

WEST DES MOINES PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD PROCEEDINGS
Thursday, February 18, 2016

The meeting of the West Des Moines Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was called to order on Thursday, February 18, at 5:31 p.m. by Joe Hrdlicka.

Commission	Heather Schebel	Rick Swalwell	Forrest Ridgway	Aaron Sewell	Joe Hrdlicka
Present	X	X	X	X	X

Staff	Susan Mathews <i>Parks & Recreation Administrative Secretary</i>	Sally Ortgies <i>Superintendent of Parks</i>	Greg Hansen <i>Superintendent of Recreation</i>	Gary Scott <i>Director of Parks & Recreation</i>
Present	X	X	X	X

On Item 1. Approval of Agenda

Schebel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Ridgway seconded. Motion carried.

On Item 2. Citizen Forum

No items.

On Item 3. Approval of Minutes of January 21, 2016 Meeting

Sewell moved to approve the minutes as presented. Schebel seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business

On Item 4A. Discussion-Park Improvement Financing

Scott spoke about reestablishing the WestParks Foundation. Scott also suggested having a consultant assist with a public relations plan to increase awareness and support. Ridgway asked about setting up a workshop with the City Council. Swalwell suggested approaching a college like Drake to have a student group work on a plan. Swalwell asked about how the Library Friends came to be, when they were formed and how many people are involved. Scott responded that they have been in existence since before the current Library was built. He added that there are 10-12 Board Members who have been very successful in their fundraising efforts. Ridgway suggested mobilizing program users and permit holders to work toward a special election. Scott recommended re-polling a set of voters in that case since the current data shows that the primary demographics that support Parks & Recreation turnout at general elections. Scott added that narrowing down the project list to \$20-25 million would probably also help. Hrdlicka reiterated that a workshop and conversation with the City Council is imperative to ensure visions are aligned. Swalwell added that having projects for every ward and demographic would assist with retaining their support. Scott said he would send out a ward map and work on scheduling a workshop for late March or early April.

On Item 5. New Business

No items.

Staff Reports:

On Item 6A. Superintendent of Parks

No additional items.

On Item 6B. Superintendent of Recreation

Hansen noted that on Monday night, City Council will consider approval of a contract to replace several pool heaters. He shared that the Community Center renovation progress continues and that anyone interested in taking a tour can contact him. Hansen added that the spring/summer brochure will be in mailboxes soon with resident registration starting on March 8. Hansen also shared that summer staff seasonal hiring is underway.

On Item 6C. Director of Parks and Recreation

Scott stated that the Trail Art Selection Committee picked an artist for their project. The Public Arts Advisory Commission will consider approval of their selection next week. Scott gave an update on the Waterford Drive encroachments sharing that staff met with the owner of a garden that will be removed. Scott informed the Board that due to space constraints in City Hall, some Engineering staff will be moving into the Parks and Recreation office following some reconfiguration of office space. Additionally, there will be a space needs study to consider moving Parks Maintenance and Forestry Staff into the Public Works building.

On Item 7. Other Matters

No items.

Receive, File and/or Refer:

On Item 8A. City Council Communications

January 26, 2016: Motion – Approval of Contract Agreement – Supply and Service of Portable Toilets

January 26, 2016: Resolution – Order Construction and Notice of Public Hearing on Plans, Specifications, Form of Contract, Estimate of Cost, and Direct Advertisement of Bids – Valley View Aquatic Center and Holiday Park Aquatic Center heater replacement

January 26, 2016: Resolution – Approval of Grant Application – Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship Water Quality Initiative – Woodland Hills Park Water Quality Improvements

February 8, 2016: Motion – Approval of Application for West Des Moines Community Enrichment Foundation Grant

February 8, 2016: Motion – Approval of Professional Services Agreement – Woodland Hills Park Water Quality Management Practices

Ridgway moved to adjourn. Swalwell seconded. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Mathews
Administrative Secretary

ATTEST:

Aaron Sewell
Advisory Board Secretary