

PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF DYERSVILLE

June 14, 2022

Meeting called to order by Scott Kluesner at 5:59 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Sarah Goldsmith, Jon Scherbring, Taylor Klostermann, Matt Monahan, Scott Kluesner, Nathan Huebner

Commission Members Absent: None

City Staff Present: Adam Huehnergath and Sandy Oberbroeckling

Oral Comments: None

Approve June 14, 2022 agenda

Kluesner asked for review and approval of the agenda. Monahan made a motion to approve the Tuesday, June 14, 2022 agenda. Motion seconded by Scherbring.

Voice Call Vote: **AYES:** All
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Approve December 1, 2021 Minutes

Kluesner asked for comments or changes and there were none. Goldsmith made a motion to approve the December 1, 2021 minutes. Motion seconded by Klostermann.

Voice Call Votes: **AYES:** All
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Receive & File: April 2022 Director's Report

Oral Comments: None

Monahan made a motion to receive and file the April 2022 Director's report. Motion seconded by Scherbring.

Voice Call Votes: **AYES:** All
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Item #1: New Pickleball Courts

Bud Johnson had talked to Gavin Nadermann last year regarding a grant for pickleball courts. Since Nadermann had resigned, nothing happened with that conversation. Shortly after Huehnergath was hired, he was contacted by Johnson to apply for this grant. Every year they give out 4 - \$20,000 grants. The

grant is for \$20,000 if certain criteria are met. Johnson came and measured the skate park, a location that was previously discussed to be redesigned for this purpose. Once the measurements were done, Huehnergarth called about fencing and Tennis Services for striping. Terry Recker contacted individuals for lighting. It all came together quickly and is 80% completed. The council had previously stated that either the skate park needed to be updated or replaced. The fencing, lighting, painting and netting totaled ~\$46,000. A grant was received for \$20,000; therefore, the final expense was ~\$26,000 for 3 pickleball courts. Monticello, Epworth, Guttenberg and Edgewood all have pickleball courts. We needed to do this as well. The fencing is in and nets will be installed tomorrow. Courts will be playable soon. There will be 3 courts (2 – North/South & 1 – East/West). There is a 15 ft buffer between the courts, which will allow for benches for individuals waiting to play. Johnson feels it will be a premier court once the improvements are finished. The resurfacing will be done late July/early August. This has been a quick turn around and a great addition to our parks.

Comments: There were questions by the commission where the skate park equipment was placed. The equipment is currently in storage. It was questioned if the skate park will be relocated, which they are unsure of at this time. A few residents were not happy with the lack of notice that this work was going to be done and no one was told about it. Huehnergarth said it all happened very quickly. This is a great activity for all generations. There was also questions about having a reservation system. They are still looking into that. The possibility of a league was also questioned. They also asked about renting out equipment, which would be difficult to track. Huehnergarth will post on Facebook when the courts are ready. City residents would like more notice of any changes with our facilities.

Item #2: Aquatic Center Open/Close Decisions

We may want to review our open/close decisions. The second day the pool was open, it was under 60° so it did not open at 1:00 pm. It was reassessed at 2:00 pm, at which time it was over 60°. The pool opened around 2:30 pm and remained open for one patron. It was forecasted to rain off/on all day. The guards are required to sit there all day under our current policy. We should look at amending this policy in the future. This is not money wisely spent for our city. Other cities had closed for the day. The Commission agrees we should revisit this in the future.

Item #3: Bocce Courts

Huehnergarth has been contacted by an Eagle Scout to install bocce courts South of the pickleball courts. The courts will be made out of railroad ties and limestone courts (13 ft X 40 ft). These hoped to be installed by this Fall.

Comments: The Girl Scouts installed a gaga pit a few years ago. There is a bin that had balls in it when it was first installed. Who should be maintaining this item? It does need some maintenance (broken latch, etc.). Should we be purchasing balls all the time? Huehnergarth will look in this. It was also recommended that signage be installed that would give directions on how to play bocce ball and even pickleball.

Item #4: Field of Dreams Tournaments

Huehnergarth has some negative comments regarding the Field of Dreams using all our ball fields. They will be using them for 10 weeks, usually from Friday – Saturday. These games rarely interfere with city games. They are paying the City \$30,000, which is good revenue. It also brings people into town to use our services. The first weekend people weren't really sure where they could eat. They are looking more into our downtown area. The Exhibit is now open, which will also draw people into town. We have 7 workable fields, which is a great asset for a town our size. It would be beneficial if we could obtain the

Field of Dream schedule earlier. In the future, they will still be using our town diamonds. There are plans to put the money earned on this agreement back into facilities. There are plans for a concession stand at Candy Cane and elevate it. Also, adding netting and concession stands at Commercial Club parks. We are waiting to sign a new agreement with Commercial Club Park. We recently installed new scoreboards at Candy Cane and Westside Park. Suggested to be staffed with city workers to bring money into our city to update the fields.

Item #5: Baseball Facilities

Looking at improving the facilities down at Candy Cane. Huehnergath was amazed at the amount of toilet paper and garbage at the parks over the first two weekends when there were 70+ teams in town. They are setting up a hand washing station. The out-of-town people think we have great fields; however, other amenities need to be improved (bathrooms, concessions, etc.) There is money available for dugouts. Are they necessary? We need to see what we really utilize. At the Commercial Club fields, Adam created signs to let people know they can purchase food at the pool.

Tom Arens does concessions whenever he chooses. It was questioned whether we would want a portable concession stand purchased by the city for the soccer games. Huehnergath was not in favor of this. Some local communities pay kids \$12/hr to man these stands. This wouldn't be all that profitable. We will reach out to foot trucks, rather than taking it on as a city. It would also be possible to see if a volunteer group would want to sponsor it. Huehnergath would also like to tap into the adult slow pitch leagues.

Comments: Where are we on drinking fountains at Westside? These were discussed at a previous meeting and nothing has been done. Commercial Club has two uninstalled fountains sitting in storage, would these be an option? It was previously discussed about tapping in over by Xavier. Huehnergath to look into this.

Item #6: Soccer Fields

Is it possible to have soccer nets up at this time of year? Currently, there is no place for kids to practice. Senior soccer starts on July 11th, so nets will be up soon. It was requested that these nets stay up even out of season. Great idea!

Item#7: Aquatic Center Improvements:

Engineering has come out and they want to start in August. Huehnergath will touch base with ACCO. Klostermann asked about switching companies. Huehnergath will touch base with Terry Recker regarding obtaining a new company to help us with the improvements and everyday items. No changes will be made with the big slide.

Comments: Where are we with a new water fountain at the aquatic center? Nothing has been done yet. Questions were raised on the splash pad as well. Huehnergath spoke with ACCO and he stated most of the cities that have a zero depth pool do not have splash pads. Could we put some type of playground equipment with a rubber mat or turf under it in that grassy area for little kids to play on? Another idea was to put in a Vortex Pool for water walkers and maybe include a basketball hoop. These topics will be revisited.

Item #8: Skate Park

This item was addressed earlier under pickleball courts.

Commission Oral Comments: None

Set date for next meeting: The date for the next meeting is set for Wednesday, July 13, 2022 at 6:00 P.M.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 7:03 P.M. on a motion by Monahan, seconded by Scherbring.

Voice Call Vote: **AYES:** All
 NAYS: None
 ABSENT: None

Motion Carried

Sandy Oberbroeckling

06/14/2022
Date