



## PARKS & RECREATION

Lower Level Council Chambers  
Wednesday, April 17, 2024  
5:00 PM

### MINUTES

#### ROLL CALL

Meeting was called to order by Sarah Goldsmith at 5:02 P.M.

#### PRESENT

Jason Lang, Jon Scherbring, Megan Scherrman, Nathan Huebner, Sarah Goldsmith, Matt Ungs

#### ABSENT

Casey Frye

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Goldsmith asked for review and approval of the agenda. Motion made by Huebner, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

Motion Carried

#### AGENDA ITEMS

**1. Approve Meeting Minutes - March 6, 2024**

Goldsmith asked for comments or changes and there were none. Motion made by Ungs, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

Motion Carried

**2. Receive & File Director's Report - February 2024**

Goldsmith asked for comments or changes and there were none. Motion made by Huebner, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

Motion Carried

**3. Receive & File Director's Report - March 2024**

Goldsmith asked for comments or changes and there were none. Motion made by Huebner, seconded by Lang.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

Motion Carried

### 3. Fitness Connection Update

Goldsmith, along with the Fitness Connection presented their idea of an all-inclusive playground, fitness stations and a splash pad to the City Council. The City Council was very excited about the idea. Goldsmith, Huehnergath, Emily Snedden and Mick Michel met to look at the logistics of the space where they'd like to place the playground. It appears to fit in the area they recommended. The next step is to look at the design. There is a wide variety of parks to pick from. Huehnergath brought back brochures from his last conference. He talked to vendors there that have installed these types of playgrounds and splash pads. Once the Fitness Connection selects a design, they will present it the Parks & Recreation Commission. Depending on cost, we may need to do these enhancements in phases. The all-inclusive park is the first item to accomplish.

It may also be important for vendors to look at the location we plan to place the park. There are so many ideas out there that this may help narrow the search. They are looking for a park for all age levels because Xavier students will play there and they range from Preschool to 6th grade. Next, the Fitness Connection will look into the funding. They will be looking at fundraising, capital campaigns, grants, etc. Any ideas can be forwarded to Goldsmith or Huehnergath. The group is hoping for construction in the spring.

### 5. Soccer - Rules & Teams

The City of Manchester reached out to Huehnergath to see if they could be included in our Senior Soccer League (high school) and possibly a junior high team. The commission would like a roster in advance so that the players will remain the same and they don't keep pulling in their best kids.

Huehnergath would also like to add a rule that 2 girls on each team need to be on the field at all times or only play 10 players. This would require all girls to get playing time. This rule would apply to grades 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>. We will revisit this for younger grades after this is tested on the older grades. This will be enforced by referees and coaches.

The commission voted as follows:

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

### 6. Aquatic Center Updates

Everything is going well so far with the aquatic center. We have 17 lifeguards and 15 facility assistants hired. There is training set up for April 28th for the lifeguards as well as the required meeting for all aquatic center employees. The pumps are working well and they will begin filling up the pool the beginning of May to allow chemicals to balance and use the sun to naturally heat the pool. We still need to keep thinking of ideas to keep the pool exciting and fun without expending a lot of funds.

### 7. Track Meet Updates

The Community track meet will be held on May 4th. There are currently 35 entrants registered. Huehnergath will be sending a flyer to all students at Western Dubuque next week. Some of the parents have seen a post by the PE teacher at Western Dubuque to advertise the event. Field events will be from 9 am - 9:40 am. Races will be from 10 am - 11 am. The children need to be there between 8 am and 9 am to register, however, they will be flexible with children that

are in other sports. We still need volunteers to help work this event. Last year we had 5 or 6 volunteers and then the parents also helped. The state meet is in Marshalltown on June 1st.

8. Commission Member Comments

There will be training on Friday, April 19th at 5:30 pm for kids wanting to referee. It's a good idea for junior high children to start refereeing. They can get the experience and then be able to referee games for the other teams that come into town. They children can make good money being a referee.

Batting cage installation is in the process at Commercial Club. It was asked where we are on the protective nets for fans at Commercial Club. No further action has been taken on this idea. Nets would be a very expensive option and Huehnergath has stated he has tried for grants before with Out Run the Rays with no luck, so he was hesitant to put in the work to try again. Members of the commission have heard several comments on safety from other parents as they are sitting in the stands. It's mostly for balls that are coming from behind that they can't see coming. Ungs suggested putting a shade that comes from the backstop and then goes over the stands. We could possibly try Out Run the Rays or try FarmTek for a donation.

Huehnergath ask what would be good games times for the Pre-K T-ball. We have 6 Pre-K T-ball teams and 4 Kindergarten T-ball teams. They decided good times for games would be: 5:45 pm, 6:30 pm, and 7:15 pm.

9. Set Next Meeting Date for Monday, June 10, 2024 at 6:00 P.M.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:42 P.M. on a motion made by Scherrman, seconded by Ungs.

Voting Yea: Lang, Scherbring, Scherrman, Huebner, Goldsmith, Ungs

Motion Carried

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Sandy Oberbroeckling

April 17, 2024  
Date