

Silver Lake Advisory Commission Minutes for July 15, 2010 Meeting:

UNAPPROVED

**Members in Attendance: Bill Ambuehl, Sally Raeber, Randy Amman,
Bob Wittenborn, Dan Shimer, Brad Kohlbrecher,
Natural Resource Manager Ryan Hummert**

- 7:05pm- meeting was called to order by Randy Amman
- Ryan Hummert, Natural Resource Manager, gave a brief overview of the new additions to Silver Lake and Silver Lake Park including the new marina docks. Ryan informed the commission that every available dock space had been leased and he received three calls from individuals wanting dock spaces if additional would be added next year. He also informed the commission that a locked gate would be installed in order to provide security and privacy for the dock renters and each renter would have a key.
- Hummert also updated the commission on the status of the livestock ponds which are being installed on the Schrupf property north of I-70. A pre-bid meeting was held Monday July 12 in which contractors could look at the site and take any notes necessary for their bid proposal. Bids will be turned in on July 27th and will be awarded once approved by the city council.
- Bob Wittenborn updated the commission on the new water quality measures being taken at the Water Treatment Plant. Randy Amman commented on the vast improvements to the clarity of the water since the riprap improvements were made around the lake.
- Discussed the horseback trails on the north end of Silver Lake along Prairie Road and possibility of designating a parking lot for trailers. Several members of the commission brought up the fact that no revenue would be generated due to the horseback riders. Concerns were raised among all members about allowing riding on the existing trail which crosses private property in some points. Several members believed opening up trails to the public could present liability issues as well as create problems for private property owners adjoining city property. Dan Shimer brought up the lack of safety in parking the horse trailers along the roadway which presents many hazards to vehicular traffic as well as riders. The commission decided to table the conversation until next meeting when all members could be present for a vote.
- Discussed possibly implementing firearm zones and archery only hunting areas around the lake. Ryan Hummert informed the commission of the state law which would apply to all city property indicating the 100 and 300 yard restrictions for firearms when close to dwellings. Several members of the commission agreed the city should have the hunt able areas around the lake surveyed prior to allowing any hunting to occur. Dan Shimer and Bill Ambuehl indicated we should have temporary no hunting on these areas until the commission and the city council can designate what areas will be hunt able for the public. The discussion was tabled until the next meeting when everyone could be present for their opinions.

- Ryan Hummert advised the commission he was contacted by Fred Cronin with IDNR Fisheries concerning the length limit on Channel Catfish which is in effect on the Old City Lake. Cronin advised the state did not recognize and or recommend this restriction because the catfish is not considered a sport fish. Cronin recommended the commission do away with the length limit and retain the (6) daily creel limit which is in place on catfish. Hummert informed the commission the city does not have this restriction listed in its ordinance therefore the commission could make a decision on this matter. All members of the commission agreed to remove the length limit on channel catfish on the Old City Lake.
- Randy Amman requested the city speak with the IDNR Fisheries department and inquire about stocking Silver Lake with Thread Fin Chad which would increase the fisheries potential and overall success.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.