

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

Thursday, August 20, 2026; 4:30 PM

City Hall | 226 West 4th Street | Council Chambers

- I. Roll Call
- II. Approval of Minutes
 - July 2026 Meeting Minutes
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Old Business
- V. New Business
 - A. Park Advisory Board Election Nomination
 - B. Presentation: Park Development
- VI. Reports
 - A. Director's Report
 - B. Staff Report
 - 1. August 2026 Staff Report
 - C. Riverfront Improvement Commission Report
- VII. Advisory Time/Suggestions for Future Agenda Items
- VIII. Next Meeting Date and Location
 - A. Thursday, September 17 2026, City Hall Council Chambers, 226 W 4th St
- IX. Adjournment



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

Board Members Present: Cannady, Kefauver, Meyer, O’Connell, Peterson, Powers, Schertz, Shareef, Wittenmyer

Staff Present: Becca Niles, Troy Evans, Theresa Hauman, Tom Franks, Amy Soliz

Location: Council Chambers, City Hall, 226 4th St, Davenport

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fOfx1uPArFw>

Meeting Video Timestamp	Agenda Item	Discussion
	<u>Call to Order:</u>	
.47	<u>Meeting Minutes:</u>	Motion by Schertz to approve the June 2026 meeting minutes, 2 nd by Kefauver. Motion Passes 8-0.
	<u>Public with Comment:</u>	None
	<u>Old Business:</u>	None
	<u>New Business:</u>	None
2:06	<u>Reports</u>	Director Report: Invitation to River’s Edge Mural Reveal Tank relocation from Credit Island to Veteran’s Memorial-more information to come
4:58		Staff Report: will discuss on tour bus per agreement Riverfront Improvement Commission Report: none

Park Advisory Board None
Time:

5:13 Adjournment: Motion by Meyer to adjourn, 2nd by Kefauver. Motion passes 8-0.

Next Meeting: Thursday, August 20, 2026 | 4:30 pm | Council Chambers, City Hall, 226 W. 4th Street

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
8/20/2026

Subject:
Park Advisory Board Election Nomination

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
8/20/2026

Subject:
Presentation: Park Development

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
8/20/2026

Subject:
Director's Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: |

Action / Date
8/20/2026

Subject:
Staff Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:
None

City of Davenport

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

Action / Date
8/20/2026

Subject:
August 2026 Staff Report

Recommendation:
Review Information

Background:

Attachments:

1. 08.2026 Staff Report

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

August 2026

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

AmeriCorps

- Grant agreement for new grant year is on Council agenda for acceptance. Program staff have been approved to onboard 28 members throughout the year. Staff will onboard 16 members in the fall for a 46-week term, 7 members in the spring for a 24-week term, and 5 in the summer for a 14-week term.
 - Fall recruitment has begun. To date, 7 members will be returning from the 25-26 grant year with 3 new members committed for 26-27 year so far.
 - Spring recruitment opens in January. Summer recruitment opens in March.

Customer Service & Outreach

- Department and AmeriCorps staff have attended all Party in the Park events throughout the summer.
- Staff attended the Eastern Iowa Success Fair hiring event on Wednesday, August 12, sharing a table with the HR department.

Business Functions

- Becca met with members of the local Pickleball group. Discussion regarding possible programming collaboration is in progress.
- Staff are reviewing and standardizing the department's Letters of Agreement with community partner organizations for the coming 2027 year.

PARK OPERATIONS

Park Projects

- Staff installed a shallow tile to help Slattery Park drain better during rain events.
- Green Acres Playground was completed, mulched and open to the public.

Horticulture

- The Horticulture team continues to be busy managing plantings around the city. Weeds have loved the rain and are abundant. Staff is busy keeping these from overtaking our flowers.
- The summer theme continues to be a popular activity. Staff have switched over to the final “alien plushy” and will continue to hand those out as supplies last.

General Operations & Maintenance

- Maintenance crews have had a difficult time keeping up with the grass due to rain and the loss of a few key mowing staff but continue to maintain a 5-day mowing cycle for the large area mowers.
- The maintenance team has been trimming weeds and saplings along the Goose Creek, Riverfront, and Credit Island trail systems.
- Staff continue to respond to vandalism. As of this writing, staff have addressed 16 repair requests this month, bringing the total for the year to 129 tasks related to vandalism.

RECREATION

Events & Aquatics

- Learn to Swim classes and public swim ended last weekend. Staff had some challenges with the pool mechanically and chemically, but together with the help of staff in Parks Operations, they were able to maintain the pools well and they remained open most of the season.

Adaptive & Inclusive

- Staff are looking for volunteers to play golf or bocce with a Special Olympic athlete on September 10 at Red Hawk 9:00am-noon. If interested, please contact Sherrie Fischer.
- The bathrooms at Roosevelt Community Center have been restored by Blaze Restoration; they look great.
- The Unified Bowling League ended at the end of July, with over 130 athletes and Unified partners. Staff excitedly added two lanes for athletes under 18 years of age.

Youth & Adult Sports

- There are 869 youth soccer registrations for fall season. There is a waitlist and staff hope to meet last year's mark of 900 participants.
- There are 30 adult teams registered for upcoming adult softball and soccer.

Davenport Junior Theatre Performing Arts

- All performing arts camps have gone well and had positive survey feedback.

- Summer classes closed out last week and fall registrations are going very well.

The River's Edge

- Staff have been working diligently at fixing the issues that arose from the water being shut off last month resulting in losing all but one compressor and continuing to address the high humidity. Facility schedules had to be adjusted but because of staff's hard work there are minimal effects on actual ice use time.
- Learn to Skate is finish strong the fiscal year at the 6th strongest ever with over 560 participants. Staff are very proud of the program and how the consistent growth is reflective of how well it is doing.
- Staff have initiated the beginning stages of the HVAC replacement project.

Environmental Education – Nature & Garden

- Staff had 20 Volunteers to help with Duck Creek clean-up; a good amount of brush and small trees were cleared in the restoration space.

GOLF OPERATIONS

General Golf Course Updates

- Golf Courses are recovering from the dangerous storms on first week of August, by cleaning up tree debris and postponing mowing several days.
- Golf Courses are scrambling to re-arrange schedules and conducting some interviews to replace staff going off to college in August.
- Golf will be preparing to overseed tees and fairways during Aug 15 – Sept 15 window, the most productive seed time for Iowa region.

Duck Creek Golf Course

- Duck Creek Golf is preparing to replace the planking on the large bridge at Duck Creek this fall with contractor bids completed in August.

Emeis Golf Course

- Emeis Golf Clubhouse renovation project has been 'kicked off' with engineering starting in August. Construction is expected to start this winter off-season.

COMMUNICATION UPDATES

Community Events

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

- (Rescheduled) Party in the Park | Thursday, 8/20 | Northwest Park
- Family Fun Nights | Every 4th Friday, 8/27, 9/24 & 10/22 | Fairmount Community Center
- City of Davenport River Bandits Night | Friday, 8/28 | Modern Woodmen Ballpark
- Back to School Skate | Saturday, 8/22 | The River's Edge
- Letters to the Pumpkin King | Everyday, Tuesday, 9/15 – Thursday, 10/15 | Mailed to The River's Edge

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's End of Summer Bash | Saturday, 8/22 | 10AM-12PM | Vander Veer Botanical Park

Notable Dates

- TENTATIVE: E-Bike Campaign Press Conference – Friday, August 31, Time TBD
- Facility Closure: Labor Day - Monday, 9/7
 - Parks and Recreation Admin Offices, The River's Edge, and Vander Veer Conservatory will be closed.
- All splash pads and spray parks closed as of Tuesday, 9/8.

City of Davenport

Department: Parks and Recreation

Contact Info: |

Action / Date

8/20/2026

Subject:

Riverfront Improvement Commission Report

Recommendation:

Background:

Attachments:

None