

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

THURSDAY, JULY 15, 2021; 4:30 PM

CITY HALL | 226 WEST 4TH STREET | COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

- A. May Meeting Minutes
- B. June Meeting Minutes

III. Public Comment

IV. Old Business

- A. E-Devices, City Code

V. New Business

- A. Staff Introduction: Tim Stephens, Lead Horticulture Tech

VI. Staff Reports

- A. July 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. August 19, 2021 4:30pm

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
May Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▣ Cover Memo	May Meeting Minutes

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 9:19 AM



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
May 4th, 2021
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Coiner, McBride, Peterson, Schertz, Spratt, Thomas and Trees

Staff Present: Director Dyson, T. Evans, B. Tubbs, J. Rhoads

Full meeting video can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKRRKc6GzPm0>

April Meeting Minutes: Motioned by Thomas to approve the minutes, 2nd by Spratt. Minutes approved 6-0

Old Business: None

New Business:

- By-Law Update - Meeting Date and Time Change. Discussion on the 2nd Monday of the month at 4:30pm. Coiner asked the board to reconsider moving to the 3rd Thursday of the month as he has a scheduling conflict on Mondays. Vote: (4) 2nd Mondays at 4:30 p.m. vs. (5) 3rd Thursdays at 4:30 p.m.

Staff Report:

See Written Staff Report

Director's Report - Jersey Farms Park construction is on track to be completed in mid-to-late July. The team is working on planning a ribbon cutting at the end of July. Master Planning is going well. We have 4 more weeks of public input, started surveying with our user groups and will be sending the board a survey to gather more feedback. We continue to have staffing issues when hiring our seasonal employees. We currently have enough staff to open 1 of our 3 pools which is not ideal coming off a pandemic year. A hybrid model is being assessed to see if we can open 2 pools 3 days a week. We are excited to have Party in The Park back this year and we will host 7 events this year with the first one kicking off on July 8th. May 27th we will host the Goose Creek Disc Golf Course ribbon cutting at 5:30pm.

Advisory Time:

- Thomas asked what are the plans for the causeway for Credit Island. B.Tubbs stated the bid went out for the causeway, construction should be completed by fall.

- Coiner asked if underground tunnels to help with the flooding and if the city has looked into that as an option. B.Tubbs stated yes, Public Works and the US Corps of Engineers has looked at a variety of solutions, with one of them being tunnels as suggested.

Adjournment: Motioned by Coiner to adjourn, 2nd by Spratt. Motion passes 6-0

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
June Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	June Meeting Minutes

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Finance	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 9:19 AM



DAVENPORT

PARKS & RECREATION

Parks and Recreation Advisory June 17th, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Board Members Present: Coiner, Kefauver, Lemek, McBride, Meyer, Ortiz, Peterson, Schertz, Spratt, Thomas and Woods

Staff Present: Director Dyson, T. Evans, T. Human, B. Tubbs, J. Rhoads

Full meeting video can be found at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w-wHomFs3mM>

Meeting Minutes: No minutes to approve.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Riverfront Improvement Commission liaison reappointment after T. Trees vacated the board. Schertz nominated by Coiner, 2nd by Spratt. Motion Passed 11-0.
- E-Bikes and Devices, Board Recommendations. **Director Dyson** asked the board for direction to update the current city code in relation to e-bikes. He stated at this time per the current wording of the city code, e-bikes and e-devices are not allowed on our trail system. As in other cities, Davenport is looking to update rules to recognize the new user trend. **Schertz** shared some data he gathered: 50 bikes on the Duck Creek (47 bicycles and 3 e-bikes), Riverfront Trail 32 bikes (30 bicycles and 2 e-bikes), on the Moline side 43 bikes (41 bicycles and 2 e-bikes). Schertz explained that the e-bikes he and his wife own help people with mobility and health issues continue to exercise using the pedal assist to reduce the rider's over all energy needs and has increased the health and wellbeing of his family. E-bike speeds top out at 20 or 28 mph and are frequently passed by standard bikes and race bikes. He also has seen other e-devices on the trails in Davenport, such as an e-skate board, safely using the trail. **Meyer and Coiner** support the drafted wording. **Meyer and Peterson** both commented on enforcement of the rec trails. **Director Dyson** responded that at this time neither PD nor the Parks department have the staffing or the funding to patrol or enforce rec trail rules. We are looking into a trail ambassador program, in the meantime we have increased signage for users reminding them of both the rules and good trail etiquette. These are not just bike trails but a multi-modal system used by roller skaters, walkers, skate boards, etc. **McBride** comment that hoover boards are another popular device that people are using to get

around and they don't go as fast as e-bikes. **Ortiz** asked if speed sensors could be install to remind people to slow down, if they are going too fast. **B. Tubbs** stated that is something she can look into. **Kefauver** commented on her experiences in California and the number of head on collisions as the trail usage increased. **Schertz** commented that the speed sensors may make the speeding issue worse as users try to set off the speed sensor and recommended an all-inclusive code where all devices can be used safely. **Coiner** asked if e-bikes stop differently than traditional bikes. **Schertz** replied no, if you aren't pedaling then there is no assisting happening and stop just as fast if not faster with the disc brakes. **Chair Peterson** recapped that the board is in agreement that they support finding, addressing and accepting e-devices that can be safely operated in the parks. Create a set of uniform rules and regulations to allow for the safe usage of e-devices on our trails, paths as well as in parks to protect park patrons, assets, landscaping, and equipment.

Staff Report:

See Written Staff Report

Directors Report - Jersey Farms Park is on track to be completed in July. Ribbon cutting information will be out to PAB members soon. The City of Davenport was looking for feedback on how to spend the \$41 million received in ARP funds. Council is now going through and rating the different projects submitted. Some park projects are rating high.

Advisory Time:

- Schertz, suggested everyone reach out to their ward representative and get things working in the parks. He would like to request 4 disc golf baskets - 2 placed in Green Acres and 2 in Whalen Park. Suggested a bike trail safety day with booths and information for rec trail users as a way to spread the word on rules and etiquette, in combination with a proclamation designating 1 day a year to bike safety.

Adjournment Schertz motion to adjourn the meeting, 2nd by Spratt. Motion passes XXXX.

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
E-Devices, City Code

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	E-Bike and Devices

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 12:27 PM

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: 07/15/2021

TO: Parks and Recreation Advisory board

FROM: Chad Dyson, Director

RE: Agenda Item – Recommended Update to Davenport Municipal Code to Address E-Bikes and Devices

Based on discussion at the June 2021 Parks Advisory Board meeting, staff recommends updating the code title and language to Davenport Municipal Code 10.84.110 (Bicycles, Vehicles in bicycle lanes, paths, and parking areas unlawful) from its current title and language:

10.84.110, Bicycles, Vehicles in bicycle lanes, paths, and parking areas unlawful

It is unlawful for any person to drive any type of motorized bicycle or vehicle in a designated bicycle path, lane, or parking area or park any motorized bicycle or vehicle in such a path, lane, or parking area. No person shall cross a bicycle lane except after giving the right-of-way to all bicycles within the lane.

To be more clear and inclusive of e-bikes and devices. The recommended title and language is as follows:

10.84.110, Bicycles, Electric Assist Bicycles and Nonmotorized Vehicles

Persons may travel upon or operate bicycles, electric assist bicycles, and nonmotorized vehicles in all other City parks and along recreational trails except where posted as prohibited. A person who operates a bicycle or electric assist bicycle shall exercise caution to avoid colliding with any pedestrian, shall yield the right of way to any pedestrian, and shall not operate it in such manner as to indicate a willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property. This provision shall not apply to a person with disabilities using a nonmotorized device designed for a person with disabilities.

With the feedback and recommendation of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, staff will submit to Davenport City Council this recommendation for updating davenport Municipal Code 10.84.110 for approval and adoption.

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
Staff Introduction: Tim Stephens, Lead Horticulture Tech

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 9:19 AM

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
July Staff Report

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▯ Cover Memo	July Staff Report

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 9:18 AM

Park and Recreation Advisory Board
July 15, 2021
Staff Report

River Front Improvement Commission up-date: Mike Schertz

Notable Updates from Staff

Park Operations

- Tyler Park playground delivery/installation has been delayed. We are told they are having trouble getting some parts due to COVID.
- Party in the Park events have begun – Recreation handles the programming aspect of the event, Parks handles the set up. We had all staff report on Sunday, July 4 to clean up after Red, White and Boom. Public Works assisted with providing two packer trucks and a street sweeper which were a tremendous help. Staff did a fantastic job – good attitudes and worked hard on a Sunday at straight-time pay.
- Credit Island causeway work has been completed. At “press time” only the striping had yet to be done.
- Sunderbruch bridge work has begun and the Sunderbruch trail repair came in under budget which will allow us to complete repair work on the riverfront trail.
- Public Works has contracted the repair work on the Duck Creek trail where a culvert has collapsed.
- We are hopefully entering a time where the grass won’t grow quite as fast which will allow us to concentrate on those pesky weeds that seem to grow under any weather conditions!

Recreation

- Corporate games continue to go very well. We are getting great feedback and inquiries in how to participate next year.
- AdventureCamp is up and running at Garfield and we were able to add a second site at Roosevelt that opened June 23rd. (Sherrie will be reporting on this at the meeting)
- Special Olympic Bocce program wrapped up last week very successfully and will start up again in the fall.
- Adaptive and Inclusive outreach held an event on July 3rd - crafts and bubbles at Gabe’s Playground. And a field day event at the Miracle Field on June 5th, attendees made and flew kites.
- Junior Theatre’s Robin Hood Festival was very successful both weekends with over 600 attendees.
- Red, White and Boom kids’ zone was a nice success.

- Pools are doing very well. The staff are doing great and working hard. We have now reached the level that we are fully staff for the hybrid schedule, so we are to the point where vacation days and call-ins can be covered.
- Learn to Skate home-school classes received great feedback and will continue.
- We launched our OWLS outreach program with the Library in the Parks. Parks and Recreation department is leading activities and games with kids that drop in and the Library has books for them to check out. See schedule listed under Community Updates.
- The Summer Youth Activities Scholarship program is going very well. Over 200 vouchers have been approved for kids to attend camps and other programs.
- The first Party in the Park was held on July 8th at Lafayette Park and was a great time for all who attended. Even had an impromptu hot dog eating contest that was won by one of the Youth Corps volunteers.
- Upcoming events: Journey of Hope Cyclists will be visiting Davenport on July 22, we will have a pool party and the cyclist will be lodging at The River's Edge
 - **About Journey of Hope:** Each year, more than 100 men embark on a cross-country trip to test their limits, spread awareness, and celebrate the abilities of all people. With three routes kicking off on the West Coast, teams spend the summer crossing the country over a combined 12,000 miles with an arrival at the Capitol Lawn in Washington DC to mark the end of a life-changing event. Along the way, the team spreads the message of disability awareness through local media and makes stops at partner organizations where we delivery joy to our friends from the disability community.

Revenue Facilities

- Emeis Golf Course is completing phase 2 (of 3) renovating sand bunkers. Crews are installing sod and new quality sand into the renovated bunkers. About 12 bunkers remain to be completed.
- Emeis Golf Course added the final two forward tees on #3 and #14 to complete the forward yardage goals. In the future, Emeis will add a few back tees to add desired yardage as well.
- Duck Creek Golf Course is setting up the Cosmic/Glow Golf system for a July debut. We have struggled this early summer with staff shortages and available time consumed by basic maintenance, irrigation repairs, and personal loss.
- Red Hawk Golf Course, First Tee of QC, and the Davenport community lost legendary Golf Pro, Jim Hasley, this summer as he unexpectedly passed away. He will be missed by all of us at Davenport Golf and the Parks and Recreation department.
- Restroom counter/sink project has been completed at The River's Edge. We have new changing stations, paint, and lighting work to complete.
- The River's Edge staff is working on a variety of summer improvement projects, such as painting locker rooms.

Top Staff Challenges

Park Operations

- Staffing continues to be a challenge. While we have a majority of our positions filled, we are always looking for a few more good men and women!!

Recreation

- Staffing continues to be a very challenging issue for us. For example, we had our Roosevelt Camp Coordinator quit without notice on camp opening day.
- The onboarding process is lengthy and cumbersome.
- Fejervary Learning Center is struggling to hire a park host, but thankfully due to department teamwork we have been able to get the hours covered.

Revenue Facilities

Community Updates

- National Parks and Recreation Month social media campaign has kicked off on Davenport Parks and Recreation's Facebook and Instagram accounts. Virtual activities include a weekly themed selfie challenge, scavenger hunt encouraging followers to guess what and where the images were taken and throwback Thursdays highlighting historical aspects of Davenport parks. We are also working on a video series of staff telling their recreation story. This campaign will continue throughout the entire month of July.
- Community Events and Programs (July & August)
 - **Library in the Park** (partnership with Davenport Library) Monday-Thursday, July 6-August 13
 - 10am-12pm: Mondays: Van Buren; Tuesdays: Goose Creek; Wednesdays: Cork Hill/LeClaire Heights; Thursdays: Roosevelt Community Center
 - 2pm-4pm: Mondays: Jefferson Park; Tuesdays: Green Acres; Wednesdays: Tyler Park; Thursdays: Emeis Park
 - **Youth Fest** Wednesday, July 14 9am-2pm at Fejervary Learning Center
 - **Pollinator Week** Tuesday-Sunday, July 20-25 10am-4pm at Vander Veer Conservatory
 - **My Little Wheelbarrow** Wednesday, July 21 10:30am-11am at Vender Veer Botanical Park
 - **Party in the Park at Garfield Park** Thursday, July 22 5:30pm-7:30pm
 - **Party in the Park at Glen Armit Park** Thursday, July 29 5:30pm-7:30pm
 - **Jersey Farms Ribbon Cutting, Save the Date** September 2 5:30pm-7:30pm
 - **Coffee and Cuttings** Tuesday, August 3 10:am-10:15am & 10:15am-10:30am at Vander Veer Conservatory Educational Room
 - **Party in the Park at Van Buren Park** Thursday, August 12 5:30pm-7:30pm
 - **Party in the Park at Northwest Park** Thursday, August 19 5:30pm-7:30pm
 - **Family Fun Day** Saturday, August 21 Back 2 School Bash 12pm-5pm at Fejervary Learning Center

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/15/2021

Subject:
August 19, 2021 4:30pm

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/13/2021 - 9:18 AM