



Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes

April 6, 2023, 7:00pm

City Council Chambers, 1 Quail Creek Circle, North Liberty, Iowa

Commission Members Present: Richard Grugin, Jeremy Parrish, Gwen Johnson, Amy Chen, Kevin Stibbal, Jamie Gade

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Minutes
 1. February 2, 2023
 2. March 2 meeting canceled, no minutes.
 3. Motion to approve by Gwen Johnson, Seconded by Shannon Greene, unanimous approval.
3. Centennial Park's Next Stage Presentation
 1. Communications Dept to give update on Centennial Park – Next Stage
4. Northside Park Update
 1. North Liberty approved acquisition through eminent domain to purchase property of 40 acres for Northside Park. Currently land is being used for farming. Land was part of North Liberty's comprehensive plan.
 2. Future plans may include soccer complex, playground, restroom facility.
5. Purpose of Commission – discussion
 1. Richard proposed adding an agenda item of new ideas and community feedback, allowing commission members to discuss topics and questions commission members are hearing in the community. All commission members present were in favor of agenda addition.
6. Reports
 1. Parks Report
 - i. Full report is in information packet.
 - ii. Babe Ruth building remodel has been finished this month. Needing to complete dugout covers, with help from Liberty High class. Installed sunshades over spectator seating.
 - iii. Aeration of turf has begun, with seeding.
 - iv. Spring landscape cleanup has begun to help growth and prevent weed growth.
 - v. Sport field maintenance has begun. Soccer is starting April 18th.
 - vi. Ice skating rink has been taken down, pickle ball resuming.
 - vii. DNR did trout stocking at Liberty Center.
 - viii. Parking lot expansion at Penn Meadows Park plan at 50% completion currently. Expanding green islands with solar lights. Incorporating storm water quality pavers. This coming July parking will be affected by the splash pad and playground. Parking impacts will be communicated prior.
 - ix. Cleanup day happened at Penn Meadows Park in early April with NLCBS ball league.
 - x. Trail cleanup day is Saturday April 8th, meet at North parking lot at the Rec center.
 - xi. Staffing has been going well and all spots have been filled except for two.
 - xii. Amy Chen had a question about the dog park merging the big dog and small dog areas. Guy mentioned a survey was completed and residents were against the idea. It will not be merged.
 2. Recreation/Pool Report

- i. Full report is in information packet.
- ii. Custodial Maintenance Technician has been hired and on boarded. Brian interviewed 6 candidates for Program Recreation Supervisor position. Will decide soon on final candidate to bring to HR for a possible offer early next week.
- iii. Summer activity guide went out to the public in March, and registration went out this week.
- iv. Community center served as storm sheltering in past week due to weather events.
- v. Eggstravaganza events happened over this past weekend. Egg coloring, fairy gardens, petting zoo, and other events happened during the day. Possibly 400 attendees.
- vi. Current Recster participants can sign up for summer camp in March. April is open enrollment for all.
- vii. Roof project completed and held through the storms. Next week will have last walkthrough for roof project.
- viii. Looking at a bid to do north and west sides of rec center wall refinishing.
- ix. Looking to add AC unit over concession stand.
- x. Membership and usage rebounding from COVID. Not quite to pre-COVID levels.
- xi. Brian has been working with Silver Sneakers to create a new membership option.
- xii. Registration for swimming lessons is completed.

3. Questions, Concerns, Updates

7. New Business

8. Old Business

9. Next Meeting

- 1. Thursday, May 4, 2023, at 7:00pm.

10. Adjourn

- 1. Motioned by Jeremy Parish, seconded by Gwen Johnson, unanimous approval.