

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, March 19, 2026; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - January 2026 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Presentation: Who Takes Care of That?
- VI. Reports
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Staff Report
 - 1. March 2026 Staff Report
 - C. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report
- VII. Advisory Time/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items
- VIII. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - A. April 16, 2026 in City HALL Council Chambers at 4:30 pm
- IX. Adjournment



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
February 2026
Meeting Minutes**

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

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

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

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

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Kefauver to approve the January 2026 meeting minutes, 2nd by Schertz.
Motion Passes 9-0

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Accreditation

Reports:

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

Park Advisory Board Time: See Video

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn presented by Kefauver, 2nd by Witenmeyer at 5:25pm

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
3/19/2026

Subject:
Presentation: Who Takes Care of That?

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
3/19/2026

Subject:
Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

3/19/2026

Subject:

Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
3/19/2026

Subject:
March 2026 Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

1. 03.2026 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

March 2026

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- Initial feedback from the State Commission regarding the new recomplete application only included minor edits. Staff have updated the application based on this feedback and submitted it on March 16.
 - A decision is expected later in the spring with final decision and notification of funding in June.
- The program will be pilot testing a new AmeriCorps initiative – Youth Mental Health Corps this summer. Staff are recruiting 6 members to take part in the pilot. Five of the slots have been filled. Members will begin mid-May.

Customer Service & Outreach

- Becca Niles attended the 8th Ward meeting on March 5 to seek input on the Green Acres playground. The meeting was attended by approximately 20 residents and was also an opportunity to speak with them about various park topics and answer questions about upcoming projects throughout the park system.
- Staff have been given permission to visit with students at Truman Elementary on Friday, March 27 to get input on the Green Acres playground concepts.

Business Functions

- Staff have been focused on supporting the department's hiring of seasonal staff. Tasks include running background checks, assisting candidates navigating getting physicals scheduled, entering personnel actions and ensuring all paperwork is complete and submitted on time.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- Staff have been busy getting ready for the upcoming baseball season. New bases and storage boxes have been delivered to the fields. Ag-lime

(infield soil) has been delivered to the fields in preparation of dragging and smoothing the fields.

- Staff have been clearing trees and debris from Credit Island Park after a winter of Forestry staff removing dead wood.
- Staff have started clearing fallen trees from the horse trails at Sunderbruch Park.

Horticulture

- The horticultural team has been busy propagating flowers for planting areas and plants for the annual plant sale.
- Teams continue to clear old vegetation from planter areas in preparation of the new flowers and to allow bulbs space to grow in the spring.

General Operations & Maintenance

- The safety team was busy replacing broken playground components at Emeis Park, Goose Creek Park, Whalen Park, and Garfield Park.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- Staff are looking for volunteers to help with the City Egg Hunt at Vander Veer Botanical Park on Saturday, 3/21 from 9am-12:00 pm. Volunteers will help with crowd control, spreading eggs, and cleaning park after event. The egg hunt event is from 11:00am-12:00pm. If interested in helping please reach out to Theresa.Hauman@davenportiowa.com or Volunteer.Info@davenportiowa.com.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- Staff moved AdventureCamp to Roosevelt Community Center because of the conveyance of Annie Wittenmyer campus. Staff were concerned this may hurt registrations, but when they opened last week with many weeks filled or almost full.
- Sherrie Fischer is working with her team to fundraise and inform various community service groups and companies about the need for resources for Special Olympics supplies and most importantly transportation.

Youth & Adult Sports

- There are more soccer youth registrations than last spring, 952 up from 867.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- Spring Break Camp has 46 out of 48 slots filled as of the first day.
- Outreach workshops are going well, just starting the final Stepping Stones session.

- Ballroom registration at Fairmont has increased over the previous session.
- Staff were given a nice compliment last week on the seamless transition of the leadership from Daniel Sheridan to Zach Meyer.

The River's Edge

- Closing out the hockey season and working on booking spring and summer hockey.
- Staff are preparing for the annual figure skating competition March 27-28.
- Staff have been working with instructors to bring back hockey beginning level classes to the Learn to Skate program roster starting this summer.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- Chili Golf Open has been postponed to Saturday March 21 at Duck Creek Golf Course - with a full/expanded 9-hole slate for the day.
- The golf courses do not plan to open for season until March 21, weather dependent.
- Forestry has completed removal and cleanup of dead or dangerous trees at Duck Creek and Emeis.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Golf staff used this March to spread compost material on the turfs for fertilizer benefit as well as faster green-up.

Emeis Golf Course

- Just waiting for a warmer stretch of weather to open in late March.

Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center

- Using this past month to top-dress the practice range tee. Because of heavy use last year, the tee areas will benefit from adding soil.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

- Glow Skate | Saturday, 3/20 | The River's Edge
- Community Egg Hunt | Saturday, 3/21 | Vander Veer Botanical Park
- Chili Open Golf Classic | Saturday, 3/21 (rescheduled) | Duck Creek Golf Course
- Bunny Skate | Saturday, 4/4 | The River's Edge
- Kites on the River | Saturday, 4/26 | Centennial 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.

- Youth Hiring Fair | Tuesday, 3/24
- Green Acres Playground Preferencing at Truman Elementary | Friday, 3/27
- SAU Health & Human Services Career Fair | Tuesday, 3/31

Notable Dates

- Holiday Closure 4/3
 - All departments and offices except The River's Edge and Vander Veer Conservatory

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

3/19/2026

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None