

August 9, 2017  
City Manager's Roundtable  
Procter & Gamble Room, Mercer Park Aquatic Center  
Meeting time 12 p.m. – 1 p.m.

Members present: Kristin Watson, Ashley Monroe, Stefanie Bowers, Jamie Porter, Jean Paul Mugemuzi, Pastor Smith, Joe Coulter, Maeve Clark, Susan Craig, Tracy Hightshoe, Katie Linder, Geoff Fruin, Juli Seydell-Johnson, Sara Schupanitz, Chad Dyson, Charlie Eastham, Melva Hughes, Anthony Branch, RaQuishia Harrington, LaTasha DeLoach, Bill Campbell, Jody Matherly, Henri Harper, Rafael Morataya, Mazahir Salih, Royceann Porter.

### Meeting Overview

The meeting opened with participants introducing themselves and their organizational affiliations. See participant contact list for more background on attendees. Bowers mentioned several upcoming events the Human Rights Commission is sponsoring.

Library staff provided updates on the Summer Reading Program and Bookmobile. The Bookmobile has shown to be very popular with children. Library staff noted concern with a few youth who have been patronizing the library over the last few months. Youth behavior includes threatening and cursing at staff. To combat these incidents Library staff has introduced some new procedures and policies. To be proactive and combat these behaviors Library staff has been working jointly with the Parks and Recreation Department, increasing outreach with youth to establish relationships and finding interesting activities for youth to participate in. Other area libraries have also noticed an increase in poor youth behavior over the last few months.

Since summer began the Police Department has held Safety Village sessions, which are a collaboration between the Fire Department and the Iowa City Community School District. The sessions include fire and water safety lessons.

A Kids Day was held in July with over 200 youth in attendance and another will be held on August 16. The upcoming event will be at City Park and include a K-9, fire trucks, and the ambulance from Hurts Donut Company, as well as reduced fares to swim at the park. Several Johnson County law enforcement agencies sponsor this event.

Officer Hayes has increased outreach to youth at the Police Substation, located at 1067 Highway 6 E., that opened in 2010. Recent activities include a hand print wall at the substation that currently has more than 200 hand prints many of whom are youth, but include some officers and community members. The next session to add your hand prints is scheduled for August 11 at 9 a.m. Other activities at the substation include Pizza Fridays.

*The Emergency Services Youth Summer Camp* had 21 high school and 51 junior high students. This year the Iowa City Fire Department took the lead, and the program continues to be evaluated. Future plans for the program include attracting more Iowa City youth to participate.

Thirteen out of fifteen youth completed *The Free Wheels program*. The program provided complimentary bikes to area youth (including helmets and bike locks) and taught them bike safety. There are plans to offer the program again next summer.

Seven young men from Northwest Junior High and West High School completed a day's ride in RAGBRAI, The Register's Annual Great Bicycle Ride Across Iowa. City staff including Watson and Harper volunteered their time to assist the young men on their journey that was headed by Anthony Branch of the Neighborhood Centers for Johnson County.

The second annual *Do You See Me Now Challenge* was held on July 19. Youth competed against Iowa City Police Officers to see who had the best skills on the basketball court. The soccer match as part of this challenge was canceled this year due to higher than normal temperatures.

Parks and Recreation has recently added pickle ball courts at Mercer Park. To date, Parks and Recreation has taken youth on field trips including to *Adventureland* and a tour of *Big Grove Brewery*. Educational programs have emphasized entrepreneurial pursuits and starting your own business. The events have included more than 50 youth.

Moving forward City departments and divisions will work together to encourage better outcomes for youth in the summer of 2018. Staff plans to accomplish this by talking with youth prior to the start of summer programming about expectations and the rules for City facilities, having more staff conversations on the best way to handle behavioral concerns, and partnering with other summer programs like the *Youth Empowered to Serve (YES)* program sponsored by Johnson County. YES offers a variety of after school and summer programming for youth that promotes leadership and learning through mentoring, tutoring, health and wellness programs, and pre-employment programs.

Remaining dates for the 2017 City Manager's Roundtable are Wednesday, October 4 and Wednesday, December 6. Both are scheduled to be held at Mercer Park Aquatic Center in the Procter & Gamble Room.

Notes prepared by Stefanie Bowers.