

**PARK AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING**

**Monday, April 07, 2025**

**Comiskey Park Building, 255 E 24th Street,  
Dubuque, Iowa 52001**

**PRESENT:** Jennifer Tigges, Robin Kennicker, Ron Axtell, Josh Jorgenson, and Jessica Ochoa

**ABSENT:** Lori Ollendick, and Jason Henkel

**STAFF PRESENT:** Steve Fehsal, Dan Kroger, Angie Metcalf, and Mary Rose Corrigan with the City's Health Services Department.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Tigges called meeting to order at 4:35pm.

**MINUTES APPROVED; VOTE:**

It was moved by Jorgenson, seconded by Axtel, to approve the minutes of the March 11th, 2025, meeting. Unanimous.

**PUBLIC INPUT:**

Sarah Sutton 1700 North Algonquin, Dubuque Iowa – Opposed to changing the ordinance specific to Murphy and Eagle Point Park due to some people's fear of dogs, cleanliness. She also expressed her concerns about the tennis courts and that they need to be replaced.

Art Gilloon 535 Heritage Drive, Dubuque Iowa – Opposed to changing the ordinance. Recommends the commission not review or make any changes to the ordinance until after the Parks and Recreation Master Plan is complete.

Mary Klaus 1605 Lincoln, Dubuque Iowa – Opposed to changing the ordinance Does not want to have dogs in eagle point park.

**PETS IN PARKS DISCUSSION:**

Mary Rose Corrigan, Public Health Director, explained the Health Department's enforcement on the animal control ordinance and the department's response to complaints. After lengthy discussion and review of public input, Axtel suggested no change to the current ordinance 10-5B-4: Dogs and Cats. Axtel made a motion to recommend no change to the ordinance 10-5B-4: Dogs and Cats. Ochoa Seconded. Unanimous.

**EAGLE POINT PARK HISTORIC STRUCTURES REPORT**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Park Division Manager Fehsal explained a consulting company was hired to complete a review of the historic structures at Eagle Point Park. The Historic Structures Report includes the history, current condition, and identify appropriate treatments of three structures designed by Alfred Caldwell.

Kennicker made a motion to recommend Council's approval of the Eagle Point Historic Structures Report and Ochoa seconded. Unanimous.

**REQUEST TO WAIVE EAGLE POINT PARK FEE FOR KIDS TO PARK DAY ON MAY 17<sup>TH</sup> 2025:**

It was moved by Axtel, seconded by Ochoa, to approve the request to waive the Eagle Point Park fee for Kids to Park Day on May 17<sup>th</sup> 2025. Unanimous.

**REVIEW AND APPROVE DUBUQUE WATERSPORTS CLUB LEASE:**

It was moved by Kennicker, seconded by Jorgenson, to approve the Dubuque Watersports Club Lease. Unanimous.

**RUSTIC POINT SUBDIVISION PARK NAMING RECOMMENDATION:**

Axtel made a motion to recommend Council's approval of naming the park located in the Rustic Point Subdivision, Rustic Point Park and seconded by Kennicker. Unanimous.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMPREHENSIVE MASTER PLAN UPDATE:**

Recreation Division Manager Dan Kroger explained the consultants were in Dubuque last week talking with staff and community members to gather input. This will be first of multiple visits to Dubuque. Kroger also provided details in which the public can provide their input regarding the master plan and provided a walk through of the website. He passed out bookmarks and flyers to the commission members to spread the word.

**DIVISION MANGER REPORT:**

Park Division manager Steve Fehsal provided an update on ongoing projects.

**COMMISSION COMMUNICATIONS/QUESTIONS:**

Jorgenson participated in an annual alumni event and wanted to thank the city for putting it together. Commission Member Tigges read aloud a letter to the editor of the TH, written by Keith Breitbach regarding his appreciation for Eagle Point Park and it's history.

Tigges read aloud an online facebook post from a community member regarding basketball at Comiskey Park. The community member mentioned her gratitude for an older group of young men including a small group of younger boys in a basketball game. Showing them sportsmanship and kindness.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

It was moved by Ochoa, seconded by Kennicker, to adjourn the meeting 5:51 p.m. Unanimous.