



AGENDA

PLEASANT HILL PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2021
6:00 PM

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, no public location is possible. This meeting will be conducted as an electronic meeting. All commissioners and staff will be participating in this meeting by electronic means. Meeting minutes will continue to be provided per the City's normal course of business. Members of the public may attend the electronic meeting or submit comments to the Community Development Department prior to 4:30 PM on May 13, 2021.

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

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1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES APRIL 8, 2021 REGULAR MEETING
4. PRESENTATIONS
 - a. UPDATE FROM PLEASANT HILL ART FOUNDATION
5. TIME TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION – FIVE (5) MINUTE LIMIT

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting
June 10, 2021

6. NEW BUSINESS ITEMS
 - a. REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION – DAR-MAR PARK
7. REPORTS
 - a. MONTHLY REPORT (APRIL)
8. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSIONER COMMENTS
9. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASANT HILL PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
APRIL 8, 2021

Given the Governor's prohibition on gatherings of ten or more persons during the COVID19 outbreak, no public meeting location was available. All commissioners and staff participated in this meeting by electronic means.

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Pleasant Hill Park and Recreation Commission Regular Session was called to order at 6:00 P.M. on April 8, 2021 by Chairperson Will via www.gotomeeting.com. Present: Austin Bittner, Adam Fendrick, Matthew Keller, Loren Lown, Olivia Smith, and Matthew Will. Absent: None.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

BITTNER/LOWN moved to approve the agenda. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MARCH 11, 2021 REGULAR MEETING

LOWN/KELLER moved to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2021 regular meeting. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried.

4. TIME TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION (5 MINUTE LIMIT)

- Councilman Ross Grueters – shared the status of the Pleasant Hill Gate Sculpture to be located at Hickory Glenn Park and fundraiser by the Arts Commission; current fundraising goal is to match the Bravo Grant funding amount; as of meeting, \$40K still needed.

- Dennis Thielen – 430 Morning Dove Blvd – shared positive view of new park at 6010 E Oakwood Dr; suggested installation of pickle ball courts, stating it would be a unique feature for this side of town and cited the high popularity of Smash Park in WDM.

- Kim Grove – 711 N Shadyview Dr– concerns about DarMar Park swing set removal; suggested installation of a toddler park at the site; and stated she would like to be involved in any future discussion about that park. City Staff discussed severe damage to the swing set and park sign during the Derecho; previous consultant suggestions for future trail connector and size is limiting factor; and illicit evening activities at the park recently sparked discussion of future usage, no current plans, and open to public input on improvements to the park.

5. NEW BUSINESS

A. NONE

6. REPORTS

A. MAINTENANCE UPDATE

- Spring maintenance duties in full swill; mowing and grass treatments; community gardens have been prepped and ready for planting; landscape cleanup and mulching;
- Sports Fields- opening games scheduled for this week.
- 6010 E Oakwood Dr – site cleanup and demo of structures and undesirable trees; house has been emptied and items auctioned off; barn wood auctioned off; salvage as much of the materials and structures as possible; and demolition deadline set for end of May.
- Arbor Day/Earth Day –Spring Tree Spree, starting small this spring with ornamentals and a nice selection of trees.

B. YOUTH CENTER

Reopened on April 2nd; max capacity currently set at 32; usage and rental expectations as outlined in COVID proclamations; installation of hand sanitizing stations, contactless drinking fountain, masks, etc.; no facility rentals to date; and program rentals should start back up in May/June.

C. INPERSON MEETINGS

City Council currently conducting hybrid meetings; staff will gather and share more info regarding future possibility of in-person meeting timeline and guidelines.

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS/COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- Commissioners discussed the creation of public informational webpage to share the City's stance and practices of environmental stewardship information and special designations that have been awarded i.e., Tree City USA; and Iowa Community requirements/standards.
- Recreational rental contract – only one submission; Mike Russ out of Pella; strong proposal; discussed water access and storage; proposal being updated currently to address subcommittee comments and suggestions before presented to City Council Q&A session.
- Commissioners and City Staff discussed park and facilities tour and committee clean-up day when COVID restrictions have been lifted.

8. ADJOURNMENT

LOWN/BITTNER moved to adjourn. Ayes: Unanimous. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:36pm

- NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING – May 13, 2021 – 6:00 P.M. – meetings virtual format until further notice

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting
June 10, 2021



CITY OF PLEASANT HILL, IOWA
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA COMMUNICATION

DATE: MAY 13, 2021

TO: PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

FROM: RYAN MERRITT, PARKS AND RECREATION MANAGER

SUBJECT: REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATION – DAR-MAR PARK

BACKGROUND:

Neighborhood interest has been shown regarding improvements at Dar-Mar Park. Information has been shared with neighbors related to 'The Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan', which was established in 2015 as a guiding document for Parks and Recreation development.

Currently, there are limitations for the potential use of Dar-Mar Park due to sizing constraints (.2 acres), parking concerns, and proximity of additional parks (Sunrise Park and new park development at 6010 E Oakwood Drive).

Neighbors have suggested that Dar-Mar could be established as a pocket park, defined as a small park, typically less than ¼ acre, accessible to the immediately local population.

A Request has been made to revisit the Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan regarding Dar-Mar Park.

ALTERNATIVES:

Revisiting the Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan and updating recommendations from the 2015 planning document.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:

There is significant cost with updating planning documents, and any improvement or additional maintenance for Dar-Mar Park is not currently budgeted.

RECOMMENDATION:

Consider not revisiting the Parks, Recreation and Open Space plan and continuing with established recommendations, due to cost constraints and current priorities placed on high impact projects (Hickory Glen / Meacham). Further discussion from neighbors could be brought to council during public comment.



APRIL 2021

Quarterly Trail Counter Data (January-April)	
Copper Creek Lake	12,764
Gay Lea Wilson (NE 56 th St)	3,258
Volunteers	65
Volunteer Hours	195
Park Shelter/Facility Rentals	0
Programs Offered	5
Program Registrants	17
Special Events Hosted	1 (Arbor Day event)
Event Attendance	~300 (virtual)
Park Special Events Requested	1
Percentage of Athletic Fields Utilized	97%
Revenue Collected	\$2,630

Engagement Analytics for April

Social Media Reach	1.8K
Net Followers	+20 (740 total)
Website Page Visits	209 (51% from search engines)
Unique Page Visits	159

Monthly Updates:

- Prepared Covid-19 reopening plan for Doanes Park Youth Center (reopened 4/2/21)
- Mitigation complete at Meacham Property – proceeding with demo following Fire training
- Adding permanent trail counter near CCL through MPO grant (allows for remote access and trail-user specificity for data)
- Community garden open (24 participants)
- Spring/summer activity packet ‘Let’s Go Outside’ available for local area youth (500+ distributed to community schools)
- Sunrise Park water tower project on schedule (projected completion date is June 1)

Next Regularly Scheduled Meeting
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- Watercraft vendor approved for CCL (rentals to begin first part of July)
- Named 'Tree City USA' for the 18th consecutive year and received third 'Bird Friendly Iowa' recognition for conservation practices. (Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation by public officials demonstrated support for the community tree program and completed the requirements for becoming a Tree City USA)
- More information on the Parks and Recreation Departments conservation practices can be found online:
 - Tree Spree Program (event ended)
 - DIY Rain Barrel Program: <https://bit.ly/3e3FFWA>
 - Tree Power Event (event ended)
 - Urban Forestry Info: <https://bit.ly/3diuFpd>
 - Natural Area Preservation: <https://bit.ly/3e3OG22>

Ryan Merritt
Parks and Recreation