

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
April 8, 2015

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 8, 2015. Present was Assistant City Administrator Rita Ramirez, Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Program Coordinators Ryan South and Rich Carstensen, Golf Course Services Manager Denny Dinan, Public Works Director Joe Soucie, Parks Superintendent Brian Lukasiewicz, and Parks Foreman Rob George. Advisory Board Members presents were Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer and Greg Johnson. Absent was Member Joe Juarez.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on April 1, 2015. 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 Stopak called the meeting to order.

Stopak led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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 Johnson. Seconded by Member Kupfer. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Assistant Director David Karlson reported on special events that were held in the month of March. The monthly Preschool Playtime Craft Day was held Tuesday March 10th. 16 preschoolers and 18 parents attended and made Leprechauns from green solo cups and cut outs.

On Thursday, March 12th the second installment of the Discovery Series for home schooled children took place. 18 kindergarten through 4th grade participated in a variety of relay races and games while 14 of their younger siblings, along with 11 parents, participated in pre-school playtime.

The next 2 Thursday's, March 19th and the 26th, the Discovery Series brought out the kids' creative side with the "Discover Art Paper Mache Project", which 23 kids from kindergarten through 4th grade participated in.

The Recreation Department and La Vista Public Library teamed up on Monday, March 30 from 5-7:00 p.m. at Southwind Park for the second "Family Storybook Walk". Over 90 participants strolled through the park while reading pages of a book that was posted on fourteen sign posts. When a family completed reading each page, the children would complete a task related to the story and then receive a small prize.

Saturday, April 4th was the annual City of La Vista Easter Egg Hunt, held at the La Vista Sports Complex. This year, families were asked to donate canned food for the Tri-City Food Bank. We had 2 pickup truck loads, plus \$250 cash to deliver to the food bank! 17,000 eggs were tossed out for the kids whose ages ranged from toddler to 10years old. Over a thousand people attended this year's event, and everything

ran smoothly with the help of many volunteers including Werner Enterprises (15 volunteers), Cub Scouts, Sam's Club (20 volunteers), and also tons of help from our Public Works Dept! Sam's Club also gave a cash donation, and Martial Arts International (Bellevue) donated 5,000 filled eggs.

Golf Course Services Manager Dinan reported on the La Vista Falls Golf Course for February, 2015:

March 2015 rounds = 1,217 (+460 rounds from March 2014)

March 2014 rounds = 757

Fiscal year 2014/15 rounds through March = 3,567 (+961 rounds from fiscal year 13/14)

Fiscal year 2013/14 rounds through March = 2,606

March started off as a very slow month with no golfers for the first 5 days. On March 6th, it hit 62 degrees and from then on we had the 2nd best March over the past 14 years.

League registration forms are coming in and several golf outings as well. We also have the clubhouse rented for a graduation party scheduled.

We have sold 152 Daily Deals (2 rounds for the price 1coupons) in the Omaha World Herald. This is an increase from the 105 coupons we sold last year.

We have received all our FootGolf equipment, and the layout of the course and hole placement has been designed. Hole installation and yardage distance should be determined sometime this week.

We are looking to begin FootGolf in late April with an "official" FootGolf Kick Off in early May.

Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen reported on activities for the Senior Center. Tai Chi classes are held at the Center on Monday's and Thursday's. The La Vista Center actually has one of the largest classes around the area, with an average of 20-25 people attending each class. Funding from ENOA is ending for the summer months, but we will be able to keep the class throughout the summer with a donation received from the Knights of Columbus. Seniors only have to pay \$1 per week to participate.

Our drop-in Quilting Group still meets on Wednesday's at 9:00 a.m. to approximately 11:30 a.m. They work on a variety of their own projects which include quilting, embroidery and crocheting. Sharon Bailey, our "resident quilter" donates many cooperative quilts and quilting items (such as hot pads) to local charities, fire departments, etc. She is now making some to be donated to the Open Door Mission.

April 1st we had a Kick Off Walking Challenge Party in cooperation with the Papillion Senior Center. The Centers are challenging each other for 6 weeks beginning April 1st and ending May 15th. The group that walks the most minutes wins the "Money Pot", and the losing Senior Center has to treat the winning seniors to a luncheon. We all agree however, that both groups are winners because they are getting involved and getting exercise by walking! They'll all be in shape for the summer!

April 6th the Methodist Diabetes Mobile Center came to do a number of tests for the seniors at no cost to them. Cholesterol checks were done for \$5. Also, City employees were also encouraged to come over and get testing done.

Friday, April 10th we will be having a Black Jack tournament, and Monday, April 13th we will be going to Corrigan Senior Center after lunch for their "Entertainment Extravaganza" with Billy Troy.

Tuesday, April 14th seniors are planning to attend the "Coffee and Conversation" at the La Vista Community Center. This is one of the events for public involvement for the La Vista Comprehensive Plan.

Tuesday, April 21st we will be going to Stella's Café in Bellevue. On Wednesday, April 22nd, Johnny Ray Gomez will once again be entertaining the seniors through Merry Makers. He is definitely one of the favorite performers! Wednesday, April 29th we will be going to the movies.

We will be planning activities for the month of May and to start the month out we will have Merry Makers "Hillbilly Hal" entertain after lunch.

Carstensen reported the Spring Kite Festival will be held on Sunday, May 3rd at the La Vista Soccer Complex from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. We encourage attendees to bring their own kite to fly. There will also be can Kite Candy Drop during the festival.

Also, the "Salute to Summer" is coming up, and on Thursday, May 21st Hot Wheels Races will be held, with registrations at 7:00 p.m. and races beginning at 7:15 p.m.

Program Coordinator Ryan South reported on Youth and Adult sports.

Adult Softball will begin their season on April 12th. We have over 50 teams playing in our spring/summer league.

La Vista 4/5 Youth Soccer Academy will have their first session on April 14th. We have over 66 kids participating in the academy this spring. They will play on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

La Vista 6/7 Youth Soccer League will have their first session on April 14th. We have over 57 kids participating in the league this spring. They will play on Tuesdays with the academy and play league games on Saturdays.

3 Year Old Soccer Clinic had their first session on April 4th. Five, one-hour sessions, will be held on Saturday mornings. Pat Lodes is coaching/teaching the group, which includes working with the parents.

Spring Flag Football League will start games on April 11th. Games will be held on Saturdays at the Sports Complex. We have 66 kids and 6 teams participating in the spring season.

Youth Baseball for ages 7 – 12 started practicing on April 6th. They will start games on May 2nd.

Youth Softball for ages 7-18 will play in the Rainbow Softball League again this season. This season we have one 7/8 Pinto, one 9/10 Mustang, one 11/12 Bronco, and one 18U team playing in the league. Teams will begin practicing on April 13th and will start league games on May 8th.

Youth Coed T-Ball registration is currently open with a deadline of May 9th. This will once again be an in-house league for boys and girls ages 5 & 6. They will begin practicing in late May and start games in June.

Director Stopak informed the Board that this weekend, Saturday, April 10th and Sunday, April 11th from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., the Center will be the hosts for the *Omaha Bead Affair*, an event for jewelry makers, designers and hobbyists of all skill levels. The 20+ vendors and attendees will be from all over the United States. The Center will be closed except the fitness room, racquetball and of course the front desk for registrations, etc. Everyone is welcome. There is a \$3 door fee, and there is a \$1 coupon at the front desk or online at www.omahabeadaffair.com.

Stopak also discussed the past and future events and meetings regarding the "Look out La Vista" Comprehensive Plan, and gave the Board a current list of event times in which they are invited to attend. The next meetings will be "Coffee and Conversations" beginning Monday, April 13, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. at the La Vista Library.

A. Discussion Interlocal Agreement Sarpy County School District 0027 and City of La Vista

Assistant City Administrator Rita Ramirez outlined the proposal of the Papillion-La Vista School District for an interlocal agreement to use City Park, 78th & Josephine Streets., as the home field for the Papillion-La Vista Monarchs High School Softball team, whereas the school district would provide upgrades to two fields at City Park. One would be utilized as a practice field, the other a game field. The Advisory Board is being asked to make a recommendation to the City Council for the agreement; and, to give residents who live near the fields to voice their opinions about the subject. Letters were sent to residents and owners of approximately 185 properties that are in close proximity to City Park. Two residents attended the meeting. City Council will make a decision at the next Council meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015.

A discussion was held on what the school district will be providing. They will be moving the fences, erecting a press box, and installing lights. Member Johnson asked about the maintenance that would occur because of this, and how much more it would cost the City. Public Works Director explained that these fields are taken care of anyway, so it would be a matter of a little more electricity and prepping the fields during the day. If there is more than one game, the school would take care of the fields in between. Soucie also reminded the Board that there used to be lights on the field before the last renovation, and that the school would be making improvements that the City would not do because of cost. Stopak also stated that the concessions would stay with the City, which gains 10% of the profits from the concessionaire that is contracted with the City.

A discussion was held with the two citizens in attendance, Phyllis Masek and Sharon Boldt, who both reside near the park. They had concerns with parking on the street and traffic congestion in the area and how possible damage to property would be handled. Doug Lewis, Vice Principal of Papillion-La Vista High School, said there would be someone from the school in attendance at all games, and they would be making sure that busses are dropping off in the correct areas, and he and board members agreed that normally in high school softball, the balls are not hit far enough to do damage to one of the houses or cars in their driveways. The busses would not be sitting at the park during the games. The plan is for them to park at La Vista West Elementary until the game is over.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Kupfer said that La Vista residents have never felt that they have had much ownership in the school, and this would be a good thing for La Vista to have more of an active involvement, and make people feel like they are really part of the school.

Chairperson Lodes stated that he thought it was a great idea, and he was excited that people from other areas would be utilizing the City of La Vista to play softball, and then possibly staying to shop and/or eat.

Director Stopak asked for a recommendation of approval for the interlocal agreement with the Papillion-La Vista School District, and the City of La Vista for utilizing City Park, 78th & Josephine. Chairperson Lodes motioned for the approval of the interlocal agreement, seconded by Member Kupfer. All voting aye: Members Johnson, Kupfer, Lodes. Absent: Juarez

Director Stopak asked for a motion to adjourn. Member Kupfer motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Chairperson Lodes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 8:18 p.m.