

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2020; 12:00 PM

CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 226 W 4TH STREET, 12:00P.M.

I. Roll Call

A. March Meeting Minutes

II. Approval of Minutes

A. March Meeting Minutes

III. Public Comment

IV. Old Business

V. New Business

A. 8th Ward Park Review- Presentation

VI. Staff Reports

A. July 2020 Written 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

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

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

Date
7/7/2020

Subject:
March Meeting Minutes

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	7/2/2020 - 11:50 AM

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ATTACHMENTS:

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▢ Cover Memo	March Meeting Minutes

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**Parks and Recreation Advisory
March 3rd, 2020 – 12 PM
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Duff, Coiner, Duffy, Lemke, McBride, Peterson, Spratt, Thomas, Trees and Woods

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

Full meeting video can be found at:

https://www.cityofdavenportiowa.com/get_involved/watch_videos/parks_recreation_advisory_board_meetings

February Meeting Minutes: Motioned by Coiner to approve the minutes, 2nd by Duffy. Minutes approved 9-0

Old Business:

- Park Development Fund, Final Project Slate- Motion by Coiner to approve the final Park Development Fund as presented, 2nd by Spratt. Motion passed 9-0

New Business:

- Staff Introductions- Amanda Randerson, Events, Education and Aquatics Supervisor
 - Amanda present a slideshow and verbal report outlining her education, history with the department as well as listed completed projects and future goals.

Staff Report:

- Directors Report- (See written report) Additional information provide by B. Tubbs on behalf of Director Dyson. We have our annual IPRA conference coming up, we invite you all to join us at the exhibit hall. Also as part of this conference they do the best of the best banquet, this year we nominated the QC Rotary Club for their work raising over \$100,000 for the Miracle Field.
- See Written Staff Report



Advisory Time:

- Peterson- The Prospect Park Committee has been meeting and is working on our final report.
- Thomas- Has there been any bids on Mowing Prospect Park Hill? B. Tubbs That maintenance is provided via contract to be weed wacked 4 times a year. Staff is also looking into a local vendor that currently cares for local residents with similar yard terrain.
- Thomas- I received a call about the fencing at tennis courts. IF you get calls the fenced was removed because some residents were using the courts as dog parks. The fence will be replaced but not with a fence, correct? B. Tubbs- That is correct, I have been working with Bill, who came to us from natural resources, to come up with some alternatives like native planting that will catch tennis balls.
- McBride- I know the movie package was just approved, but do you know when we can expect to see our first movie in the park on that system? B. Tubbs we do have a movie planned in May at VV. The funding for this item will not be available until July 1 and are built to order so we maybe able to use in the fall of 2020
- McBride- Any update on River Heritage Park? B. Tubbs, yes, as you know we lost access to this park when the railroad raised the tracks due to flooding. They just submitted plans to the city to gain access to that area as well as the launching area for the Viking cruise line. We know there are going to be a few updates to that plan, so we are working on that. One intersection at a time.
- Coiner- Can you give us a report on your improvement plans at the golf course this year? T. Evans, there will be a lot going on this year: Emeis bunker will be renovated 1/3-1/2 of our bunkers this year, we will finish the restroom projects and staff is working on removing all ash trees from the property. At Duck Creek: We will be working on removing ash trees in this area as well as some older trees, we are also working on installing 10 forward tees and 2 back tees to the course, we will be investing in the lower holes that flood often and close 9 holes for weeks as we recover from flash flooding. No fee increases on green fees, cart rental will be a little higher due to the new carts we are leasing. Cosmic golf will kick off this summer.
- Trees- in reference to the railroad. Will the bike path be raised? B, Tubbs, We know what you know at this point. Staff can look into that and get back to you with more information.

Trees moved to adjourn the meeting, Spratt 2nd. Motion passes 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 12:58pm.

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8th Ward Park Review- Presentation

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GOOSE CREEK PARK

A-A+

Goose Creek is a 28 acre park located at 6000 Scott Street.



Amenities include:

- Baseball Diamond
- Community Picnic Shelter
- 2 Playgrounds
- Spray Feature

New Features:

- Disc golf course this summer – Chad is working with experienced volunteers on design and installation. This should bring in more people, making the park safer for everyone.
- A port-a-pottie along with the disc golf (hopefully!)
- New trees planted near ball field
- New plants in Park sign landscaping
- Pothole at park entrance called in

Needs and Recommendations

- New button at splash pad that automatically turns off after a certain time – the current button often runs for a long time
- Electrical outlet near shelter

-

An aerial photograph of a golf course, identified as Goose Creek Golf Course, with 18 numbered red lines marking specific areas. The lines are distributed across the course, with some following the path of the creek and others marking specific green areas or hazards. The numbers 1 through 18 are placed near the corresponding lines. The map also shows surrounding residential areas with houses and streets, and a road labeled 'Goose Creek' at the bottom right.

GREEN ACRES PARK

A-A+

Green Acres is a 5 acre park located at 2210 West 53rd Street.



Amenities include:

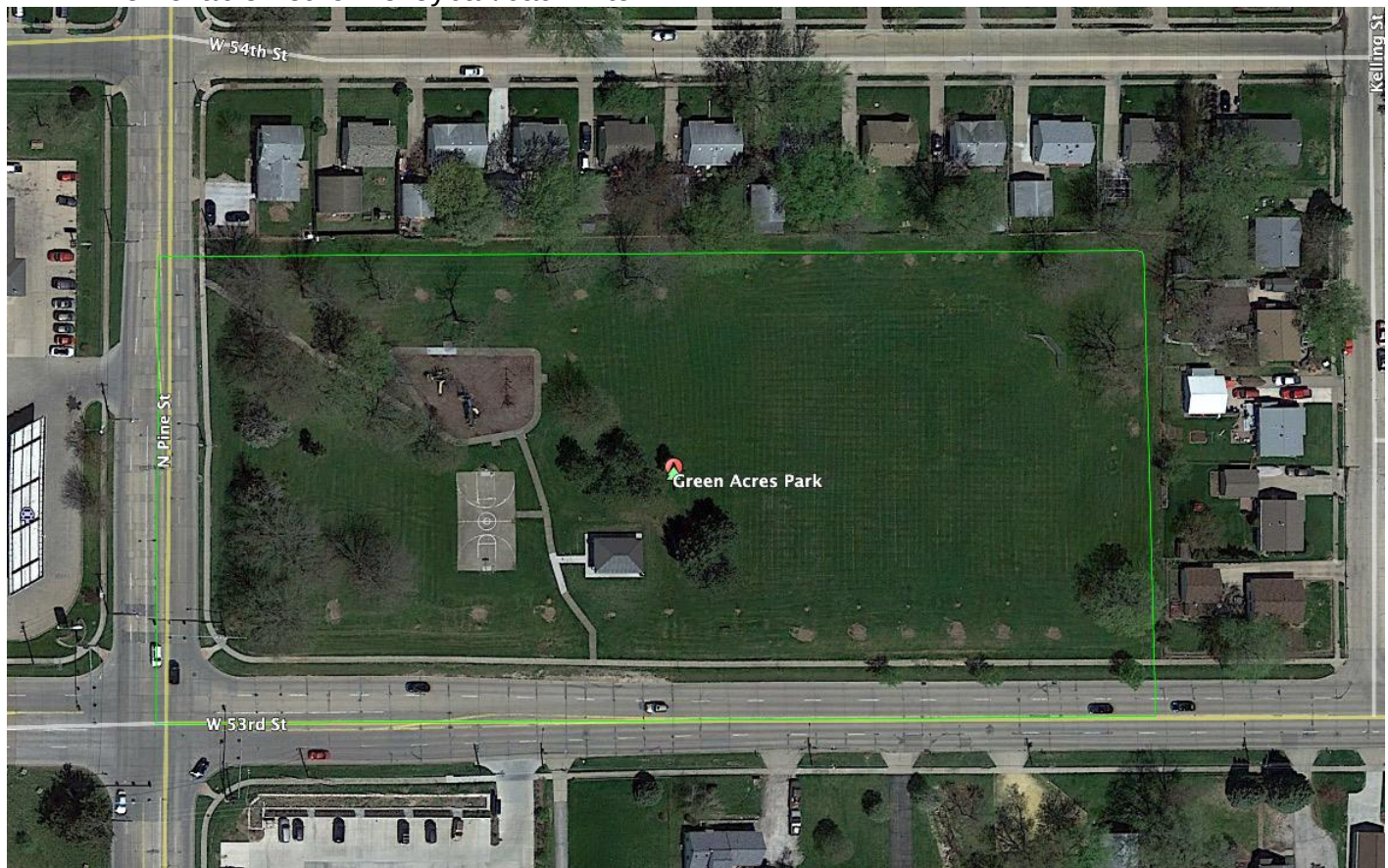
- Baseball Field
- Basketball Court
- Community Picnic Shelter
- Playground [very young children]

This is a neighborhood park; many yards abutting park have fence gates for access; direct neighbors help keep it picked up; possible homeless sleeping in shelter; possible drug activity

Neighbor says that water collects in mulch in playground (especially in low areas) and in basketball court, which is in a low area. Large trees and newly planted trees.

Needs and Recommendations:

- Walking Trail around perimeter (sidewalks already on two sides of four)
- Small parking lot (2-4 spaces) – people currently park on 54th or in strip mall across 53rd and have to cross 53rd
- Seal grass-lined centerline crack of BB court
- Bike rack
- Action lights at shelter (people seen sleeping there)
- Bathroom/port-a-pottie
- Volunteer available and interested, with equipment for informal baseball/softball
- Playground for older kids
- Removable net for volleyball/badminton?



WHALEN PARK [NOT ON CITY WEBSITE]

Amenities:

- Baseball backdrop
- Playground with young and older equipment
- Basketball court
- shelter

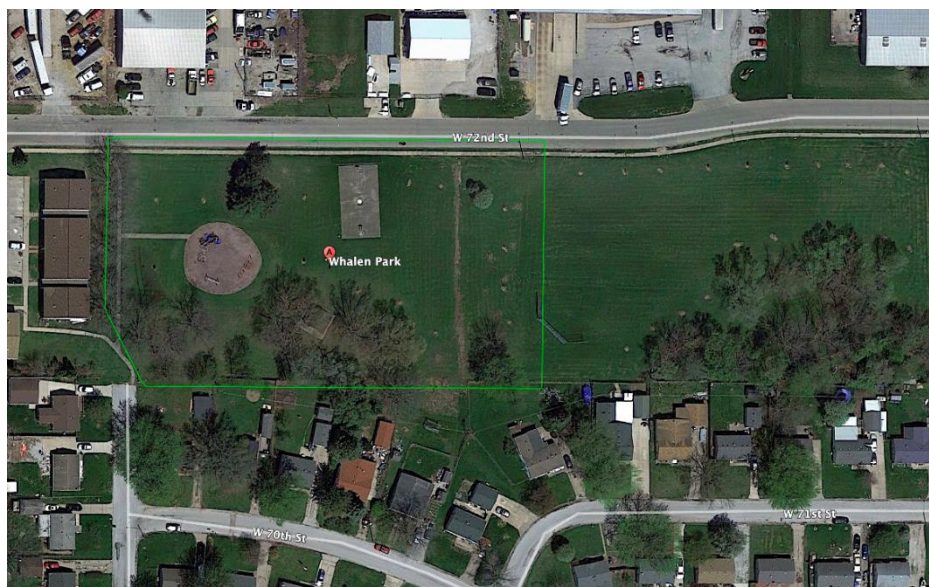
This is a neighborhood park, with houses on one side, large apartment complexes on one side, and commercial/industrial on two sides; parking is on the street. Large trees and newly-planted trees. Davenport School Board serves free lunches here. Lots of kids use the baseball area

This area needs sidewalks to Fillmore School – the Davenport School Board stopped the school buses to Fillmore School, so the kids have to walk in the street (0.9 mi) along some areas.

Needs and Recommendations:

- More seating, especially for school lunches
- Benches by playground
- More playground equipment, climbing walls, and exercise equipment – about 100 kids of all ages just in the apartment complexes
- Bike racks
- Walking path around parks (sidewalks are limited in area)
- Exercise area for adults and older kids; possibly Ninja type equipment like Sunderbruch Park
- Spruce up the basketball court
- 1 or 2 soccer nets

The map does not delineate the entire park (within the green lines), but the map does include the entire park, including the large trees, backstop, and younger trees planted along the road to the right of the map:



RIDGEVIEW PARK

A-A+

Ridgeview Park is an 11 acre park that is located at 1819 Ridgeview Drive.



Amenities include:

- Fenced Baseball Fields with lighting, used by formal youth ball teams (North), with a concession stand and bathrooms
- Basketball Court
- Community Picnic Shelter
- Playground

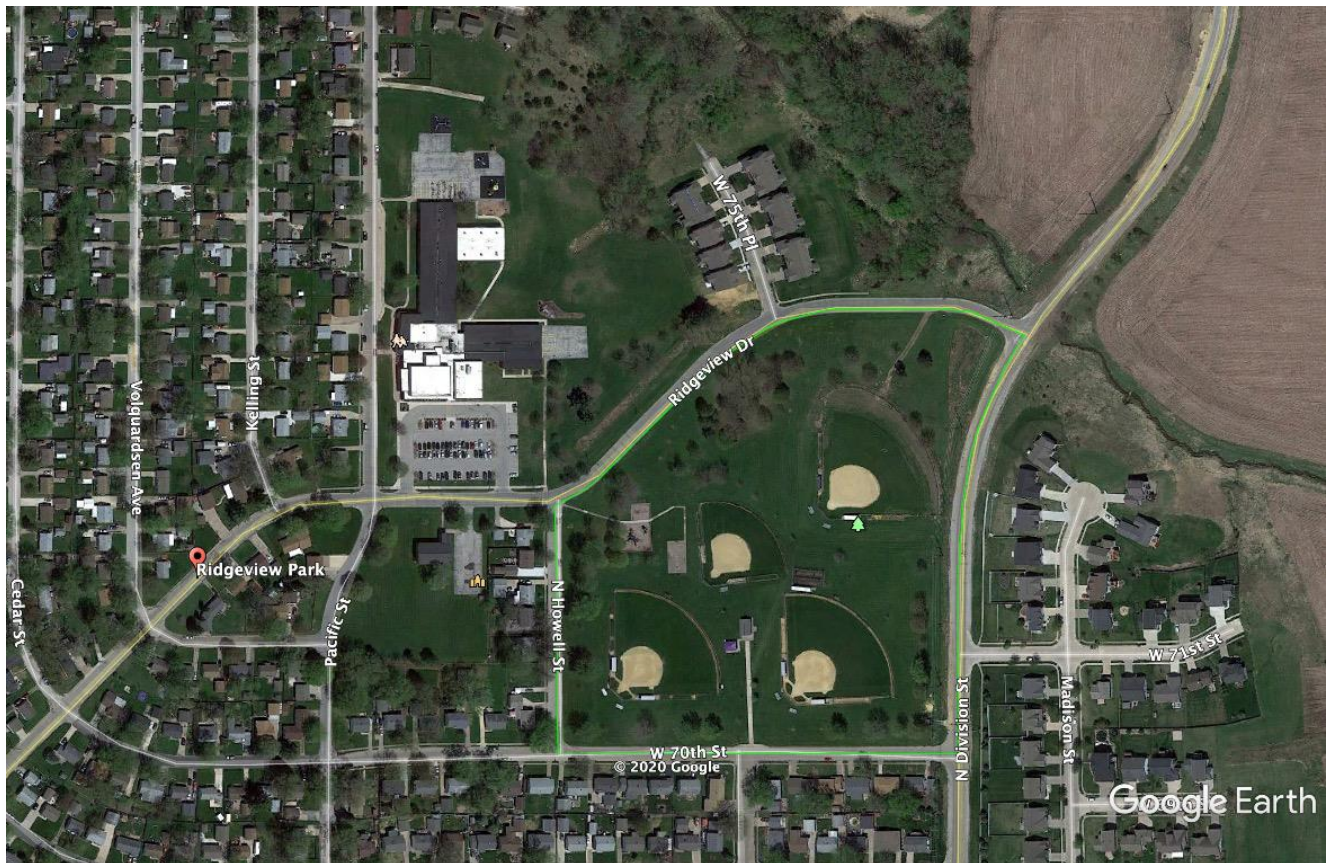
New Amenities

- ADA trails to ball fields and playground (CIP 2020)

This park has no parking – everyone parks along the streets, possibly in the Fillmore School parking lot for games; neighbors have no parking signs on fences on 70th St, so parking is a problem, especially during games. Basketball courts in good shape.

Needs and Recommendations:

- Bathrooms open outside of games?
- Bike racks
- More benches
- Climbing-type equipment for older kids
- More shade for the playground



PRAIRIE HEIGHTS PARK

A-A+

Prairie Heights is a 220 acre park located at 5600 Eastern Avenue.

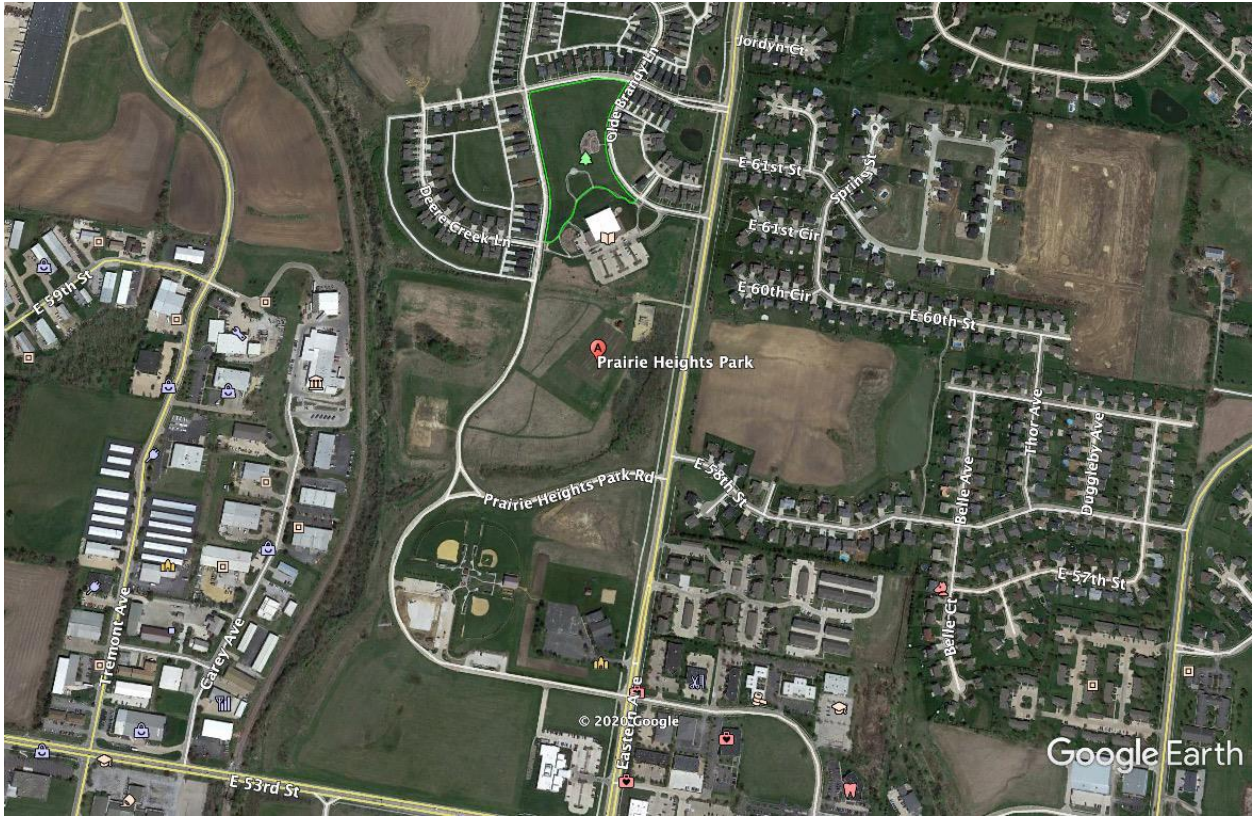


Amenities include:

- 4 Baseball Diamonds (including the Miracle Field)
- Concession stand
- Playgrounds
- Restrooms at ballpark
- Drinking Fountain
- Picnic Shelter that is available for rent
- Home to Southeast Little League (who controls the lighting at the ball park)

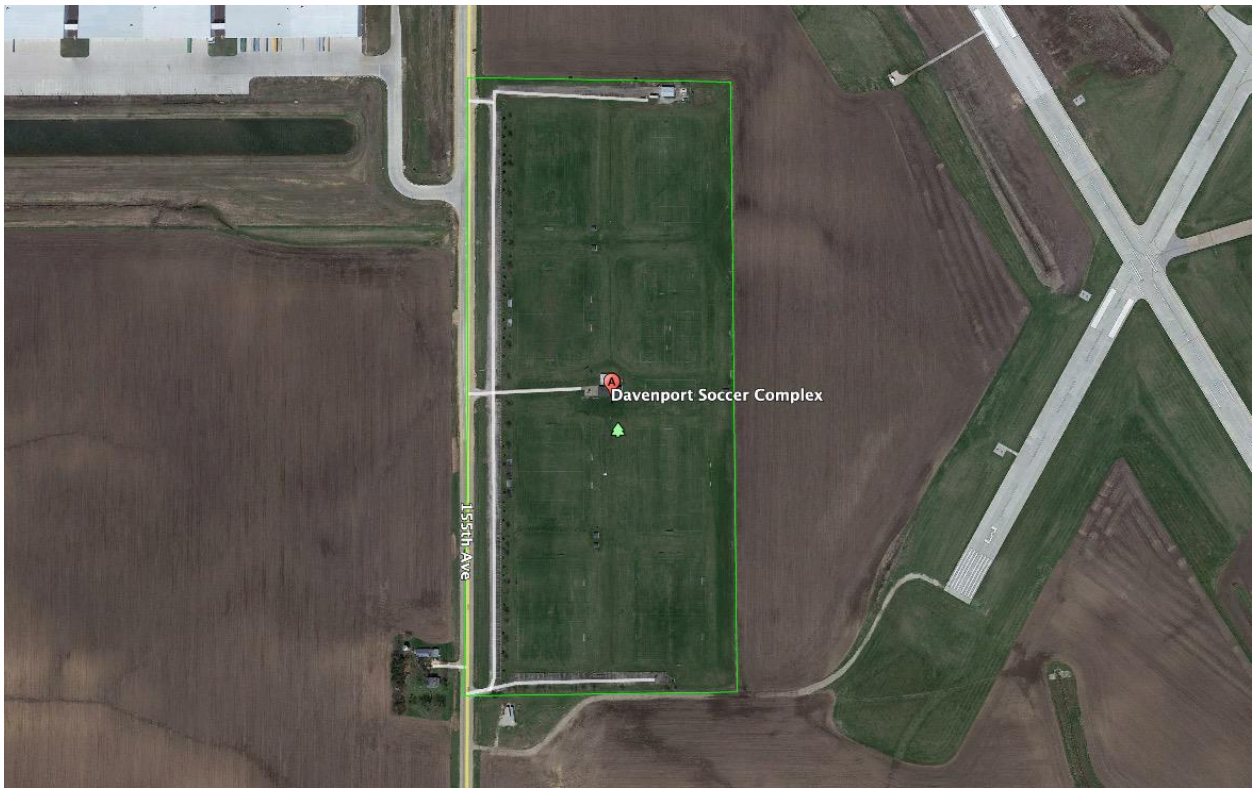
Plans for soccer field with walking path

- Bike racks
- Benches
- Easy off-road bicycle area/trail
- Butterfly garden (managed by schools?)
- Mentoring program – summer outdoor reading program (with library)



Davenport Soccer Complex

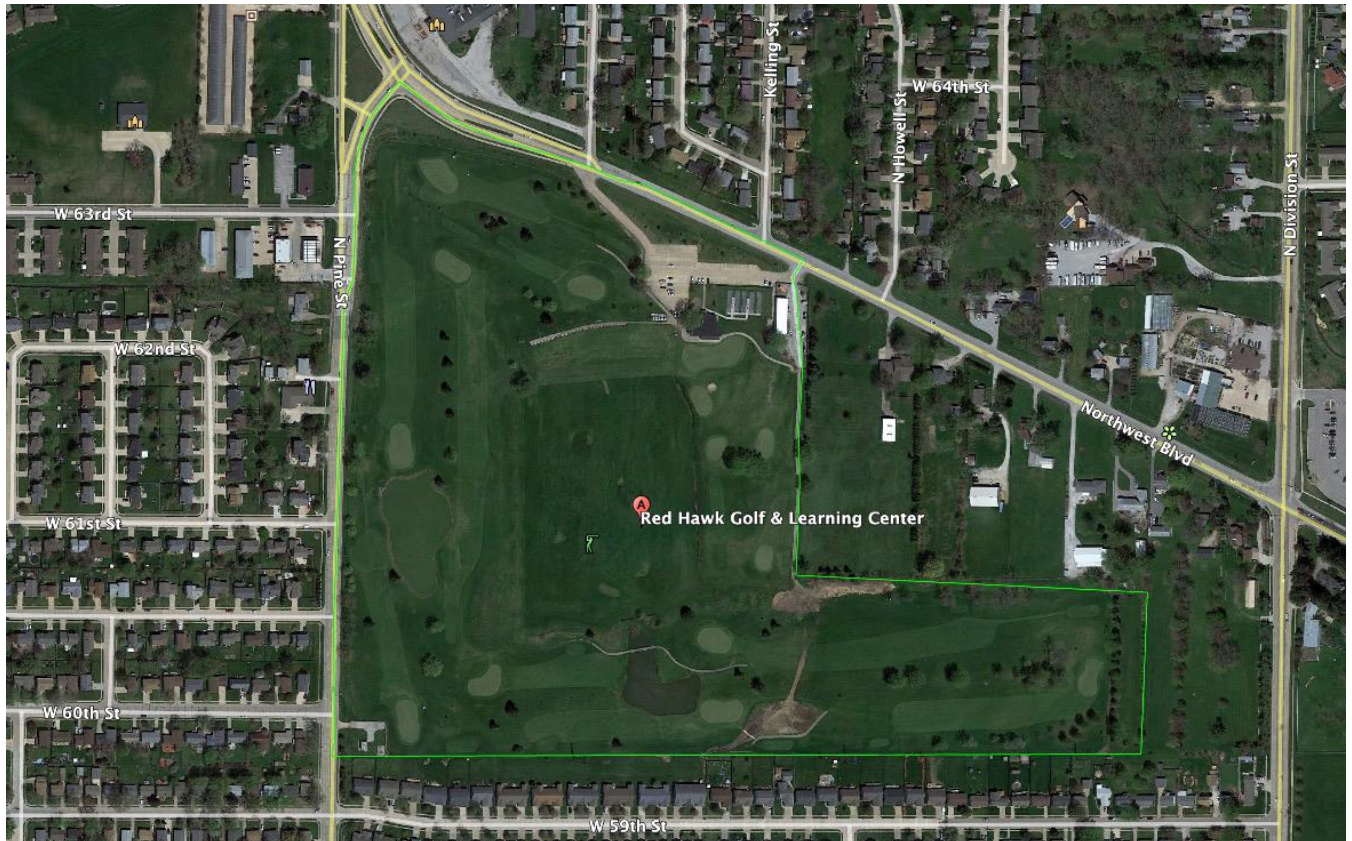
I have not walked this complex.



Red Hawk Golf Course and Learning Complex

[not on website]

This has dead trees near the corner of N. Pine and Northwest Blvd.
This area has been proposed by PW for a bioswale to manage stormwater.



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Park and Recreation Advisory Board

July 7th, 2020

Staff Report

Mainstreet Landing Taskforce up-date: Tegan Trees
River Front Improvement Commission up-date: Mike Schertz

Notable updates from Staff

Park Operations

- Mowing, mowing and more mowing!
- Capital Improvement Projects are continuing – Roosevelt windows look great, Credit Island furnace has been delayed, but still moving forward, Vander Veer parking lot repairs will be done 6/24-6/26), Duck Creek Shelter 1 will be replaced in August to name a few.
- Sanitation crew has been hired to step up the cleaning efforts at park restrooms and playgrounds.
- All park rest rooms are open and most drinking fountains are operational.
- East Little League, South East LL, Northwest LL and Girls Softball are playing modified schedules. North and West Emeis Little Leagues were not able to field enough teams to play this summer due to COVID delaying the season.
- Due to 2 retirements, we were able to re-organize our Horticulture division staff. We now have a Horticulture Supervisor (management position), a vacant Lead Horticulture Technician position, a Horticulture Technician and a shared Park Technician position. I'm excited to see this team continue to do great things!

Recreation

- Fejervary Learning Center is open! We have had pretty steady numbers since opening. 208 attended our first Fejervary Family Fun Days, which was expected considering it was supposed to storm all day and we were doing "hands off" activities (therefore no petting zoo, bounce house, or face painting, but we did have hula hooping, kites, an obstacle course, and all of our normal amenities



DAVENPORT

PARKS & RECREATION

which were regularly sanitized as well as Junior Theatre in attendance to perform skits).

- We have Coffee and Cuttings (7/7 @ VV), My Little Wheelbarrow (7/15 and 7/29 @ VV), Little Sprouts (7/16 @ VV) and Little Sprouts West (7/23 @ FLC) coming up in July.
- Sports have started! 90 participants for Youth T-ball and Coach Pitch. July 6th we start Adult softball (25 teams 3 divisions-almost full) and adult soccer (34 teams, 4 divisions).
- We have entered into week 3 of AdventureCamp, we have 21 kids enrolled. Campers and staff are doing well and really enjoying the summer and their cottage families. To stay on top of the virus, each morning and afternoon we check staff and kids temperatures and several times during the day we are washing hands and sanitizing high touch areas. We are also having campers and staff wear masks when they are not able to socially distance themselves.
- Junior Theatre Virtual Classes session 1 is going very well, lots of great feedback, 337 students in 40 classes.
- All Theatre and Dance students from 2019 are receiving an Adventure Packet that will take them on a 6 week journey. Each week has a new activity and a video they connect with the free DJT Learning Channel. JT Inc is paying the 1500.00 to mail out packages and the packages were put together by summer AmeriCorps/Youth Corps.

Revenue Facilities

- Rivers Edge: Positive response after first month being re-opened. Enhanced sanitation processes continue.
- Rivers Edge: Summer hockey starts July 7
- Rivers Edge: Restroom renovations ready to go to bid.
- Golf completed its first month with new POS / Tee Time system.
- All the new forward tees at Duck Creek Golf are now open for play.
- The 'Re-direction' of flood holes for Duck Creek Golf is now out to bid for August 2020 start.



Top Staff Challenges

Park Operations

- We continue to look for qualified staff.

Recreation

- Our major obstacles at this point are simply low staff still at Fej. We have 2 park hosts, but both will be returning to school as of August. So we are working with Ryan and HR to do a job posting that includes an open house, so that people can see what the job entails. We think maybe it is the job description in combination with COVID that is scaring people off. So we are going to try a new way to recruit people into the position.
- We had the same obstacle for Umpires for softball, a few backed out due to COVID and the amount of exposure. We have been able to recruit some new ones.
- Special Population programs are still on lockdown. Many of the local agencies are not allowing their clients to attend activities, due to high risk. Special Olympics has been cancelled summer and sports including softball. ☹️ We are trying to work with agencies to run a Bocce League and still are planning hosting Special Olympics Bocce and Golf in Sept. We are hoping Challenger is able to run their league in the fall.

Revenue Facilities

- Rivers Edge: Prepping for fall hiring, application process to go live in July.
- Golf Cashiers and Pros still learning the new POS/Tee Time system 'on the fly' that started June 1.
- Golf Courses are still cashiering from sliding window units, and offering limited concessions. Golf will soon be converting back with installation of appropriate shields at cashier stations.