

Park and Recreation Board

MINUTES

Recreation Office
Mason City, IA

1-14-2025
6:00 p.m.

Lala called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Roll Call Present Board Members: Adams, Fabian, Hansen, Lala, Levenhagen
Staff present: Burnett, Collins, Hunt, Pauly, and Westendorf

Public Forum None

**Board Reports &
Correspondence:** None

Special Orders Adams made a motion to appoint Hansen as Chair, Fabian as Vice-Chair, and Levenhagen as Secretary for the 2025 Park Board. Levenhagen seconded the motion All voted yea. (Adams, Fabian, Hansen, Lala, Levenhagen).

Consent

Agenda **Minutes:** Adams moved to approve the minutes dated December 10, 2024. Fabian seconded the motion. All voted yea. (Adams, Fabian, Hansen, Lala, Levenhagen).

Facility Requests: The board reviewed the facility request for the Wheels Up Mountain Bike Clinic. Matt Curtis was available for questions via zoom. The group asked for permission to use the East Park sledding hill area for a Mountain Biking Clinic May 3 & 4, 2025. All questions were answered. Burnett mentioned that the Wheels Up insurance information will need to be on file with the City of Mason City prior to the event date. Adams made a motion to approve the facility request for the Wheels Up Mountain Bike Clinic pending insurance information being submitted to the City of Mason City. Fabian seconded the motion. All voted yea. (Adams, Fabian, Hansen, Lala, Levenhagen).

Staff Reports Pauly shared his report with the board. He highlighted the following:

- The before and after school program enrollment numbers are higher than pre-Covid numbers.
- The 2024 daily participation rates for the recreation department are 371,613: an increase of 2% from 2023.
- Tracy Wynn was recognized as the Shining Star Volunteer Award at the City Volunteer Luncheon.
- There was a huge turnout for the 2025 ice fishing event at Big Blue.

Westendorf shared the park report with the board. He highlighted the following:

- The park department recently helped Jay Pedelty and Bob Berggren clean up brush piles at the arboretum.

Action Items Hunt shared a memorandum requesting the Park Board accept the identifiable property update for the 2025 metal Detection Permit applications as requested by the Mason City Police Department. Fabian made a motion to approve the update for the 2025 Metal Detection Permit Applications. Lala seconded the motion. All voted yea. (Adams, Fabian, Hansen, Lala, Levenhagen).

Future Action

Items

Westendorf shared information regarding the Prairie Playground that was built in 1999. Maintenance is needed yearly, and the structure is over the expected 20-year life expectancy of a wooden playground. Bohl contacted Jeff from Play-Pro Recreation to complete an estimate on the cost to replace the Prairie Playground structure. Westendorf shared the estimate and drawings with the Park Board. The Board asked Westendorf questions regarding the estimate. Burnett shared that the next step would be to start the fundraising process. He shared that this estimate gives a starting number. Long-term plans for the Parks and Recreation department currently include repair of the Aquatic Center as well as Irrigation System replacement at Highland Golf Course. Currently, Prairie Playground replacement is not part of the financial plan of the City of Mason City. Many fundraising options were discussed.

Adjournment

Adams made a motion to adjourn at 6:44pm. Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

ATTEST:

Troy Levenhagen, Secretary

Melissa Fabian, Vice-Chair