

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
August 20, 2014

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 August 20, 2014. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson and Program Coordinators Rich Carstensen and Ryan South; Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Corey Jeffus, Jeff Kupfer, Joe Juarez and Greg Johnson. Also present: Brian Lukasiewicz, Public Works.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on August 13, 2014. 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**

Director Scott Stopak called the meeting to order.

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 asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion made by Member Jeff Kupfer. Seconded by Member Greg Johnson. Motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF**

Stopak updated the Board on the Urban Adventure Race held on Saturday August 2, 2014 at 8:00 a.m. at the Community Center. This is the 4<sup>th</sup> year for the race and there were 44 teams registered. He thanked the committee, golf staff and the Public Works Department for their assistance.

Program Coordinator Ryan South reported on current and upcoming sports. Due to rain out make-up games, the Adult Softball season will continue and will tentatively end in mid-August. We are currently taking registrations for our fall season. The season will tentatively begin on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and run for 7 weeks.

3 Year Old Soccer Clinic will begin the fall season starting September 6<sup>th</sup>. Five, one-hour sessions will be held on Saturday mornings.

4/5 Soccer Academy (50 players) & 6/7 Soccer League (40 players) will continue this fall with registrations well underway. The academy will meet twice a week for six weeks. Each session will focus on a different soccer skill to help develop each individual player.

Fall Flag Football League for grades 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> had their first game on August 16<sup>th</sup>. The season will run through October 11<sup>th</sup>. We have over 60 participants and 6 teams playing this fall.

Youth Tackle Football for ages 8 – 14 began on August 1<sup>st</sup>. Teams have been practicing and working ambitiously to be ready for their first game on September 7<sup>th</sup>. We have over 45 players and 2 teams for the fall season; an 8 year old team and a 9/10 year old team. We are looking forward to another great season with the Metro Youth Football League.

Cheerleading for ages 7 – 14 has begun practicing their routines for the first football game. We have 10 girls on the cheer team this season.

South reported that we did not receive enough interest in forming competitive soccer teams this fall under the Lancer name.

Member Johnson asked if we knew where the participants were going and if the soccer fields were being utilized. South stated that for the last few years we have seen declining numbers in the competitive soccer program. We know that our soccer clinic, soccer academy and soccer league participants are staying with us but we can only speculate that with all the different choices offered participants are choosing different options as they desire more games and higher level coaching that is offered elsewhere. South also stated that the soccer fields are getting heavy usage from our programs and rentals.

Assistant Director Karlson reported on some of the many events for kids this summer. The Recreation Dept. and Library have teamed together to provide many activities to keep the kids busy over the summer. In the month of July we hosted Sports and Games Camp, Spy Camp and Wacky & Weird Science Camp.

Karlson reported that we had the last outdoor concert and movie on August 8th. The band Punching Puppets performed prior to the movie “The Lone Ranger”.

Karlson reported on the seventh annual Dinosaur Egg Hunt and Story Time. It doubled in size with over 100 kids and parents hunting for dinosaur eggs in Southwind Park on Thursday, July 10.

Karlson reported on the Hydrant Party held on Friday, July 25 at Central Park East. Close to 100 participants enjoyed the event.

Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen reported on the Senior Center activities. Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> Johnny Ray Gomez performed for the seniors. Thursday, August 7<sup>th</sup> the seniors went to a lunch outing to Applebee’s Restaurant in Papillion. Wednesday, August 13<sup>th</sup> we played Floor Shuffle Board and Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup> we held a Black Jack Tournament. On Wednesday, August 20<sup>th</sup> a trip to the movies. Wednesday, August 27<sup>th</sup> a trip to the State Fair and a B.J. Thomas concert are planned.

Carstensen reported that he is working with the new Papillion Senior Center coordinator to do some joint activities in the future.

Brian Lukasiewicz, Park Superintendant was present and reported that the National Night Out event was a large success on Tuesday, August 5 at Central Park.

Brian reported that he was successful in obtaining grants from the following organizations for tree plantings. “Trees for Nebraska Towns” \$5,000.00 and “Celebrate Trees” \$2,500.00.

Brian reported on the recent progress of the rain gardens getting installed at Community Center and City Hall facility.

Brian reported that sometime this fall we may see work getting started on the levee project by the soccer complex and field #2 backstop update.

Brian also gave a brief update on the upcoming Halloween Safe Night.

Member Lodes asked if we have any plan in place at the soccer complex to rotate field usage so as not to cause damage due to overuse. Brian stated that they do monitor this closely and rotate fields out of play when required.

Member Johnson asked what the status was with the FY 14/15 Municipal Budget. Stopak said the second reading was just read the prior day at the council meeting. Stopak thanked the staff who prepared and presented the budget to Mayor and Council during the budget hearings.

Member Juarez asked how the swimming pool has held up so far this year. Brian and Scott said that aside from some minor mechanical issues it has been a good year at the pool with nothing major so far. Juarez asked what year was the pool constructed. Brian stated that the original basin was constructed in 1962.

Member Lodes asked if we were pleased with the Groupon deal we ran for the pool memberships this year. Stopak stated that we were very pleased with the results achieved.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

#### COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

Member Lodes made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Member Juarez. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:45 p.m.