

HARLAN PARKS & RECREATION BOARD – July 14, 2026

The Harlan Parks & Recreation Board met on Tuesday, July 14, 2026, at 12:03 P.M. in the City Council Chambers.

Present: LaDonna Havick, Nic Christensen, Jeff Moser, Todd Berndt, Scott Petersen

Present Electronically: Troy Schaben

Also Present: Tim Miller, Ashley Schleis, Gervas Mgonja, Maya Kenkel, Jenney Kelly

The meeting was called to order by Berndt. It was moved by Havick and seconded by Petersen to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Any conflicts of interest are to be stated when applicable. None.

It was moved by Moser and seconded by Petersen to nominate Berndt as chairperson and Havick as vice-chairperson. Motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Havick and seconded by Christensen to approve the minutes of the June 9, 2026, and June 29, 2026, meetings. Motion carried unanimously.

Superintendent Report – updates provided by Tim Miller

The last home game was hosted at Monograms Foods JJ Jensen Sports Complex last night. Majority are done besides some fall games. The Champion Sub-State game is in Carlisle.

- River Access – The project is moving along and looks great. The first pad has been poured and has been curing for seven (7) days. There's a possibility that it will be put in this week. They helped clean up down branches as well. The concrete on top is handicap parking. Two (2) benches will be placed on site. There are about 25 working days left. They were not charged working days for the elevation issue and will not be charged Monday, July 20th, because of the traffic influx.
- Pool – Following its breakdown in May, locating the part for the pool vacuum is proving to be difficult. It is being evaluated whether to replace the part or the appliance. The pool does not get as clean on a loner vacuum. Four of the six lights installed are not working correctly due to a manufacturer error. The situation is in disarray but should be corrected tonight.

Monthly Financials – Pool & Parks (Information Only) – It is year-end—we are not over budget. More on financials at the next meeting.

RAGBRAI – Fields 1, 2, and 3 are full. Field 4 south of the soccer restrooms is full. Charters are also at Pioneer Park, North Park, N.D.S.A.C., Jaycee Park, Beebee Park, Dr. Joseph Spearing Park, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fresh Encounter Church, Harlan First Methodist Church, and IWCC. There will be bottle fill and cellphone charging stations. The department is mowing and placing trashcans. RVs will be in Gary Hopp's new Speedway RV camp. RV/Support Check In will be at Fareway and first sent to the Vets and Elm Crest. When those are full, the rest will stage at Conductix until Hopp is ready. The heat will both speed up and slow down riders, so the biggest influx of riders is expected between noon and six o'clock PM. Hopefully everything will be back to normal by Wednesday.

Disc Golf Update – Holes will be drilled and poured this week. It is moving along well.

Sign Committee – All signs placed. Dream Playground and Monogram look good. The Monogram Way sign is up.

Grandma B's Dream Playground – Partitions are now installed, and hardware will be installed today—toilet paper and soap dispensers. There is an issue with the restroom water pressure. A regulator was put on it, but that caused the toilets to stop flushing. It needs to be resolved before RAGBRAI. The Arch goes off at night. Cameras are working and recording, but the City does not have access yet. The water fountain works.

Parks Planning Document (Update & Discussion) – None.

Grants Overview & Update –

- a) Iowa West Foundation – 3 cycles per year; Letter of inquiry period January, May, and Sept 1st; Application Due January, May, and Sept 15th) – Not eligible for Dream Playground
- b) Monogram Grant – May 31, 2026 (Basketball Goals) – Not eligible this time around.
- c) IPRA Mini Grant – Due end of January (\$1,000)

Other Business: There is a rumor that the City has not been welcoming to Lucas Oil the way they have been to RAGBRAI. Miller assured that there is no truth to this. He highlighted how much work the City has done behind the scenes for Lucas Oil. Miller suggested that the perceived disparity may be a result of the social media promotion for RAGBRAI but noted that the Harlan RAGBRAI Committee has a responsibility to promote the event. Shelby County Speedway and Lucas Oil have the responsibility to promote the Lucas Oil event.

The next meeting will be on **Tuesday, August 11, 2026**, at noon in the Council Chambers.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Maya Kenkel

Maya Kenkel, Recording Secretary

These minutes are subject to Board approval at the next regular meeting.