

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023; 4:30 PM

CITY HALL | 226 WEST 4TH STREET | COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

A. June 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

III. Public Comment

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. The River's Edge Ice Conversion- Ryan Devlin and Troy Evans

VI. Staff Reports

A. July 20, 2023 Staff Report

B. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

C. Park Operations

D. Recreation

E. Revenue Facilities

F. Director's Report

VII. Advisory Time / Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

VIII. Adjournment

IX. Next Meeting Date and Location

A. Next meeting: August 17, 2023 at 4:30 pm

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563-326-7817

Date
6/20/2023

Subject:
June 15, 2023 Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	June 20, 2023 Meeting Minutes

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/19/2023 - 8:33 AM



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
June 15, 2023
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present:

Coiner, Greenlee, Kefauver, Meyer, Peterson, Powell, Schertz, Spratt, and Witemeyer

Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Betsy Tubbs, Becca Niles and Troy Evans

Location: Council Chambers, City Hall 226 W 4th Street

View the full meeting: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IByrtstk3k4>

May 2023 Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the March 2023 meeting minutes presented by Kefauver, 2nd by Spratt. Motion Passes 8-0

Public with Comment:

-

Old Business:

- **None**

New Business:

- **None**

Staff Report:

- RIC Update: Verbal
- See Written Staff Report
- Directors Report
 - We are 90% done in investigating the possibility of re-installing a second sheet of ice at The River's Edge. At next months meeting Ryan Devlin, Ice and Turf Supervisor and Troy Evans, Superintendent of Revenue Facilities will report on that project.
 - Party in the Park at Lafayette Park tonight, next week at Marquette Park and in August we will host these events at Garfield and Emeis Parks. These events have outgrown neighborhood parks, so to accommodate the crowds we have moved these events to community parks.
 - We had a presentation on Dohse Splash Pad last month, these plans and specs are up for council approval next week. Once that's approved we will bid and start construction in the fall with a May 2024 opening goal.
 - Our next fundraising campaign is underway to replace the Emeis clubhouse. The Miracle Field was our last fund raiser and that was very successful, 4-5 years ago. A new clubhouse is desperately needed. There is also an opportunity to partnership with First Tee on this project, as a class room is needed for their program at this location.



Advisory Time and questions:

- **Peterson-** The pathway at Whalen came in over budget, correct? **Director Dyson-** Yes, this project came in over budget so we are going to rebid it in the fall or winter for next year when we are more like to receive a favorable bid from contractors setting up their schedules for the next spring.
- **Kefauver-** The courts going into Lafayette Park are we rebidding that and did it come in to high? **Director Dyson-** Yes, bids came in over budget on this project as well. This is the same issue we experienced with the Whalen walking path. When we bid in the spring and summer the contractors bids can come in high because they are already booked with work for the current season.
- **Meyer-** I have a question about the Park Ambassador position, is that a paid or volunteer position? I didn't see anything on the website about that. **Betsy Tubbs-** That is a paid position and it is listed in the general application on the main page of the Human Resources page. There is a specific application for season Park and Recreation positions.
- **Coiner-** Are there changes with the railroad contract along the river and Main Street Landing. **Director Dyson-** We are working with the designers and the railroad to install quite zones along the river front.
- **Coiner-** What's going on with the little leagues at Emeis, the fields are not being used. **Betsy Tubbs-** There was a decline in registration with in that little league so they were merged with another league for the season with hopes of returning next season.

Adjournment:

- 5:43pm Motion to adjourn by Greenlee, 2nd by Kefauver. Motion Passes 8-0

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563-326-7817

Date
7/20/2023

Subject:
The River's Edge Ice Conversion- Ryan Devlin and Troy Evans

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/19/2023 - 8:35 AM

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563-326-7817

Date
7/20/2023

Subject:
July 20, 2023 Staff Report

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	July 20, 2023 Staff Report

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/19/2023 - 8:37 AM

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

July 20, 2023

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

Park Operations

- The grass has started growing again so staff is back in full mowing mode.
- We have had an extra ordinary amount of water lines breaking this season. This has kept us using portable toilets around the city more than usual. When staff is able, we complete the repairs in-house; if not, we call in contractors.
- Staff worked hard to complete the flood clean-up of the Credit Island Lodge in house. The lack of rain/non-growing grass allowed us to re-allocate staff to this project. This saved the city over \$12,000 in contractor costs. The lodge officially re-opened for a wedding reservation on July 8.
- We anticipate offering the vacant Park Technician position to a qualified candidate within the next few weeks. To say we are excited is an understatement! This will be the first time in over a year that all of our full-time positions will be filled.
- Parks staff will welcome over 30,000 RAGBRAI participants to dip their tires in the river at the Marquette Street boat ramp on Saturday, July 29. It will be an “all hands-on deck” effort from the Parks Operations division staff up to and including the day of the event.
- Vandalism has hit the division hard this season. We have dealt with all of the doggie waste bags being thrown around Slattery Park on three different occasions; Dillon fountain has been soaped multiple times and various restrooms have had sinks and urinals smashed as well as someone removing all the copper piping from the Northwest Park restroom. Repairing the damage has taken a lot of time and effort and prevented us from accomplishing other items on our to-do list.

Recreation

- Overall, summer programming is up and running well. Staff have had some issues with staff discipline, and failure to follow policies. Once we

get into progressive discipline situations it is difficult because they effect all staff, and the timeframe to change bad behavior is limited. We appreciate Human Resources working with us to correct the issues we can, and remove those not changing their behavior.

- Red, White & Boom Kid's Zone was a success. We received rave reviews from several families, including one that came from Clinton to tell us we did an incredible job putting on such a wonderful event for families.
- A main highlight at Red, White & Boom was Taylor Schneider and the community art piece she did with families using invasive species as paintbrushes.
- Movie in the Park at Annie Wittenmyer Complex could not have been held on a more beautiful night. Junior Theatre campers were leaving just as the games and food trucks were getting started. Many decided to join the festivities as we watched "The Lorax" together, but even with all those things aligned attendance was low.
- Youthfest had to be rescheduled from 7/12 to 7/19 due to inclement weather. Nearly every vendor agreed to attend on the reschedule date.
- We have over 20 AmeriCorps serving within our department this summer at camp, golf, junior theatre, special events, adaptive and inclusive programming, and outreach. They are very helpful at our larger events and help our programs have better youth: supervisor ratios, and increase our ability to do various projects.
- Junior Theatre increased its summer camps from serving 60 to 96 each camp, and is back on par with pre-COVID numbers to having 394 enrollments for classes.
- Party in the Park events at Lafayette Park and Marquette Park went very well, we had coloring activities, games and our new 9 square game was a big hit.

Revenue Facilities

- Emeis Golf experiencing more women's play to the credit of the additional tee boxes.
- Duck Creek Golf - cosmic golf rolling along this summer weekends with some weather cancellations.
- Red Hawk driving range revenue all-time high, bringing more customers to golf every day.
- All golf courses experiencing heavy play and beneficial weather this summer season.
- The River's Edge - operating summer programming.

Communication Updates (July-August)

- Community Events
 - **Journey of Hope Stopover & Summer Bash** Thursday, 7/20 | 6-8:30PM | Annie Wittenmyer Aquatic Center
 - **Movies in the Park – ‘Sing 2’** Friday, 7/21 | 6PM | LeClaire Park
 - **Bix & RAGBRAI Weekend** Friday-Saturday, 7/28-7/29 | Garfield Park
 - **Party in the Park** Thursday, 8/10 | 5:30-7:30PM | Garfield Park
 - **Cops and Cones** Tuesday, 8/15 | 6-8PM | Vander Veer Botanical Park
 - **Party in the Park** Thursday, 8/17 | 5:30-7:30PM | Emeis Park
 - **Fejervary Family Fun Day – Back 2 School** Saturday, 8/18 | 12-3PM | Fejervary Learning Center
 - **Music on the River Concert Series** | LeClaire Park
 - Monday, 7/24 | Polyphonia Orchestra (partnership w/Common Chord)
 - Sunday, 8/13 | Rabbit Hole: The Band
 - Wednesday, 8/23 | Central High School Marching Band
- Recreation Programs
 - **My Little Wheelbarrow** Thursdays, 7/20, 8/3, 8/17 | 10-10:30AM | Vander Veer Botanical Park & Fejervary Learning Center
 - **Up Close & Plantable** Fridays, 7/28, 8/25, 9/22 | 2-4PM | Sunderbruch Park
 - **Creative Natives** Saturday, 7/29 | 2-3PM | Vander Veer Conservatory
 - **Up Cycle That! Workshop: Penny ball slug repellent** Tuesday, 8/8 | 1-2PM | Vander Veer Conservatory
- Notable Dates
 - **National Parks and Recreation Month** 7/1-7/31
 - **Adult Softball League Fall Registration Ends** 7/15
 - **Adult Bags League Registration Ends** 7/31
 - **Fall Youth Soccer Registration Ends** 7/31
 - **Fall Winter Recreation Guide Available** Mid-August

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7/20/2023

Subject:
Next meeting: August 17, 2023 at 4:30 pm

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/19/2023 - 8:39 AM