

MEETING MINUTES
The City of Polk City
Parks Commission
6:00 p.m., Monday, May 3, 2021
City Hall

The Polk City Parks Commission held a meeting at 6:00 p.m., on May 3, 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 6:02 p.m.*
2. **Roll Call** | Bentley, Haaland, Converse, Karsjen, Reed, Delaney, Otis | In attendance.
3. ***MOTION:*** A motion was made by Converse and seconded by Bentley to approve the April 5, 2021 Meeting Minutes.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
4. **Audience Items** | Jennifer Puttmann, 1385 Twelve Oaks Dr, Polk City, IA 50226, provided feedback on the new regional park.
5. Delaney reviewed March 2021 city survey results pertaining to parks & recreation satisfaction levels. Delaney then discussed survey question #10 which pertained to park amenities and reviewed top 10 desired amenities. Delaney stressed this survey is for entire Polk City parks system, not just regional park. Karsjen commented that future surveys should include age demographics. Bentley suggested additional questions about park usage frequency be added as well. City Clerk Gibbons mentioned this survey is scheduled to be offered every 2 years going forward.
6. Delaney covered the history of 2011 and 2015 bond votes for new sports complexes/parks. Delaney reviewed 4 initial regional park concepts from Confluence, then reviewed 2 revised concepts from 4-29-2021 advisory committee. Delaney shared 2 concepts of her own that included small variations from Confluence. Delaney shared feedback received from Confluence. Confluence is currently completing revisions based on 4-29-2021 advisory committee feedback. Conversation amongst the commission revolved around what overall needs are. Karsjen showed support of potential HTT connecting trail going around the regional park. Commission discussed if a softball field should be removed to accommodate pickleball courts and greenspace. Karsjen inquired about striping current tennis courts for pickleball. Thraen replied that 1 tennis court already has pickleball lines on the sport court overlay. Tennis courts were originally funded through grants, and Thraen would review grant verbiage for future changes to the courts. Commission discussed moving soccer fields closer together to provide more space. Otis advised to go with more space as tight fields are not the best setup.
7. Thraen provided update on 2021 parks & rec/library sponsorship campaign. Parks & recreation department received 11 sponsorships totaling \$2100.00. Sponsors include: North Polk Family Medicine, Fareway, First Continental Group, Iowa Chiropractic Clinic, P.C, Currie Engineering Associates, PLC, Ankeny Sanitation, Luana Savings Bank, Cornerstone Dental, Polk City Veterinary Hospital, Gurney Electric, LC, and MidAmerican Energy.
8. **Reports & Particulars** | Council Liaison, City Manager, Staff, and Commission
 - Council Member Dvorak expressed he was happy we were able to start meeting in person. Thanked the commission for their efforts on the regional park. Land purchase will go to council for final reading at next council meeting. Expressed to keep in mind that per the survey, 64% of responses said not to raise taxes.
 - Tree Board Liaison Morse mentioned Polk City Arbor League now has a Facebook page for anyone interested in getting involved.
 - Commission member Karsjen spoke on behalf of Community Visioning. Group held their second implementation meeting and established timetables for 4 initiatives.
 - Parks and Rec Director Thraen gave an update on registration for summer programming. North Polk Middle School 8th graders will be in Polk City May 26th to perform community service. Thraen met with IA DNR

fisheries biologist Tyler Stubbs to assess the health of ponds at Twelve Oaks Park and Marina Cove Park. Stubbs will present to the commission this summer. Thraen also shared the impending removal of a “tree of concern” on the town square. Thraen and the Tree Board are working on a replacement planting plan.

9. **MOTION:** A motion was made by Otis and seconded by Haaland to adjourn at 7:25 pm.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Next Meeting Date –June 7, 2021

Attest: _____
Jason Thraen, Parks & Recreation Director