

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, May 21, 2026; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - April 2026 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Presentation: Park Operations
- 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. June 18, 2026 in City Hall Council Chambers at 4:30 p.m.
- IX. Adjournment



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

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

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

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

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Smvy2NPTYgg>

Meeting Minutes: Motion by Dasso to approve the March 2026 meeting minutes, 2nd by Shareef. Motion Passes 5-0 , 1 Abstain- Powell.

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- None

New Business:

- Presentation: Recreation Division

Reports:

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

Park Advisory Board Time: See Video

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn presented by Powers, 2nd by Powell. Motion passed 6-0 at 5:58 p.m.

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
5/21/2026

Subject:
Presentation: Park Operations

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

5/21/2026

Subject:

Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None

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Action / Date

5/21/2026

Subject:

Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

1. 05.2026 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

May 2026

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- Staff presented the new grant year application to a review committee with Volunteer Iowa. Their meeting was virtual and staff were given 15 minutes to answer questions from the review committee about the proposal.
- All recruitment and onboarding for the remainder of the grant year have been completed as of May 12.

Customer Service & Outreach

- Staff are transitioning from hiring events to general summer community outreach events to promote upcoming programs, events and other department offerings.

Business Functions

- The department hosted the final session with Davenport U's Citizen Academy. Participants began at Davenport Junior Theatre for a tour and improv activities while learning about the Administrative and Recreation divisions. Then they headed to Vadner Veer Conservatory to learn about Park Operations and Golf while participating in a golf activity and repotting a plant to take with them.
- Senior Clerks have been training in new systems, Sterling A-Check and Salamander to increase their support of the department.
 - Sterling A-Check is the system used to run volunteer background checks.
 - Salamander is an employee management system for managing certifications, emergency contact and badge/entry controls.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- Park Operations have been solely focusing on opening the swimming pools. The pools were cleaned, circulation pumps activated, chemicals balanced, leaking valves have been replaced, and chlorinator pumps are

actively being replaced as 3 of the 4 pumps have failed. New PH control tanks have been installed and new chlorine feeding tanks have been installed.

Horticulture

- The Horticultural team has been busy clearing old vegetation, planting new, and mulching flower beds around town.
- The Horticulture team has also been busy with preparing for the summer theme. There will be a prize this year for completing the summer theme activities (while supplies last).

General Operations & Maintenance

- The seasonal grounds staff have been busy maintaining the turf in area parks. New this year is a large-area mower this year which has reduced the mowing time to once per week rather than the every other week mowing schedule staff followed in previous years.
- Supervisors are actively interviewing to fill our empty positions. Open positions include: 2-mowers, 3-custodians, 1-baseball maintenance, 1-pool maintenance, 2 – park maintenance, and 2- horticulture techs.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- Kites on the River was a success! The weather was spectacular and at one point there were over 75 kites in the air over Centennial Park.
- Staff are still hiring for the pools.
 - Thankfully Tim Gleason, the new city administrator, and Chad were able to aid in getting increased access to Central High School indoor pool for more training time. This will help to get staff ready and this year staff are excited to offer more swimming lessons.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- Staff registered 80 athletes, coaches and chaperones for Special Olympic Summer Games in Ames, May 21-23. Athletes will participate in Bocce, softball throw, turbo javelin, shotput, running, and standing long jump track events including the pentathlon, tennis and for the first time team soccer.
- Friday, May 1, staff hosted the QC Disability Awareness Coalition Spring Carnival and resource information night at River's Edge. At this resource fair agencies provided information, and an activity, and skating and a sled hockey demonstration were also available. About 70 plus attended, but few skated.

- AdventureCamp registrations are still filtering in and the new Camp VIBE, teen summer camp, registration has just opened.

Youth & Adult Sports

- Staff have just opened the very popular free track and field program held at Brady Street Stadium. The program will be Wednesdays June 3- July 1, from 6-7:30 pm.
- All spring youth and adult sports leagues, including soccer and softball are going well.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- Performing Arts Theatre camps are full.
- Dance camp is approximately a third full, but staff anticipate registrations going up after the dance recital.

The River's Edge

- Staff have scheduled parking lot attendants on weekends to help with parking lot control during peak morning/Farmer's Market hours to ensure use by facility patrons. This has been very well received.
- The Learn-to-Skate Spring Skating Show went well.
- Staff are conducting interviews for Olympia driver and concession positions.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- Davenport Golf Courses honored Military Appreciation Week, Sunday May 10 - Saturday May 16, with complimentary greens fees for active military personnel and veterans.
- Golf season is off to an outstanding start this April-May with dry weather and great conditions for spring play.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Preparing to add concrete path in two areas #9 Tee and #12 Tee, where rainwater flooding and erosion has been a problem.

Emeis Golf Course

- Staff preparing for the upcoming Quad City Amateur; an annual event every Memorial Day Weekend

Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center

- Continues to grow in popularity for practice and nine-hole play.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

- Family Fun Nights | Every 4th Friday, 5/22-10/22 | Fairmount Community Center
- Itty Bitty Beach Party | Fridays, 6/12, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7 | Annie Wittenmyer Aquatic Center
- Teens Takeover | Fridays, 6/12, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7 | Fejervary Family Aquatic Center
- Take Me Out to the Ballgame Skate | The River's Edge
- Father's Day Fiesta | Sunday, 6/21 | Both Aquatic Centers
- YouthFest | Wednesday, 6/24 | Fejervary Learning Center

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.

- Davenport Public Library Summer Kick Off | Saturday, 5/30
- Common Chord's Block Party | Friday, 6/5

Notable Dates

- Facility Closures, Monday, 5/25
 - Parks and Recreation Admin Offices, Vander Veer Conservatory, The River's Edge

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
5/21/2026

Subject:
Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:
Review information

Background:

Attachments:
None