PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MEETING
July 8, 2026
6:00 PM
Indianola Wellness Campus
306 E Scenic Valley Avenue, Indianola, IA
Agenda

1. **Call to Order**
2. **Roll Call**
3. **Public Comment**
4. **Consent Items**
   - A. Approve Agenda
   - B. Approve May 13, 2026 Minutes
5. **Support Group Reports**
   - A. Trees Committee
   - B. Friends of IWC
6. **Division Reports**
   - A. Parks
     - 1. McVay Trail Culvert Repair Project: Opened June 26
   - B. Recreation
   - C. IWC
7. **Public Consideration**
   - A. Old Business
     - 1. Service Changes Public Meeting Presentation
   - B. New Business
8. **Commission Member Comments**
9. **Adjourn**

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Approve Agenda

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Approve June 10, 2026 Minutes

Recommendation:

Attachments: 1. June 10, 2026 PR Commission Minutes

Indianola Park and Recreation Commission

June 10, 2026 Meeting Minutes – *Pending Commission Approval*

The Indianola Parks and Recreation Commission held a meeting on Wednesday, June 10, 2026 at 6:05 pm at The Indianola Activity Center. Commission Members present were:

Mike Baethke
Randy Bickham
Glen Cowan – via teams
Matt Garrett

Also present were:
Doug Bylund, Chief of Culture and Recreation

Public Consideration/Correspondence

Consent Items:
A motion was made by Baethke and a 2nd from Cowan to approve the consent items as follows, motion carried unanimously
Approve Agenda
Approve May 13, 2026 Minutes

Support Group Reports
Tree Committee: No report

Friends of IWC: Bylund submitted a written report.

Division Reports

- Parks:
  - McVay Trail Culvert Repair: The section of trail was closed Friday, June 5. The contractor has started the work and anticipates it will be finished by the end of June.
  - Parks staff supplied picnic tables for the Mainstreet Food Truck Event on June 5.
- Recreation:
  - The Outdoor Movies were Friday, June 5, with the second movie being cancelled due to severe weather.
  - Bike Fest was successful on Saturday, June 6.
  - The outdoor pool first weeks have been busy with training staff, opening and swim lessons.
  - The Kwik Star Free Community Pool Party is Saturday, June 13 from 5-7 p.m. at VMAC.

- IWC Report:
    - Simpson College has announced they will be dropping their swimming teams.
    - Some of the cameras have been installed and the entrances/exits are covered.
    - IWC membership at the end of May was 3,094, compared with 3,523 in May 2025.
    - A Blood Drive was held June 5.

Public Consideration

- Old Business
    - Recreation Service Changes: A Public Open House has been scheduled for Monday, June 29 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at the IWC
        - Activity Center Operations changes: A motion was made by Bickham, with a 2nd from Garrett to approve the FY27 Activity Center Operations changes. Unanimous approval.
        - Recreation Program Reductions: A motion was made by Baethke, with a 2nd from Bickham to approve the FY27 Recreation Operations changes. Unanimous approval.
        - Indianola Wellness Campus: Bylund shared the list of changes that have been implemented and/or are in the planning stages.
    - A motion was made by Bickham with a 2nd from Cowan to approve adding a 3% processing fee to all debit/credit card transactions. Unanimous approval.
- New Business
    - A motion was made to recommend the City Council waive the ordinance that does not allow beer or alcohol sales at city parks for the Discmania Challenge Presented by TruBank on August 7-9 at Pickard Park. HyVee will be the vendor selling food and beverages. Unanimous approval.
    - Bylund presented the wage scales for the IWC Lifeguards and the Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center lifeguards and staff. A motion was made by Cowan, with a second from Bickham to change the IWC lifeguard wages to match the VMAC lifeguards. Unanimous approval.
    - Discussion was held regarding traffic and parking during the DGPT event and the National Balloon Classic. Staff will post information that Pickard Park will be closed for Balloon Parking and guide them to the Balloon Classic for ticket purchases.

Commission Member Comments

Next Meeting
Wednesday, July 8, 2026: 6:00 p.m. Indianola Wellness Campus

It was moved by Garrett and seconded by Bickham to adjourn at 7:05 pm. Unanimous approval

To: Indianola Parks and Rec. Commission
Fr: Mike Baethke
Re: Friends of the Indianola Wellness Campus – Thursday, July 2, 2026

AGENDA

Committee Reports:

- Finance – Current Balance: $15,719.49 ($35.00 Check Outstanding)
- Programs & Impact – The balance of the new free weight order should be delivered on Tuesday, July 7, 2026.
- Indianola Community Foundation – The next meeting will be in August.
- IWC Update – Monthly attendance comparisons from 2024, 2025, and 2026 are trending downward. (See enclosed data.)

New Business:

- Theisen's Community Grants – Emily from the Program and Impact Committee will review the grant application. Successful applicants would be eligible for a $5,000.00 award. If successful, the allocation would establish a scholarship program for financially eligible youth for swimming lessons.
- Request for Pool Items – Discussion ensued regarding placement of large screen monitors in the pool area. Discussion was tabled based on the need to give new instructors opportunities to build relationships with members, establish programming and a variety of feasibility considerations.

Old Business:

- Prairie Meadows Grant Update – A representative from the grant reached out to see if we would be agreeable to a partial fulfillment of our request. (This is a typical function at this point in the application review process.)

Miscellaneous Topics:

- Music System – Members have expressed concerns about the lack of music on the second level weightlifting area and in the pool. The equipment is not currently functioning. A review of the problem will be initiated next week.
- Software Compatibility – Compatibility issues exist between the software used at the IWC and other city entities The "buyout provision" of the IWC software is cost prohibitive. The IWC will continue with the current vendor for the foreseeable future.

Next scheduled meeting Thursday, August 6th, 2026 @ 5:30 pm.

Membershi	Units	24-May Members	Units	Average Members
1 Adult	249	249	249	249
1 Senior	145	145	145	145
2 Adults	101	202	101	202
2 Seniors	109	218	109	218
Active & Fit	176	176	176	176
Family	393	1744	393	1,744.00
Renew Acti	330	330	330	330
Senior Fam	8	30	8	30
Silver & Fit	31	31	31	31
Silver Snea	385	384	385	384
Student	21	21	21	21
Youth	173	173	173	173
	2121	3703		

Membershi	Units	25-May Members
1 Adult	243	243
1 Senior	161	161
2 Adults	93	186
2 Seniors	119	238
Active & Fit	158	158
Family	396	1802
Renew Acti	253	253
Senior Fam	8	29
Silver & Fit	24	24
Silver Snea	254	253
Youth	175	176
	1884	3523

Membershi	Units	26-May Members	Units	Average Members
1 Adult	233	233	233	233
1 Senior	350	350	350	350
2 Adults	96	192	96	192
2 Seniors	179	358	179	358
Family	398	1803	398	1,803.00
Senior Fam	3	11	3	11
Silver Snea	0	0	0	0
Youth	146	147	146	147
	1405	3094		

Units	Average Members
243	243
161	161
93	186
119	238
158	158
396	1,802.00
253	253
8	29
24	24
254	253
175	176

Membershi	Units	24-Jun Members	Units	Average Members
1 Adult	249	249	249	249
1 Senior	146	146	146	146
2 Adults	99	198	99	198
2 Seniors	108	215	108	215
Active & Fit	179	179	179	179
Family	400	1771	400	1,771.00
Renew Acti	338	338	338	338
Senior Fam	7	25	7	25
Silver & Fit	31	31	31	31
Silver Snea	394	393	394	393
Student	22	22	22	22
Youth	174	174	174	174
	2147	3741		

Membershi	Units	25-Jun Members
1 Adult	230	230
1 Senior	156	156
2 Adults	91	182
2 Seniors	123	246
Active & Fit	154	154
BOGO Pro	1	1
Family	385	1745
Renew Acti	245	245
Senior Fam	8	29
Silver & Fit	24	24
Silver Snea	254	253
Youth	159	159
	1830	3424

Membershi	Units	26-Jun Members	Units	Average Members
1 Adult	224	224	224	224
1 Senior	339	339	339	339
2 Adults	102	204	102	204
2 Seniors	173	346	173	346
Family	387	1761	387	1,761.00
Senior Fam	3	11	3	11
Youth	139	140	139	140
	1367	3025		

Units	Average Members
230	230
156	156
91	182
123	246
154	154
1	1
385	1,745.00
245	245
8	29
24	24
254	253
159	159

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Parks

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: McVay Trail Culvert Repair Project: Opened June 26

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Recreation

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: IWC

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Old Business

Recommendation:

Attachments: None

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: Service Changes Public Meeting Presentation

Recommendation:

Attachments: 1. June 29 PR IWC Presentation (1)

INDIANOLA PARKS AND RECREATION

Parks and Recreation/IWC Service Changes

June 29, 2026

Combine Parks and Recreation and Indianola Wellness Campus

- Reduce Duplication of Services
- Reduce Operating Expenses of IWC and Parks & Recreation

    - Reduction of Staff
    - Reduction of Programs
    - Reduction of Activity Center Hours
    - Increase Parks and Recreation Fees

Staff Changes

- Eliminate Full Time Positions
  - IWC Member Service Coordinator – Front Deck and Learn and Play
    - Front Desk merged into Operations Coordinator
    - Learn & Play merged into Recreation Coordinaor: Youth/Adult Programs
  - IWC Aquatics Coordinator
    - Merged into Recreation Coordinator: Aquatics. Combined with Veteran's Memorial Aquatic Center
  - City Marketing Coordinator – Coordinated all IWC and Recreation Marketing
- Eliminate Part Time Pickard Concession Manager
  - Merged into Recreation Coordinator: Sports
- Reduce Sports Complex Seasonal Hours by 40%
  - Covered by Recreation Coordinator: Sports, and Parks Staff
- Reduce Parks Seasonal Hours by 8%
  - Reduce number of mowings in the fall
- IWC Part Time Member Service hours reduced by 75%
  - Reduce Member Service Staff to one person while building is open.
  - Move P&R Office Assistant to IWC Front Desk on weekday mornings
  - IWC Operations Coordinator to Front Desk on weekday afternoons.

Indianola Wellness Campus

- Reduction of Front Desk/Building Coverage to one assigned staff member during current hours.
- Combining membership and building software with Parks and Recreation.
- Implement expanded door access system for "after hours" availability of gym, walking track and equipment.
- Installation of more security cameras.
- Creating monthly schedules for the pools.
- Evaluating moving to a streamlined online facility calendar consistent with all city recreation and park facilities.
- Utilization of texting service for facility schedule changes.
- Currently no private swim lessons - only group lessons will be offered.

Indianola Wellness Campus

- Add Hotel/Motel tax support for IWC - $20,000
- Transfer from IWC to City General Fund for City Clerk, Facilities, IT and HR.
- Replacement of all weight equipment over 4 year span. IWC Friends also applied for a Prairie Meadows Grant to purchase replace more in FY2027.
- City will use TIF Funds to invest in facility repairs and improvements of up to $2.5 million.
- Operations Fund
  - FY27: + $26,771 Proposed
  - FY26: - $21,175 Current (through June 26)
  - FY25: - $210,597 Actual
  - FY24: - $269,196 Actual (11 months)

Indianola Activity Center

- Move Parks and Recreation Office to IWC.
- Implement Phone Tree for all incoming phone calls.
- Reduce Activity Center Open Hours to weekdays 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
- Close Activity Center Exercise Room.
- Implement Keyless access to building for rentals and programs by September 2026.
- Activity Center Office Staff Hours reduced to 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. August – October 2026.

Parks and Recreation

- Programs no longer offered or coordinated by Parks and Recreation Staff. They may be transitioned to other Community Partners.
  - Children's Costume Party
  - Family Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt
  - Daddy/Daughter Dance
  - Outdoor Drive-In Movies
  - Greatest Mom & Dad Essay Contest
  - Farewell to Summer Pool Party
  - Cardboard Boat Races
  - Tea Party
  - Junior Fire Academy

Parks and Recreation

- Parent/Child Magic Class
- Fall Festival
- Live Healthy Iowa Track Meet
- Dance Camp
- Senior Trips
- Indoor Playdate
- Friday Friends
- The Zone After School Program (for school year 2026-2027)
- Indianola Community School Gym Reductions

- Increased Parks and Recreation Program and Facility Fees

MEMORANDUM

To: Parks and Recreation Commission

From:

Date: July 8, 2026

Subject: New Business

Recommendation:

Attachments: None