

August 1, 2018
City Manager's Roundtable
Ned Ashton House
Meeting time 12-1 pm.

Members present: Pastor Anderson, Anthony Branch, Ashley Monroe, Bill Campbell, Chad Dyson, Charlie Eastham, Henri Harper, Jean-Paul Mugesuzi, Joe Coulter, Juli Seydell-Johnson, Kristin Watson, Melva Hughes, Orville Townsend, Sr., RaQuishia Harrington, Shannon McMahon, Simon Andrew, Stefanie Bowers, Susan Craig, John Grier.

Meeting overview

Fire Department

The Fire Department offers complimentary ride-alongs to community members. All riders must be 18 years of age or have the permission of their parent/guardian to participate. Persons who participate are diverse. Some are interested in becoming an emergency service worker, others are doing educational research, while others are interested in the activities of the Fire Department.

Iowa City Emergency Youth Services Camp is coordinated by Iowa City Fire, Police and Johnson County Ambulance Services and are for local students grades 6-12 and expose participants to the work emergency responders do to keep our community safe. Kids practice fire skills, like ladders and hoses, emergency response tactics, like CPR and first aid, and law enforcement protocols, like the K9 unit, bomb squad and special investigations unit.

Parks and Recreation

The newest Iowa City park, Riverfront Crossings, has a nature play area that is now in use. Happy Hollow Park will get new restrooms and a shelter. Creekside Park will be updated and modernized. The playground at Villa Park will be replaced and the Willow Creek Park will have an accessible play area in place by next year.

In partnership with the Southeast Iowa STEM Hub and local STEAM organizations, Parks and Recreation hosted the annual STEAM Festival April 15 at Terry Trueblood Recreation Area. This is a free event to expose area youth to science, technology, engineering, art and math through hands-on activities. A similar class is offered over the summer at the Robert A. Lee Recreation Center.

Library

Over 2600 youth participated in the Summer Reading program. The program is available to readers of all ages and abilities, babies through adults. Participants receive game cards to track their summer reading goals and prizes available.

The Bookmobile has been traveling to area parks to do stories in the park. Stories in the Park is a mix of traditional story times and special performances.

Staff is reviewing its disciplinary outcomes in the Teen Room to determine if youth of color are more likely to receive disciplinary action over others.

The next City Manager's Roundtable is Wednesday, October 6.

Notes prepared by Stefanie Bowers.