

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, October 16, 2025; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - September 2025 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. 2025 Budget Presentation
- VI. Reports
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Staff Report
 - C. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report
- VII. Advisory Time/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items
- VIII. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - A. November 20, 2025 in City Hall Council Chambers at 4:30pm
- IX. Adjournment



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
September 18, 2025
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present: Bartling, Coiner, Dasso, Kefauver, Meyer, Peterson, Schertz, and Shareef

Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Becca Niles, William Fisher, Amy Soliz, and Troy Evans

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

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i7pCPVVrmqY>

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the August 2025 meeting minutes presented by Dasso and seconded by Schertz. Motion Passes 6-0

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Advisory Board Elections Slate
 - Peterson Chair
 - Schertz-Vice Chair
 - Shareef- Secretary
 - Meyer- RIC Liaison

Motion to approve the 2025 board election slate, presented by Coiner and seconded by Dasso. Motion Passes 6-0

- Staff Introduction: Amy Soliz
- FY27 Park Development Slate

Motion to approve the FY27 Park Development Project Slate, presented by Coiner and seconded by Schertz. Motion Passes 7-0

Reports:

- Director Report-Verbal
- Staff Report-Written
- RIC Report- Verbal

Park Advisory Board Time: See Video

Adjournment: 5:13 pm Motion to adjourn presented by Coiner and seconded by Schertz. Motion Passes 7-0

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
10/16/2025

Subject:
2025 Budget Presentation

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

10/16/2025

Subject:

Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
10/16/2025

Subject:
Staff Report

Recommendation:
Review Information

Background:

Attachments:

1. 10.2025 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

October 2025

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- Program staff have onboarded all Fall positions as of October 13 for a total of 13 active members. These members will serve for 46 weeks.
- Development of the recompetite application has begun with an expected submission by end of the year for a new 3-year grant cycle.
- Program staff will be attending the annual Program Launch in Des Moines Monday-Thursday, October 20-23.

Customer Service & Outreach

- Staff have been inputting 2026 and 2027 “hold dates” on indoor and reservable facilities as bookings for the busy wedding and graduation season are coming in.
- Private reservations of the Vander Veer Conservatory will be announced at the end of October.

Business Functions

- Administrative staff have wrapped up preparation and submission for the Fiscal Year 2027 budget.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- The west loop project extending the Duck Creek Recreational Trail from Emeis Golf Course to Wisconsin Avenue has been completed.
- Staff are wrapping up final touches on the new Emeis Playground and will be opening soon.
- The preconstruction meeting for the Duck Creek Tennis and Pickleball improvements has been completed, and construction will begin soon.

Horticulture

- Staff remain busy removing annuals and pruning perennial flowers for winter.

General Operations & Maintenance

- Staff have been busy preparing for the winter season. Snow routes have been planned and assigned to operators.
- Reduced mowing areas have been cut and a plan has been devised for removal of invasive species for next season.
- Staff have started planning and strategizing for next season with an emphasis on how to reduce the days between mowing. Currently staff mow every 10 days, weather permitting. The goal would be to mow every 7 days or the equivalent of once per week.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- Volunteers from Modern Woodmen did a fantastic job assisting staff with the hanging of the Holiday Lights at Fejervary Learning Center. Modern Woodmen stated they will continue to be a part of the Holiday Lights for the next several years assisting with both hanging the lights and financial contributions.
- Howl-O-Ween in the Park was a successful event, however marketing and set up was a bit of a challenge when it came to agreeing on things with HSSC (Human Society of Scott County). Overall, the community did not notice and the event ran smoothly, but in 2026 staff will more than likely shift to more of a sponsorship roll than co-host; allowing HSSC to take the lead particularly with the rebranding they are about to undergo.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- Over 95 bowlers and Unified Partners from SCA Thunder participated in the East Area Bowling competition last Friday at Leisure Lanes in Davenport. Of the 98 athletes, 38 qualified to compete in the State Bowling Competition at the Cedar Rapids Bowling Center on November 22.
- Special Olympics Volleyball and Flag Football teams competed in the Fall Classic in West Des Moines on September 25 and 26. The 4 Volleyball teams placed 2nd in their divisions. The Flag Football teams took 1st and 2nd in that competition. The Skills Players in Football and Volleyball received 1st and 2nd place.

Youth & Adult Sports

- Fall softball, youth soccer leagues and adult soccer leagues are wrapping up for the season.
- Youth basketball registration has begun and is open through December. Basketball will begin at the end of January.

- Staff have been working hard to locate alternative spaces for adult Volleyball, as the school district has had to put in a new gym floor at Smart Middle School and it will not be ready until late January. The volleyball league is full and is scheduled to begin early November.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- Staff enrolled 329 students for fall session and winter class registration is now open and starting to get enrollments.
- Staff held the first Magic class at the Kimberly Campus and that went very well; the students all did a nice job.
- Staff expanded the outreach workshops to add Bettendorf Family Museum and the Girl Scouts of America.
- Planning for the Halloween Bash is underway and looking to be a good-looking event in the new space.
- Staff have worked through a few situations at the new campus. The fire alarms have been pulled numerous times, including during Thursday programming causing disruptions to the classes.

The River's Edge

- Fall Learn-to-Skate has brought in 123 participants, slightly more than last year in the same period.
- Staff have a couple Ice Resurfacing Driver and Facility Coordinator positions to fill, but the season is underway.
- A new Sunday Hockey league has begun.
- The facility has booked the Iowa Winter Games Hockey.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- All golf course facilities were recently converted to a new credit card processor that offers cost savings for increasing credit card use.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Aeration of greens completed in September.
- Overseeding of tees and fairways completed in September.

Emeis Golf Course

- Aeration of greens completed in September
- Recently hosted a large high school district meet for Iowa.

Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center

- Issues with the sewer line from the Red Hawk clubhouse have caused some minor disruptions. Service companies and staff are working on a complex disfunction. Meanwhile, there are portable-toilets in service until the problem is resolved.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

- Trunk, Treat & Trail | Saturday, 10/18 | Riverfront Recreation Trails
- Halloween Bash | Friday, October 24 | 5:30-7:30pm | Davenport Junior Theatre Kimberly Campus
- Monster Glow Public Skate | Saturday, 10/25 | The River's Edge
- Halloween Parade | Sunday, 10/26 | Downtown Davenport

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 Fall Success Fair | Thursday, 11/13

Notable Dates

- Holiday Closure 11/11 – Parks & Recreation Admin Office

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

10/16/2025

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None