

MEETING MINUTES
The City of Polk City
Parks Commission
6:00 p.m., Monday, August 7, 2023
City Hall

The Polk City Parks Commission held a meeting at 6:00 PM, on August 7, 2023. The agenda was posted at the City Hall office as required by law. **These tentative minutes reflect all action taken at the meeting.**

1. **Call to Order** /*The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.*
2. **Roll Call** | Otis, Delaney, Savage, Ten-Napel, Jablonski, Haaland | In attendance.
Converse | Absent.
3. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Savage and seconded by Ten-Napel to approve the June 5, 2023 meeting minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. **Audience Items:** None
5. **Consider Lost Lake Park Pollinator Patches**
Tanya Harrington, 613 Lost Lake Drive, and Chad Johnston, 610 Oakwood Place, presented to the commission regarding the development of two (2) pollinator patches at Lost Lake Park. The proposed areas are currently suffering from soil erosion mainly caused by storm water. The project areas would consist of native plants with substantial root systems, a proven way to combat soil erosion. The plants chosen will be pollinator friendly and different plants will bloom at different times throughout the year. Harrington and Johnston will volunteer to develop/establish these areas. Harrington and Johnston will also work with Parks and Recreation Director Thraen as this project proceeds. Thraen mentioned conversation with other city departments and no issues exist. Thraen also stated these “test” plots could provide a blueprint for future pollinator patches at other Polk City parks. Commission Chair Delaney thanked Harrington and Johnston for this fun, environmentally friendly project. Delaney mentioned several opportunities for potential funding and resources including Rain Campaign, Pollinator Project, and Bee City USA.
MOTION: A motion was made by Otis and seconded by Savage to recommend pollinator patches at Lost Lake Park.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
6. **Presentation by Madi Major, 2023 Parks & Recreation Intern, on Polk City Urban Fishing**
Parks and Recreation Intern Major presented on urban fishing in Polk City. She reviewed opportunities in Polk City. Marina Cove Park and Twelve Oaks Park both have ponds stocked by the Iowa DNR. She suggested better and updated signage at both locations. Recommended signage would include fishing info and regulations, as well as stormwater info as both the ponds are for stormwater detention. Major also recommended fishing line disposal stations at each park. Delaney thanked Major and agreed that proper signage should be a priority going forward. Commission member Ten-Napel asked if the current kiosk at Marina Cove Park could be salvaged to keep costs low. Delaney mentioned that the kiosk is in rough shape and due for replacement. Commission member Savage thanked Major for all her hard work on this project and as Polk City’s Parks and Recreation intern for 2023.
7. **Summarize Q2 2023 Program Cost Recovery Report**
Thraen summarized program performance for April, May, and June. Overall, Q2 represented great cost recovery. Youth, adult, and senior program cost recovery all fell within acceptable ranges according to Green Play, LLC. Thraen mentioned Q2 participants increased by 4% from 2022 to 2023 (165 to 172).
8. **Cancel September 4, 2023 Park Commission Meeting**
Delaney announced that the September 3rd meeting will be canceled due to the proximity to the Labor Day holiday.
9. **Reports & Particulars** | Council Liaison, City Manager, Staff, and Commission
 - Thraen highlighted two (2) projects recently completed in Polk City. The shade structure at Leonard Park and the Van Dorn Pocket Park are complete and early feedback for both has been largely positive.
 - Thraen thanked those who volunteered at the Four Seasons Festival and RAGBRAI.
 - Thraen announced Polk City was awarded \$150,000 from Prairie Meadows for phase 3 of the Neal Smith to High Trestle Connector Trail.

- Delaney highlighted the upcoming senior trip to the Iowa State Fair on August 16th. Participants will depart from Miller Park at 8:00AM and return at 3:00PM.

10. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Jablonski and seconded by Haaland to adjourn at 6:43 PM.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting Date – October 2, 2023

Submitted by Parks Commission Chair:

Ashley Delaney

Attest:

Jason Thraen, Parks & Recreation Director