

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
April 18, 2012

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of LaVista convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on April 18, 2012. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson, Program Coordinators Rich Carstensen and Ryan South. Advisory Board members present were Vice-Chairman Pat Lodes, Jeff Kupfer, Corey Jeffus, George Forst III and Russ Wiig. Also present: Jeff Thornberg, Public Works.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on April 12, 2012. Simultaneously given to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice are attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to attendance of the public. Further, all the subjects included in said proceedings were contained in the agenda for inspection within ten working days after said meeting, prior to the convened meeting of said body.

CALL TO ORDER

Recreation Director Stopak called the meeting to order.

Seconded by Vice-Chairman Lodes.

Director Stopak led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Stopak made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference and read the Emergency Procedures Statement.

A. CONSENT AGENDA

Director Stopak made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Vice-Chairman Lodes. Motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Lodes made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 21, 2012 Advisory Board meeting. Seconded by Member Forst. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Director Stopak reported that he would be attending the Tree City USA award ceremony in Lincoln on Friday, April 20, 2012. Awards would be given by Governor Dave Heineman. This is the 22nd year the City of La Vista has been awarded Tree City. Stopak said Public Works is a major part, and deserves a thanks, for the maintenance and appearance of La Vista's parks. The certification requires a specific Arbor Day activity, spend a certain amount of money per capita, an inventory of trees and planting of new trees. La Vista has developed a 1-5 year tree plan.

Program Coordinator South reported on current sports activities:

- Adult softball began April 9 and will run for 14 weeks. This season we have over 70 teams.
- 3 year old soccer clinic began on April 14 and will run for 5 weeks. Member Pat Lodes is the coach.
- Lancer soccer is in its 4th week.
- La Vista 4/5 and 6/7 academy soccer began the 2nd week of April, and runs on Tuesday evenings and Saturday mornings.
- Flag football started last Saturday, but some of the games were cancelled due to the weather.
- Youth baseball ages 9-12 are practicing and begin games on April 23rd. They will play 16 games.
- Pinto baseball and T-Ball registration deadline is April 21, 2011. They begin at the end of May, with games starting in June.

- Youth softball grades 1/2 grades are playing in the P.R.O. league this year. Grades 3-8 are playing in the Rainbow league. These teams will begin their season on May 4th.

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Program Coordinator Carstensen reported on the Senior Center.

On March 29th, sixteen seniors traveled to the Kearney Senior Center to have lunch, then visited Cabela's, a car museum and an art museum. In April, an attorney visited with the seniors on bankruptcy and fraud. Also in April, the seniors went to Stella's in Bellevue for lunch, and to the Western Heritage museum. A potluck picnic is scheduled for tomorrow at Central Park, however, there is rain in the forecast so it most likely will be at the Senior Center. They will play Birdie Golf afterwards. On April 24th, a trip to Werner Park for a ball game is scheduled, and on the 25th they will be going to the movies after lunch.

A Mother's Day celebration will be scheduled for May, and a speaker on the Tuskegee Red Tails may be coming to talk to the seniors.

Assistant Recreation Director Karlson thanked the sponsors for the annual Easter Egg Hunt this year. They were Bellino Enterprises, Lancers Soccer Club and Panthers Baseball Club. The Panthers also had 50 volunteers attend to help out. There were 10,750 eggs to be found, with 80 prize eggs amongst them. This year, the Easter Bunnies were Councilwoman Terri Quick and Melissa Karlson. Councilman Mike Crawford was also on hand to help. Also thanks to the Public Works Department for having the fields ready and looking great for the event. This year the egg hunt was organized by a committee comprised by employees of the City. The committee members were Assistant Recreation Director David Karlson; Jodi Linhart, Library Assistant Director; Mitch Beaumont, Community Relations Coordinator; and, Mandy Garrod, Deputy City Clerk/Office Manager.

- Last weekend a Kansas City Barbeque Judging class was held at the Community Center.
- On Friday, April 27th there will be an Arbor Day celebration at Southwind Park outside the Library. This year, the celebration will be in conjunction with Story Time at the Library, with pre-schoolers hearing a story about trees and doing a craft. They will each be given a cup of dirt to take outside to add to a tree that has been planted by the Public Works Department. Each child will also receive a tree sapling, while supplies last. Anyone is welcome to join in.
- On May 1, we will have May Day crafts for pre-schoolers at the Community Center in the morning, then at the Library in the afternoon.

Director Stopak reminded the Board that the next meeting will be held on May 16, the day after the election. The bond issue for the pool will have been voted upon, so we will know whether it passed or not. He also informed the Board that fireworks permits were granted at the last Council meeting. Stopak also mentioned the golf course and special services bus reports, and thanked Sue Tangeman for preparing those each month. Beginning next month, there will also be a pool report.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Forst noted that Ralston seems to have the majority of the ridership, and asked how we can increase the amount of La Vista passengers on the special services bus. Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen explained that in actuality, Ralston has more riders because it picks up several people at once from the Ralston House to go to Wal-Mart every week, whereas La Vista picks up separate passengers. This makes Ralston's ridership a larger number. Carstensen explained that we really can't take on many more passengers without adding a second bus at least a couple of times per week. That would have to be discussed, and approved, by Council and the City of Ralston. Member Kupfer asked how the City of Papillion works their special services bus, and Vice-Chairman Lodes said the City of Council Bluffs runs two buses, one is only within the city limits, the second bus runs medical appointments into Omaha.

Vice-Chairman Lodes made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Member Forst. Motion carried.
Adjourned at 7:50 p.m.