for the Adopt A Flower program.

RECREATION PROGRAMS:

1. In April, there were 12 public skating sessions held at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena with a total attendance of 467 skaters. A total of 111 skaters attended 13 noon skate sessions and April skate rentals totaled 539.
2. The Ames Figure Skating Club hosted their annual spring skating show, Moments in Time, at the Ames/ISU Ice Arena with approximately 360 spectators attending.
3. The Furman Aquatic Center opens for the season Saturday, May 25.
4. Staff recorded a Healthy Living Show promoting a 10-minute low-impact workout you can do at home.

5. In April, began spring session of Yoga Basics (5), West Coast Swing Dance (8), Belly Dance (4), and Tai Chi (8).
6. A yearly comparison of participants in spring programs is below.

Youth					
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Kiddie Kickers	43	47	43	56	42
1st-2nd Grade Soccer	64	42	51	50	69
3rd-4th Grade Soccer	62	60	64	33	45
5th-6th Grade Soccer	66	37	43	40	45
3rd-4th Grade Volleyball	N/A	19	21	15	16
5th-6th Grade Volleyball	N/A	13	9	8	23
3rd-6th Grade Volleyball	36	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
7th-8th Grade Volleyball	9	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adult					
	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015
Men's Softball	32	34	40	41	42
Coed Softball	22	28	33	39	42
Total Softball Teams	54	62	73	80	84

7. April Auditorium Events
 - a. Hope Lutheran Church held six worship services.
 - b. Central Iowa Symphony held five rehearsals for their Season Finale.
 - c. Parks and Recreation Youth Dance and Gymnastics held their dress rehearsal and recital.
 - d. The City of Ames hosted the 2019 Eco Fair (also held in the gymnasium).
 - e. ISU Hip Hop Club (Dub H) held two rehearsals and one performance of their 2019 Spring Show.
 - f. ISU Music held a concert for Campus Band, Concert Band, and Symphonic Band.
 - g. The Des Moines Metro Opera Guild held one performance of "The Magic Flute", which was free to attend as it was sponsored by the Ames Chapter of the Guild.
 - h. The India Cultural Association hosted two Indian music concerts; one featuring a vocalist with Indian instruments and the second, Jahved Ali.
 - i. The Artist: Visual and Performance Arts, Madrid, held their first and second ever dance recitals.

PROJECT UPDATE:

1. Work has stopped on the Low Head Dam Project in North River Valley Park due to the high water levels in the Skunk River. The Contractor will be returning to the site after water levels in the river go down. Completion of the project will be extended into late spring with a ribbon cutting being planned for September.
2. Staff along with Water Pollution Control staff had a conference call with consultants for the Raw Water Line and Well Project that will impact River Valley Park, Homewood Golf Course, and Inis Grove Park. The project includes adding three wells and a 24-

inch water line in East and North River Valley Park along with adding an electrical generator to Inis Grove Park and an underground electrical line through Homewood Golf Course. The project is expected to begin later this summer.

3. Design Alliance is continuing to develop the specifications for the Homewood Golf Course Clubhouse Project. Plans and Specifications are planned to go out for bid this summer, with construction starting after a contract is awarded.
4. ISG is continuing to develop specifications for the Brookside Park Restroom Renovation Project. Staff reviewed design specifications and submitted changes to ISG in early May. Plans and Specifications are planned to go out for bid in June, with construction starting later this summer.