

Park and Recreation Advisory Board  
September 21, 2023  
Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

Park Operations

- Ryan Morales joined the team as a Park Technician; the division is now fully staffed in the full-time area for the first time in 15 months. Ryan transferred from a part-time role at The River's Edge.
- The tentative plan is to begin installing the holiday lights at Fejervary Learning Center in early October. Staff are looking forward to installation in decent weather rather than waiting until it's cold.
- Staff removed the old Lafayette playground and will reinstall at the Soccer Complex. The swings were moved near the new playground. This opens up the corner of Gaines and 4<sup>th</sup> street.
- Vander Veer fountain continues to provide challenges for staff. Numerous broken pipes, but staff perseveres and continues to fix the pipes and reenergize the fountain. The plan is to submit a large CIP request to provide the needed overhaul for the aging infrastructure.
- Fairmount Community Center playground (grant funded) is scheduled to be installed the week of September 11-22. Parks staff prepped the site, a contractor is completing the installation.

Recreation

- Special Olympic Golf and Bocce Tournaments were held at Red Hawk on September 7 with 127 participants (50 more than last year) and a great time was had by all.
- The Country Hoedown was held Friday, September 8 and the 85 participants had a wonderful evening. This event is sponsored by Davenport and Bettendorf Parks and Recreation Departments. Hy-Vee donated hot dogs and dinner; the DJ fee is reduced by Double H and the remaining fee is covered through the Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Grant.
- The Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Drive will be held September 22 – 24. Staff will help collect donations at the West Kimberly Walmart in Davenport (Friday and Saturday only). Each year the Knights award DPR

with grants for the Unified Bowling program and a check to cover DJ services for the Adaptive and Inclusive dances.

- Staff hosted a public meeting regarding skate park improvements on Thursday, September 7, facilitated by Adam Eichorn, from Spohn Ranch. Over 20 park users attended to provide input. Spohn Ranch will take the input received from the meeting and the online survey to provide staff with design concepts and recommendations in the next couple of weeks.
- The Up Close & Plantable hike at Sunderbruch Park on 9/22 has 21 registrants from the Quad Cities Women's Outdoor Club!
- Families from across the community came out for a perfect evening of family entertainment under the stars for the last Family Movies in the Park at the Annie Wittenmyer Complex/Junior Theatre lawn watching *A Bug's Life*. Approximately 115 participants enjoyed food trucks, lawn games, coloring, and a craft before the movie. Big thank you to Daniel from Recreation, Dennis from Golf, Tim from Horticulture, Ryan M. from Parks Operations, and Courtney from AmeriCorps for their help!
- The annual Fejervary Family Fun Day - Back 2 School event provided one-hundred children back to school supplies while local agencies/organizations and city departments including the Public Library, Parks and Recreation, Davenport AmeriCorps, Midwest Writing Center, Amani, Community Health Center, Figge, and AmeriGroup provided additional supplies and information. Attendees also enjoyed craft activities, a petting zoo, and bounce houses. Big thank you to Donnie from Horticulture, Jessica from Parks Administration, and Dani from AmeriCorps for their help!
- Fall session for Junior Theatre Dance and Theatre both have exceeded last year's with 199 and 267 registrants respectfully.

#### Revenue Facilities

- No report provided.

## Communication Updates (September-October)

- Community Events
  - GOAT Get Out and Trail Saturday, 9/23 | 9AM-1PM | QC Trails
  - Scary Movies in the Park Friday, 10/13 | 6-11PM | Credit Island Park
  - Halloween Hike Friday, 10/27 | 4-6PM | Sunderbruch Park & Trail
  - Mainstage Productions: The Skokie Detective Charter School Saturdays & Sundays, 10/14-10/22 | Sat: 1PM & 4PM Sun: 3PM | Davenport Junior Theatre
- Recreation Programs
  - Drop In Open Gym 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of the Month | 4-5:30PM | Roosevelt Community Center
  - Up Close & Plantable Friday, 9/22 | 2-4PM | Sunderbruch Park
  - Friday Night Jams Fridays, 9/22 & 10/27 | 6-9PM | Roosevelt Community Center
  - Native Landscapes: Overwinter Prep Friday, 9/29 | 3-4PM | Vander Veer Conservatory
  - Coffee & Cuttings Tuesday, 10/3 | 10-10:30AM | Vander Veer Conservatory
  - The Secret Life of Trees Friday, 10/6 | 3-4PM | Duck Creek Park
  - Scrapbooking Saturday, 10/7 | 8AM-5PM | Roosevelt Community Center
  - Family Field Day-Kickball Saturday, 10/7 | 10-11:30AM | Miracle Field @ Prairie Heights Park
  - Ballroom Dance: Night Club 2 Mondays, 10/9-10/30 | 6-7PM | Duck Creek Lodge
  - Ballroom Dance: Swing Mondays, 10/9-10/30 | 7-8PM | Duck Creek Lodge
  - Safely Home Alone Tuesday, 10/10 | 4-5PM | Roosevelt Community Center
  - A Fairy Home Companion Saturday, 10/21 | 2-3:30PM | Vander Veer Conservatory
- Notable Dates
  - Fall Color Display at Vander Veer Conservatory All of September
  - Chrysanthemum Display at Vander Veer Conservatory All of October