

PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

CITY OF DAVENPORT, IOWA

THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 2024; 4:30 PM

CITY HALL | 226 WEST 4TH STREET | COUNCIL CHAMBERS

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

A. February 2024 Meeting Minutes

III. Public Comment

IV. Old Business

A. Windsor Crest Neighborhood- Staff Feedback

V. New Business

A. FY25 Park Development Program- Final Slate

VI. Staff Reports

A. March 2024 Staff Report

B. Director's Report

VII. Advisory Time / Suggestions for Future Agenda Items

VIII. Adjournment

IX. Next Meeting Date and Location

A. April 18, 2024, 4:30pm Davenport City Council

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563.326.7817

Date
3/21/2024

Subject:
February 2024 Meeting Minutes

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▫ Cover Memo	2.2024 MM

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	3/19/2024 - 9:45 AM



**Parks and Recreation Advisory
February 15, 2024
Meeting Minutes**

Board Members Present:

Coiner, Daso, Greenlee, Hu, Kefauver, Meyer, Peterson, Schertz and Shareef

Staff Present: Chad Dyson, Billy Fisher, Becca Niles, Theresa Hauman and Jessica Rhoads

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

Meeting Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qx7JQpLcD10&t=65s>

Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the January 2024 meeting minutes presented by Greenlee, seconded by Coiner. Motion Passes 8-0

Public with Comment:

- None

Old Business:

- **None**

New Business:

- **Winsor Crest-** Dyson: The Winsor Crest Neighborhood is here to discuss the City perusing land accusation and development of a neighborhood Park. In your packet you will find background information, a letter from a resident we received, the neighborhood petition, as well as a copy of their presentation and related documents from the parks master plan.
 - **Speakers:** Don Adams, Eric Estra, Bruce Ware,
 - **Overview of Talking Point from the neighborhood:**
 - No safe access to public parks by bike and walking due to busy streets, and a lack of bike paths and sidewalks.
 - This area of the city was developed without open green space.
 - Parcel for sale at 46th and Eastern Ave would be ideal for a passive park.
 - A passive park in this area would not only serve Windsor Crest but the surrounding multifamily dwellings and other neighborhoods in the 6, 7 and 8 Wards.
 - Limited options for green space in this area of the City, makes parcel even more important to peruse as quickly as possible.
 - Requesting the City of Davenport contact the Davenport Community School and ask them to pause the sale of the land at 46 and Eastern so the City can get a plan and funding in place.
 - Many young families in the neighborhood that have to drive 10-15 mins to a public park.



DAVENPORT

PARKS & RECREATION

- **Board Questions:**
 - What is the cost of the land? 20.2 acres for \$900,000-\$1,000,000
 - There are no sidewalks? Is that the whole neighborhood or just certain areas? The core of Windsor Crest was built without sidewalks. Anything built prior to 2000 doesn't have sidewalks.
 - Are there a lot of kids? Yes, the neighborhood is turning over from the retirees to young families and a park in the area would draw more young families.
 - Chad is there a plan to extend the bike path in this area? Yes, but to the west. It will follow the railroad but won't extend into this area.
 - Is there a possibility to add a spur or connection for this neighborhood? Dyson: There is nothing in the current plans but it's something we could explore in the future.
 - What is the density in this area when looking at multifamily and single-family housing? To the north we have condos, to the east there are duplexes and to the south we have 2 very large apartment complexes. All would benefit from a park in this area.
- Director's comment:
 - This is the first step in the process.
 - Item will move to old business allowing staff time to gather information, cost est, operational plan, and additional background information.
 - The Parks master plan support this request.
 - Benefits to the neighborhood and park system as a whole.
 - It is now a question of prioritization, funding, land acquisition, capital funding to develop the park space and then operational funding to maintain the space.
 - Next month we will have action to move this request to City Council.
- **Billy Fisher, Sr. Park Operations Manager, Introduction** (see video for details)

Staff Report: (see video for details)

- See written staff report
- Director Report-Verbal
- RIC Report- Verbal

Adjournment: 5:41 pm Motion to adjourn by Grenlee, seconded by Schertz. Motion Passes 8-0

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563.326.7817

Date
3/21/2024

Subject:
Windsor Crest Neighborhood- Staff Feedback

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	3/19/2024 - 9:48 AM

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563.326.7817

Date
3/21/2024

Subject:
FY25 Park Development Program- Final Slate

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	Final Slate FY25 Park Development

REVIEWERS:

Department	Reviewer	Action	Date
Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	3/19/2024 - 9:48 AM

FY 25 Park Development Final Slate

Division	Project	Cost	Score
Recreation	Aquatics Automated Cleaner	\$ 8,310	185
Recreation	Aquatics Slide Restoration	\$ 30,000	179
Operations	Credit Island Restroom	\$ 50,000	153
Golf	Golf Building Cover Replacement	\$ 50,000	129
Golf	Golf Cart Path Replacement	\$ 55,000	129
Operations	Centennial Dog Park Flex Area	\$ 15,000	124
Golf	Golf Ventrac Boom Mower Attachments	\$ 21,000	123
Rivers Edge	Ice Skate Sharpening Machine	\$ 35,000	118
Golf	Golf Turf Gator Vehicles	\$ 24,000	109
Rivers Edge	Overhead Door Replacement	\$ 14,000	109
Golf	Red Hawk Business/ Entrance Sign	\$ 20,000	108
Recreation	Fejervary Holiday Lights Expansion	\$ 25,000	100

Total	\$ 347,310.00
Funded	\$ 350,000.00
Remaining	\$ 2,690.00

City of Davenport
Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

Department: Parks and Recreation
Contact Info: Chad Dyson 563.326.7817

Date
3/21/2024

Subject:
March 2024 Staff Report

ATTACHMENTS:

Type	Description
▢ Cover Memo	3/2024 Staff Report

REVIEWERS:

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Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	3/19/2024 - 9:48 AM

Park and Recreation Advisory Board

March 2024

Staff Report

Notable updates from Staff

Administrative Services

- The Spring/Summer Recreation Guide became available at the beginning of March in print. Several school Family Liaison Officers have reached out to pick up boxes for distribution to students.
- Phase two, program registration, of the implementation of the new recreation management software went live with the Spring Summer Recreation Guide. Despite a few hiccups in the beginning, overall registration and new member sign up has gone smoothly.
 - New enhancements to the software will be going live later in March that will be highly beneficial for staff and customers.
- Recruitment for the Management Analyst I – AmeriCorps Recruitment position closed. Interviews for the top four candidates is scheduled for March 26. The goal is to have a new MA1 by mid-April.
- Both Senior Clerks and the Administrative Assistant have been working to support the seasonal hiring efforts since January. Each taking lead on the paperwork and data entry process for the three hiring divisions- Recreation, Park Operations and Golf. Despite some changes to the process, their dedicated work and focus on the administrative side of hiring has dramatically increased efficiencies, lowered data entry errors, and streamlined communication with the Human Resources and Payroll departments.

Park Operations

- A new playground at Monroe Park has been installed, mulched and ready for use. It is a multi-level playground consisting of two slides, multiple climbing features, and adult swings.
- Vander Veer's spring show at the conservatory has opened. Tulips, Daffodils, Begonias, Daisies, and multiple other spring flower in a variety of colors can be seen from 10 am to 4pm Tuesday through Sunday.

- Staff has been busy uncovering the rose garden at Vander veer as spring temps have warmed early this year. New greenery has emerged, requiring the uncovering of winter insulation.
- Harbor Road Park has new Gaga pit amenity. Gaga is a fast-moving and high-energy game that keeps all children active and engaged. Known as the “great equalizer” in playground sports, gaga requires no special athletic skill or ability and is enjoyed by people of all ages.
- Cork Hill playground installation has begun. Staff has ordered a 10’ by 12’ maintenance shed for this park and will be starting construction on that soon. The maintenance shed will house the components for the eventual splash pad, along with the plumbing and various valves.
- Native grasses have been thinned from Quinlan Court and transplanted to Tyler Park, establishing a new native area at the top of the hill. This has been successful on two fronts. First cleaning up Quinlan Court, making the area more inviting for public events and secondly creating a buffer between Tyler Park and the neighboring houses. Wildlife has already begun taking advantage of the grasses as birds have been seen flitting in and out of the area.
- Staff has been busy repairing amenities at the Annie Witt Aquatic and Fejervary Pool, such as drinking fountains, public address systems, and sandblasting of diving boards in preparation of resurfacing.
- Staff has been busy clearing downed timber from the Credit Island Nature Preserve. Teaming with our forestry division, nearly 50 large dead trees have been removed for safety concerns, downed limbs littering the landscape have been removed, and areas have been identified for new plantings.
- The spring baseball meeting was a success, meeting with all area Little League representatives. Fields have been assigned, games have been scheduled, and improvements to each field are being negotiated. Junge Park, Northwest Park, and Roosevelt fields have scheduled volunteer days to make repairs to fencing, base paths, and freshen painted amenities such as benches and dugouts.
- Staff has begun preparations for restroom openings by assembling the plumbing fixtures (toilets, sinks, etc.). These are typically winterized in November, and assembled as water is turned on. This year we have had the opportunity to proactively repair these features in an attempt to speed the process along.

- Staff has prepared the rugby pitch and practice pitch for spring matches. Ruts have been filled, seed has been sewn, and new lines have been placed on the fields.
- A new full-time Park Technician has been added to our team. This will help to ensure all water related features will be open by mid-April. A maintenance specialist and custodial position has also been certified by the Civil Service Commission.

Recreation

- The ribbon cutting ceremony for the second sheet of ice at The River's Edge, along with the Blues Benefit and alumni games, were held on February 24 and went very well. There are a few minor mechanical issues with the second rink being worked through, but those will be addressed after the hockey season ends.
- Junior Theatre hosted the "Kindergarten Workshop Series" at the end of February. The series has all 920 kindergartners from Davenport Community Schools attend a 90-minute workshop at the Annie Wittenmyer Facility. Kids learn to be creative storytellers and find their voices.
- Junior Theatre have finished interviews and hiring and are fully staffed for spring and summer camps.
- Adaptive and Inclusive programs held the annual St. Patrick's Day Dance with 160 participants, volunteers, and Irish Step Dancers in attendance.
- Scott County Special Olympics competed in their new uniforms at the Spring Classic in Iowa City on Saturday, March 9. The 5x5 team won the championship for six straight years! They also had 17 skills players, one cheer team, and one 3x3 team compete and ended up with numerous medals.
- AdventureCamp registration opened March 1 and already has 44 of the 50 full summer slots filled and 79/100 slots filled for the weekly camp signups.
- Spring soccer has 822 kids registered, which is approximately where registration has been in previous soccer seasons.
- The number of aquatics applicants is well over 70 making it hopeful that this will enable staff to have both pools open more hours.
- New software was purchased for aquatics. DigiQuatics, for both facilities will be used for scheduling, chemical logs, and general required documentation go more smoothly.

- In addition, a subscription to RainOut Line will help communicate to all participants and facility users regarding any inclement weather issues.
- The collaboration with Bettendorf Parks and Recreation for the Sweetheart Dance was a huge success. It sold out and all participants had very positive feedback.

Golf

- Golf courses were able to open early this season due to above normal temperatures in late February/early March. Golf Courses has been open or closed sporadically based on the fluctuating weather and available staff.
- Red Hawk Golf Course hosted the 'Chili Open 2024' on Saturday March 2 with over 100 players. Temperatures were in the 60s, so the normal turf tees and greens were open for play and included an 8-inch cup (hole) for extra luck! (A normal cup is 4 inches).
- The golf professionals have been setting up carts, concessions and practice ranges through this early startup.
- Duck Creek and Emeis grounds staff have been cleaning up winter tree debris and still sharpening mower blades.
- Duck Creek has a couple bigger projects wrapping up this spring: Staff worked with a contractor to 're-set' the Practice Range Tee - mat system, Park Operations and Public Works assisted staff with cattail removal in the #14 pond, and staff seeded two large areas where road/path was removed on #3 and #10.
- Golf courses have completed the majority of seasonal hiring. Replacement hiring is ongoing throughout the season, as staff explore other jobs or retire from golf division altogether.

Communication Updates

- Community Events
 - Doggie Egg Hunt Saturday, 3/23 | 10AM-1PM | Centennial Park & Dog Park
 - Earth Day Clean Up Saturday, 4/20 | 1-4PM | Duck Creek Park
 - Arbor Day Tree Giveaway Wednesday, 4/24 | 11AM-Until trees are gone | Vander Veer Enabling Garden
 - Friends of Vander Veer Spring Plant Sale Friday-Sunday, 4/26-4/28 | Times vary by day | Vander Veer Conservatory
 - Spring Formal Sunday, 4/28 | 4:30-8:30PM | MVFG – Starlite Ballroom
- Recreation Programs

- Drop In Open Gym 1st Friday of the Month | 4-5:30PM | Roosevelt Community Center
- Learn to Skate Spring Session various days, 3/18-5/25 | various times | The River's Edge
- Friday Night Jams Friday, 3/22 | 6-9PM | Roosevelt Community Center
- Tree Wrap-A-Thon Thursdays-Saturdays, 3/21-3/23 | 3-6PM | Vander Veer Stone Building
- Scrapbooking First Saturdays, 3/2-9/7 | 8:30AM-5:30PM | Roosevelt Community Center
- Coffee & Cuttings Tuesday & Saturday, 4/2 & 4/6 | 10-10:30AM | Vander Veer Conservatory
- Special Olympics-Summer Games Prep-Track & Field Tuesdays & Thursdays, 3/18-5/9 | 4:30-5:30PM | Miracle Field @ Prairie Heights Park
- Ballroom Dance: Foxtrot Mondays, 4/1-4/22 | 7-8PM | Duck Creek Lodge
- Ballroom Dance: Salsa Mondays, 4/1-4/22 | 6-7PM | Duck Creek Lodge
- Can Play Courage League - Soccer Thursdays, 4/4-4/25 | 5:30-6:30PM | Roosevelt Community Center
- Walk in the Park Mondays & Wednesdays, 4/8-5/15 | 7-8AM | Vander Veer Conservatory & Botanical Park
- Special Olympics-Summer Games Prep-Bocce Ball Wednesdays, 4/10-5/8 | 4:30-5:30PM | Red Hawk Golf and Learning Center – Bocce Ball Courts
- Adult Softball Leagues-Spring Sundays & Tuesday/Thursdays, 4/14-6/19 | Times vary by day | Lindsay Park
- Notable Dates
 - Recreation Open interviews
 - Saturday, 4/6 | 9AM-1PM | The River's Edge
 - Spring Floral Display Every day in April | Conservatory Open Dates/Times | Vander Veer Conservatory

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April 18, 2024, 4:30pm Davenport City Council

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Parks & Recreation	Rhoads, Jessica	Approved	3/19/2024 - 9:45 AM