

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, June 18, 2026; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - May 2026 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. July Park Tour
- VI. Staff 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. Thursday, July 16 2026, City Hall Council Chambers, 226 W 4th St
- IX. Adjournment



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

Board Members Present: Coiner, Kefauver, Meyer, Peterson, Powell, Powers, Shareef, Wittenmyer
Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Becca Niles, Troy Evans, William Fisher, Theresa Hauman, Tom Franks, Tim Stephens, Ryan Morales, Jessica Rhoads, Amy Soliz
Location: DPD Community Room, 416 North Harrison Street
 Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vrk3xzc54jU&feature=youtu.be>

Meeting Video Timestamp	Agenda Item	Discussion
.08	<u>Call to Order:</u>	
1:00	<u>Meeting Minutes:</u>	Motion by Kefauver to approve the April 2026 meeting minutes, 2 nd by Coiner. Motion Passes 7-0.
	<u>Public with Comment:</u>	None
	<u>Old Business:</u>	None
1:47	<u>New Business:</u> A. Presentation Park Operations	Billy Fisher- Introduction of Park Operations Supervisors 2:41 Tom Franks- Aspects of Safety Training 8:27 Tim Stephens- Aspects of Horticulture and Current Projects 13:55 Ryan Morales- Aspects of Maintenance Division 21:50 William Fisher- Park Operations Projects Update
47:53	<u>Reports</u>	Director Report: Fun Fact Friday Initiative 50:00 Parks’ participation overview in Davenport “U” 53:12 QC Arts mural design for River’s Edge 55:42 River’s Edge Volunteer Cleanup Day Staff Report: No topics discussed

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report:

1:02:19 Potential riverfront art

1:03:50 Big 9 Concert Series & events along the riverfront

1:10:08 Park Advisory Board
Time:

1:10:44 Coiner- Volunteered and planted trees at Emeis

1:11:23 Kefauver- Volunteered and beautified park

1:13:15 Peterson- Volunteered at Vander Veer planting party

1:15:14 Meyer- Ridgeview trash can discussion

1:16:55 Coiner- Compliments to Emeis playground.

Requested benches at Emeis

1:18:57 Adjournment:

Motion by Meyer to adjourn, 2nd by Kefauver. Motion passes 7-0.

1:19:24- Adjournment

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 18, 2026 | 4:30PM | City Hall, Council Chambers, 226 W. 4th Street

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
6/18/2026

Subject:
July Park Tour

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

6/18/2026

Subject:

Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
6/18/2026

Subject:
Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

1. 06.2026 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

June 2026

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- The summer Youth Mental Health Corps (YMHC) program completed its first week in collaboration with Camp VIBE, a new teen summer camp. There are 6 participants in the camp. Participants meet with YMHC members for specialized activities on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays for two hours during the camp day.

Customer Service & Outreach/Communications

- The aged exterior digital displays at 12th Street/Division and 29th Street/Eastern Avenue are being replaced. New displays have been received, and staff are working with IT department for installation and connectivity. Anticipated completion is at the end of July.
 - The 12th Street/Division display has already been removed. Staff are building a new frame for installation.
- Staff are working with IT department to install new interior digital displays at multiple locations to expand digital marketing and messaging on site at facilities. Anticipated completion for all facilities, late August.
 - Facility list: The River's Edge, Davenport Junior Theatre, Fairmount Community Center, Roosevelt Community Center, Emeis Golf Course, Duck Creek Golf Course, and Red Hawk Golf Course.

Business Functions

- Becca Niles has stepped into the Interim Director role for the duration of the recruitment and hiring process for a new permanent Director.
- The Parks and Recreation Director recruitment is being managed internally by the city's Human Resource Department. Recruitment will be nationwide.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- The Northwest Park Pickleball Courts are closed for renovations. Anticipated reopening is at the end of June/beginning of July.
- Installation of the new playground at Green Acres Park began the week of June 8. Anticipated completion is July.
- The Vander Veer Stone Fountain will be non-operable this year due to mechanical infrastructure issues. Staff are working with a consultant to develop design plans and specs that can be used for construction bids.

Horticulture

- Vander Veer Botanical Park Summer Theme has brought in many park visitors and participants have been hard at work deciphering the alien language.

General Operations & Maintenance

- Both aquatics centers have had minor ongoing pump and plumbing issues. Staff are working with an aquatics vendor to assist with repairs.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- Learn to Skate finished the fiscal year strong; landing in the 5th highest overall participation ever with over 630 participants. Staff have transitioned to having registration fees include the Learn to Skate USA enrollment which should help in the overall registration process as well.
- Learn to Swim is starting off strong with over 470 participants. With 3 more sessions still this summer staff anticipate several more participants registering.
 - The program has already received praise from a few parents on how well the lessons are going this year.
- New this year, evening Learn to Swim lessons during the week have been added at both locations.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- AdventureCamp has successfully completed the first two weeks at the Roosevelt Community Center.
- Camp VIBE is the new teen summer camp. Currently there are 6 participants. This camp focuses on leadership development skills, mentorship and service as well as mental health (in collaboration with AmeriCorps).

Youth & Adult Sports

- The Summer Track and Field program is at capacity - 250 participants – with a wait list of over 70. Despite weather, the program has been able to operate as normal except for one weather cancellation.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- Summer classes have started and are running concurrently with weekly camps at the Kimberly Center. Both are going well.
- The first camp performance was on Friday, June 5. The program received primarily all 4s and 5s on the surveys.

The River's Edge

- The facility is fully staffed!
- QC Metro Arts' Youth Apprentice Program is onsite throughout June completing a mural that will be installed on the exterior of the facility.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- Golf Season has been very good until recent stormy weather creating disruptions to play in early June, but the rain has relieved the mild drought.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Duck Creek recently renovated the parking lot with sealant and new parking lines.

Emeis Golf Course

- Ron Thrapp, Matt Woolam and staff are preparing for the inaugural 'Jim Hasley Invitational' over the Father's Day weekend.

Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center

- Red Hawk Golf and practice range are still achieving many participation and revenue goals.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

Full event details can be found by visiting: <https://www.davenportiowa.com/familyfun>

- Take Me Out to the Ballgame Skate | Saturday, 6/20 | The River's Edge
- Father's Day Fiesta | Sunday, 6/21 | Both Aquatic Centers
- YouthFest | Wednesday, 6/24 | Fejervary Learning Center
- Teens Takeover | Fridays, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7 | Fejervary Family Aquatic Center
- Itty Bitty Beach Party | Fridays, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7 | Annie Wittenmyer Aquatic Center

- Family Fun Nights | Every 4th Friday, 6/26-10/22 | Fairmount Community Center
- Pride Glow Skate | Friday, 6/26 | The River's Edge
- ADA Public Input Session | Tuesday, 6/30 | Duck Creek Lodge
- Red, White & BOOM! | Friday, 7/3 | LeClaire Park
- 4th of July Aquatics Center Celebration | Saturday, 7/4 | Both Aquatics Centers
- Party in the Park & Try It Thursdays | Thursday, 7/9 | Emeis Park
- City of Davenport Night at River Bandits | Friday, 7/10 | Modern Woodmen Park
- Party in the Park & Try It Thursdays | Thursday, 7/16 | Northwest 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.

- Bi-CAN Bioblitz | Friday-Saturday, 6/26-6/27 (Taylor Schneider representing DPR)

Notable Dates

- Facility Closure: Juneteenth - Friday, 6/19
 - Parks and Recreation Admin Offices
 - Vander Veer Conservatory and The River's Edge will be open to the public
- Facility Closure: Independence Day - Friday, 7/3
 - Parks and Recreation Admin Offices and Vander Veer Conservatory will be closed.
 - The River's Edge will close early, and Centennial Spray Park will shut down early – both at 5PM for Red, White & BOOM! event.
- Facility Closure: Independence Day - Saturday, 7/4
 - Saturday, 7/4: The River's Edge will be closed.

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

6/18/2026

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None