

MEETING MINUTES
The City of Polk City
Parks Commission
6:00 p.m., Monday, April 5, 2021
City Hall

The Polk City Parks Commission held a meeting at 6:00 p.m., on April 5, 2021. 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 6:01 p.m.*
2. **Roll Call** | Bentley, Converse, Karsjen, Reed, Delaney, Otis | In attendance.
Haaland | Absent.
3. ***MOTION:*** A motion was made by Bentley and seconded by Converse to approve the March 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. **Audience Items** | None
5. Parks & Rec Director Thraen summarized regional park concepts provided by Confluence at 3-31-2021 advisory committee meeting. Reed spoke on behalf of little league's field request and Delaney spoke on behalf of North Polk United's field request. Karsjen voiced support of a longer trail going through the park to take advantage of the natural features of the property. Some concepts included a recreation center on-site. Commission members shared opinions that a recreation center at this location would require too much space, reducing other amenities. It was suggested that other spaces in Polk City be reviewed for possible recreation center use. Reed voiced support on behalf of little league and soccer to maintain existing sports complex amenities while adding fields to the regional park for both organizations. Converse and Bentley shared concerns that non-sports features should not be overlooked and stressed the inclusion of multiple user groups at the regional park.
6. Delaney discussed pet waste station install in response to multiple inquiries. Commission recalled similar discussions in the past. Thraen will review past discussions with city staff and report back at a future meeting.
7. Thraen provided 2021 Q1 cost recovery analysis of parks & rec programs. Thraen will provide said analysis each quarter to provide a snapshot of program performance.
8. Thraen reviewed Summer 2021 program guide and provided feedback on registration. Commission discussed changes in programming format versus historical offerings. Thraen provided feedback that decisions were made on financial factors and COVID-19 precautions.
9. Commission discussed resuming in-person meetings beginning on May 3, 2021. Following city council protocol, only commission members and select city staff will be present. The public is still encouraged to call in to participate. Commission members still in attendance expressed willingness to return to in-person. Thraen will touch base with commission members not in attendance. Decision will be made once all commission members have provided feedback.
10. **Reports & Particulars** | Council Liaison, City Manager, Staff, and Commission
 - Council Member Dvorak was not in attendance. No council report given.
 - Parks and Rec Director Thraen reported Parks & Rec department was awarded an Iowa Foundation for Parks and Recreation mini grant in the amount of \$1,000.00. Money will be used to purchase equipment for future department programming. On behalf of the Tree Board, Thraen shared that inspection of parks and ROW trees identified some maintenance/removal suggestions. Public Works has taken care of what it can internally, and larger projects will be taken care of by private contractors. Thraen also mentioned Polk City Arbor League was awarded a \$2,000.00 Trees Please grant from Mid-American Energy.

11. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Karsjen and seconded by Otis to adjourn at 7:18 pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting Date –May 3, 2021

Attest: _____
Jason Thraen, Parks & Recreation Director