

## CER Joint Powers Board

August 23, 2013

**Board Members:** Eric Banks, Bill Borth, Mike Miller, Bonnie Pehrson, Lynn Peterson, Darrin Strand, Audrey Nelsen, Rachel Smith

**WCER Staff:** Brad Bonk, Tammy Rudningen, Jena Tollefson, Kevin Madsen, Rob Baumgarn

**Guests:** Mike Nyborg, Nathan Streed-Willmar Football Boosters/100 Yard Club

### **Business:**

Darrin Strand has accepted the Vice Chair position for the Joint Powers Board.

Mike Nyborg and Nathan Streed came to represent Willmar Football Boosters. They asked for a liquor permit for the Hairball Concert Fundraiser at the Willmar Fairgrounds. The event is for ages 21 and up. The Oaks at Eagle Creek will run the Liquor Booths and Security. Backup for rain is the Willmar Civic Center. Willmar City Council approved the request pending the approval of the Joint Powers Board. Darrin Strand made a motion to support, Lynn Peterson made the second. It carried unanimously.

Liz recommended having a retreat for this board, WCER, Joint Powers Board, School Board, and City Staff will go through an organizational study with Roger Warner to find out strengths, weaknesses, what is our purpose, etc. He will be conducting interviews with each individual. He will go through audits, budgets, evaluations, and etc for the last 5 years.

Park Survey is out, please take it and encourage others to do so too.

### **WCER Summer Review:**

**Brad Bonk:** Swimming lessons:taught 2,336 hours, 366 students-518 for the year. DJ Olson found the Medallion at East Willmar Park. Got recognition and a prize back at a Stinger's game. Tennis Tournaments have been great-42 participants at Willmar Fest, 107 participants at the Cardinal Classic. Hats off to Jim Anderson and his work with Tennis. First year of Adult Soccer-13 teams, 140 participants. Wasn't perfect but will evaluate for next year. Adult Softball- Men's League-21 Teams, Women's League-4 Teams, Co-Ed-21 Teams, Church League-17 Teams. Fall Ball Leagues: 15 Men Teams, 9 Co-Ed Teams. Brad and Jena are re-doing the district website, the district is hoping to launch it in October.

**Tammy Rudningen:** Photos of some of the summer activities were distributed to attendees. Then we randomly talked about them. HAWK- about 100 kids served daily. Sunwood was especially successful. The kids loved it. Soccer was a hit there. Regency West also a big site. Surprisingly- jump rope was the activity of choice. Backpacks filled with food distributed each Friday then gathered each Monday for refill. Several groups worked together to make this possible including United Way, Salvation Army, Willmar Area Food Shelf, WCER and Americorps. Also talked about horse camp, Rocketry, Legos, golf,

Messy Mania and fencing. Other programs discussed included youth orchestra and band. All received positive feedback. Special needs programs were well attended with the biggest challenge being a field for SN softball teams. Adult Enrichment “classes with purpose” such as CPR and Computer classes seem to be well attended. Attendees were asked to post at least 10 flyers for Ride for the Trails. WCER Fall Activity Brochure was also distributed.

**Jena Tollefson:** Cardinal Place had a great summer. We had 155 kids registered which is 112 families. Average daily attendance was 80 which is up from 70 last year. Total kids billed weekly is averaged at 106 which is up 15 from last year. We had collaboration with 4 H/U of M Extension, Master Gardeners, Rice Care Center, Willmar Stingers, Adult Basic Education, and more. We took field trips all over from the Aquatic Center and Willmar Parks to Valley Fair, Target Field, and Como Zoo. We had 3 groups. Ann Johnson leading Group 1 (Kindergarten-1<sup>st</sup>), Carli Angrimson leading Group 2 (2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup>), and Sara Stegeman leading the CIT's (5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>). Challenges to address for next summer are bussing and space. Strengths to keep supporting are staff, programming, and activity transportation. We had 40 staff who covered the 59 days we were open from 6:30am-6:00pm daily. All CPR and First Aid Certified. We had 3 children who needed 1 on 1 staffing.

**Kevin Madsen:** Sonshine was a success-no major issues or problems. Staff is into maintenance mode and tuning up the Zamboni's. Ice Schedules are out to coaches to schedule practices and games. 2 nights of Adult Hockey this last year went great. Judd Dunnick has stepped down from running the Adult Leagues and Don Asche has stepped up in his place. Kevin will be leaving for the Arena Managers Conference right after Labor Day. Civic Center is facing some infrastructure dilemmas in the coming time.

**Rob Baumgarn:** Down a few kids in some programs while we gained a few kids in another. One of the best programs is the summer gymnastics program at Kennedy with 212 kids. Changed to a block schedule with Summer Staff due to budget cuts. Biggest challenge is night staff. We want to always provide a quality experience so time changes occurred which was a struggle for some parents. But the numbers didn't fluctuate too bad. Youth Baseball practices during the day with games at night helped ease concerns for most families. After talking with area coaches they wanted kids to spend more time on drills and skills and really tried to provide that with Youth Baseball. Also have the same collaboration with Youth Softball. WCER does the schedule, registration, hires the umps, and gets the fields ready. The Softball Association makes the teams, and runs the practices. Jim Anderson has really revived Tennis in Willmar especially with the Quick Start Tennis Program. Courts at the Middle School and High School have been done revamped and dressed up with windscreens. Also the Middle School courts have the lines painted in for the Quick Start Program. Football camp is getting 150 kids attending to get ready for Cardinal Football. Addressed the concerns of a Board Member: Camps being scheduled back to back. Multiple sport athletes having to pick a priority. Gym space is limited-have to use them when they are

available. Get used as storage, floors need to be resurfaced, etc. Have spoken with school janitors to provide a better schedule-to always have a gym available for use. Cannot have high school camps in August due to a Black Out Period, so camps cannot be held during August.

Being no further business the meeting adjourned. Next meeting is Friday September 27.