

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, February 20, 2025; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - 01.16.2025 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
 - A. PAB By-Laws:Postponed
- V. New Business
 - A. Aquatics Update
- VI. Staff Reports
 - A. Director's Report
 - Staff Report
 - B. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report
- VII. Advisory Time/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items
- VIII. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - A. 03.20.2025 4:30pm, City Hall Council Chambers
- IX. Adjournment



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
January 16, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Coiner, Dasso Meyer, Peterson, Powell, Powers, Schertz, Shareef and Wittenmeyer

Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Becca Niles, Jessica Rhoads, Theresa Hauman, Troy Evans, William Fisher and Zach Meyer

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

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HWdm3D9dIEE>

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the November 2024 meeting minutes presented by Schertz, seconded by Powers. Motion Passes 8-0

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Bylaws: Postponed

New Business:

- Staff Introduction: Zach Meyer
- Junior Theatre Project Update

Staff Report:

- See written staff report
- Director Report-Verbal
- RIC Report- Verbal

Park Advisory Board Time: See Video

Adjournment: 5:18 pm Motion to adjourn by Coiner, seconded by Schertz. Motion Passes 8-0

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
2/20/2025

Subject:
PAB By-Laws:Postponed

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson | 563-328-7275

Action / Date
2/20/2025

Subject:
Aquatics Update

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
2/20/2025

Subject:
Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
2/20/2025

Subject:
Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

1. 02.2025 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

February 2025

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

Administrative Services

- AmeriCorps staff have completed a review of all documentation, trainings, and onboarding required to be in alignment with new federal guidelines.
- Staff are testing new software to increase efficiency in the development of Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) documentation. The new software is a website plug in (authorized by City IT department).
- The bulk email software system the department uses, Constant Contact, was recently upgraded to better organize the account and clean the subscriber list. With this upgrade other departments have been able to create sub accounts and utilize the communication tool city-wide.
- Hiring season for the department kicked off in January.
 - Between January 3-February 18 the department has received 121 applications for summer employment.
 - This time last year during the same period, the department had received 138 applications.

Park Operations

- Installed security glass at the customer service desk at The River's Edge.
- Staff was busy with maintenance and straw needs at the dog parks.
- Staff re-designed the plant display inside the Vanderveer Conservatory in preparation of the Spring Floral Display.
- Staff remains busy relocating services from Annie Wittenmyer.
 - The containment units for mulch, rock, and topsoil have been moved to the 29th street facility, along with contents of the electrical shop.
- Bullpens at Emeis Park and Garfield Park had a facelift, receiving new ag-lime, pitching rubbers, and home plates.
- Staff has been busy clearing dead trees from Credit Island Park and re-grading the beach area along the river side of the island.
- Staff has been busy setting up task assignments for the summer in the City's asset tracking software - Cartegraph.

- Repairs were completed at Goose Creek Park and The Freight House playgrounds.
- Staff completed 24 of our quarterly playground inspections, a more in-depth inspection of each playground, looking at aspects such as fasteners, foundations, play surface, chains, ropes, stickers, etc.
- Installed security cameras at the LeClaire Park bandshell, Dohse Splash and Play Park, and Sunderbruch Park.

Recreation

- Staff had 909 kindergarteners participate in the Davenport Community School District theatre field trip, learning about acting, costumes, props, and tech theatre.
- Staff have been working with Bray Design to develop a floor plan for the Davenport Learning Center interim space to best serve the students and program for the next five years.
 - Bray is working on design documents needed for the bid process for construction of the space redesign.
- Staff worked with Davenport Community School District Homeschool Coordinator and hosted a field trip for homeschool students to learn about basic winter tree ID and participants got to ID trees around Vander Veer Botanical Park.
- Fairmont Community Center has been holding Toddler Time 9:30-12:00 Tuesdays and Thursdays and it has been being attended regularly by 15-20 participants.
- Youth basketball is going very well; hopefully weather continues to not affect Saturday game times.
- Special Olympics Basketball had two 3x3 teams, one 5x5 team (which is a 9-time winning team) and 5 of 17 basketball skills players advance to the State Special Olympics competition in Iowa City on March 15. Special Olympics Cheerleading has 2 teams competing at the State Special Olympics.
- Staff assisted the Night to Shine event hosted by St. John Vianney Church and St. Ambrose University at the St. Ambrose Rogalski Center on February 7. The event had 147 guests in attendance and over 400 volunteers who aided with the planning and attended the amazing night.
- Learn to Skate winter session has more participants than the 2024, 2022, 2021 and any year prior to 2019. Staff have started to take registrations for

the Spring Show session which will continue until the beginning of March allowing for many more participant registrations.

Golf Operations

- Golf Course and Forestry staff have been working at Duck Creek and Emeis courses to remove dead trees and damaged, hanging limbs.
- Golf Management staff recently attended the Iowa Turfgrass Conference in Des Moines that included educational seminars and an industry trade show.
- Golf staff and the City mechanics are grinding reels and servicing equipment for the upcoming season.
- Golf staff at Duck Creek will be preparing for the 2025 Chili Golf Open March 1.

- This event will be at Duck Creek Golf Course for the first time.

*Anyone needing information about this event can call 563-326-7824.

Communication Updates

- Community Events
 - Mascot Skate | Saturday, 2/22 | The River's Edge
 - Chili Open Golf Classic | Saturday, 3/1 | Duck Creek Golf Course
 - Shamrock Scavenger Hunt | Saturday, 3/1 – Monday, 3/17 | Davenport Parks
 - Community Wide Egg Hunt | Saturday, 4/5 | Vander Veer Botanical Park
 - Bunny Skate | Saturday, 4/19 | The River's Edge
 - Doggie Egg Hunt | Saturday, 4/26 | Centennial Dog Park
- Community Outreach Events

Outreach opportunities for staff to be on hand to give out program and hiring information, play games with booth visitors, and hand out prizes for attendees.

 - QC Youth Conference | Monday-Tuesday, 2/24-2/25 | River Center
 - QC Youth Expo | Tuesday, 2/25 | Bend XPO
 - Experience Palmer and Meet the Quad Cities | Friday, 3/14 | Palmer College of Chiropractic
- Notable Dates
 - Good Friday Closures, 4/18

- Vander Veer Conservatory, Fairmount Community Center (during the day) and Parks and Recreation Administrative Office will be closed
- The River's Edge will be open as normal
- Easter Sunday Closures, 4/20
 - Vander Veer Conservatory, The River's Edge will be closed

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

2/20/2025

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None