



## **15 in 5 PLAY Task Force**

### **FAR (Fields, Aquatic, Recreation) Subcommittee Meeting Minutes**

*March 7, 2006*

*Ambroz Recreation Center*

*7:30-8:30 am*

#### **Meeting Business**

Subcommittee chairman Alan Bernard called the meeting to order and determined the subcommittee should focus on each of the three goals in the subsequent meetings. The group chose to begin with Goal #4 – Fields.

Joy Long of the USSSA Positive Sports Baseball League reported that the league has 130 teams with coaches for ages 8 and under and 14 and under. The league includes Iowa City, North Linn, Solon, Swisher, Atkins).

Needs for this league include an 8 diamond complex, 3 diamonds that are full H.S. size with bases and mounds portable to accommodate all ages, and 5 baseball and softball diamonds compatible with moveable bases. We would need space for scoreboards and bleachers for baseball and softball plus concessions. The distance that people have to drive (from city center) is not a concern since families are currently driving all over to play in CR and small surrounding towns such as Anamosa, Walker, Norway, etc.

Tuma has 100 acres not currently being used and there is a concessions stand out there. The question of lights at Tuma came up, they would be helpful but current residents in the area have lobbied against them. Lights eliminate scheduling problems and are a good selling point for bringing in tournaments, etc. The Rec Commission is continuing to work on the lights issue at Tuma. Linn County has a contract that says no lights will be used at Tuma. This contract would have to be amended. If Tuma is used, more concessions would need to be added.

Questions regarding the use of Tuma include, “where are the 100 acres?” “who might be opposed? (i.e. the neighbors, the CR Soccer Association?).

Rugby fields are similar to soccer field size. The CR team is called the Cedar Rapids Headhunters. Youth and adult rugby teams bought their own field down near the

sewage plant (past the “Shark” Bar. Now only one men’s team left. Iowa Falls has 5 full-size regulation rugby fields on privately-owned land that is well kept and they hold the State Tournament. Rugby overlaps with soccer season. Muscatine has a beautiful soccer facility underwritten by HON and Bandag. CR needs a championship level field.

Members Present: Not noted.

Next Subcommittee Meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 7:30-8:30am, Ambroz