

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
October 18, 2017

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 October 18, 2017. Present was Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson, Program Coordinators Ryan South and Denny Dinan, Park Foreman Rob George, Public Works Dept., Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Greg Johnson, Gene Svensen, and Jeff Kupfer.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on September 13, 2017. 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 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

1. Director Stopak asked for a motion to approve the Minutes from the July 19, 2017 meeting and September 20, 2017 meeting. Motion made by Chairperson Lodes. Seconded by Member Svensen. All Aye. Motion carried.

2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

David Karlson, Assistant Director, discussed programs, special events and Senior Center activities.

- Preschool Playtime had 152 preschoolers and 100 adults attend in the month of September. The numbers have risen since school began.
- On September 1st, Book time for Grown-Ups took a field trip to the Library. Six seniors enjoyed a tour of the library and were surprised at all the activities they offer in addition to checking out books!
- Merrymaker's "The Links" performed for over 34 seniors on Friday, September 8th.
- September 11th, Patriot's Day, we had our first Patriot's Day Picnic. Twenty-two seniors joined us outside on the courtyard by the Blue Star Memorial on the south side of City Hall. Twenty of these seniors did not know about or hadn't seen the Blue Star Memorial.

Chairperson Lodes asked if there were any comments about 84th St. to the Mayor? Karlson stated that the Mayor set up a special meeting, which was held today, to explain and answer questions. The seniors and a lot of ideas for him!

Stopak added that there is a 'Streetscape' meeting for employees this week, and on October 28th there is a tour at 10am for all of the Board Members to go on.

- This month on September 12th, twelve seniors went to the movies to see the art film “Maudie”.
- Thursday, September 29th, we hosted our first Octoberfest Potluck. The city provided the beer and brats (root beer, that is!) and thirty-six seniors brought a variety of side dishes and desserts. Following lunch, Mayor Kindig spoke to the group about the 84th Street corridor project.
- The highlighted program this month is the ENOA (Eastern Nebraska on Aging) meal site, as we are now serving seniors 5 days a week (Monday through Friday) through the ENOA meal site.

Denny Dinan, Recreation Dept. discussed youth and adult sports, and special events.

- Most of the Adult Fall Softball finished up on October 15th, except a Friday team who is making up one more rainout. Youth Fall Co-ed Flag Football and 3-year old Soccer Clinic finished up on October 7th, and the 4/5 & 6/7 Soccer Academy and League finished up on October 10th.
- Youth Coed Volleyball practices begin this week with games starting on November 4th. We are partnered with BJSa again this year, and will be playing games in Bellevue.
- Adult Women’s Volleyball is in the 4th week of their 12-week season.
- Youth Basketball League registration has begun and runs through November 25 with games beginning in January. We are playing in the PRO league again this year.
- Youth Coed Basketball Clinic registration has also begun and runs through Dec 30. It will start on January 13 and runs for 5 consecutive Saturdays. A few of our police officers are again coaching this year. They wear their police t-shirts, and it’s great for the younger kids to see the police officers doing good things with the community.

Member Johnson stated that the lighting in the gym is very dim & dark, and should be fixed before these fall sports start in the gym.

Ryan South, Program Coordinator discussed past and upcoming special events.

- Pump & Run took place on Friday, October 6th and Saturday, October 7th. Fifty-three people participated this year, which is an increase of eight people over last year’s event. The weather conditions on Saturday were cold and rainy, but the event went on and afterwards the racers enjoyed an after-party sponsored by Infusion Brewing Company. South thanked Public Works and the Police Dept. for their help, and for supplying a golf cart to get around in during the rain on Saturday.
- Soctoberfest soccer tournament is scheduled for the weekend of October 27-29 at the La Vista Soccer Complex. The Metro Wolves Futbol Club hosts this each year. Soctoberfest brings in thousands of players, families and fans from all over the Midwest who stay in our hotels, eat at our restaurants and shop at our local businesses. South invited the Board to stop by the Sports Complex during this time to see how great this tournament is for La Vista. There is no charge for admission. South also thanked Public Works Dept. for their work for this event. We could not have it without them.

Member Kupfer asked if there was a registration fee for the Pump & Run, and if there is, what is done with the money? South stated that there is a fee, and it covers shirts & medals, food and water. Any excess left over is given back to Edge Body Boot Camp to be donated to Operation Smile. This year over \$900 will be donated. Last year it was \$500.

Rob George, Parks Foreman, Public Works

- George gave a summary of the work the department has been doing to get ready for winter season such as shutting down the ball fields and putting up Christmas decorations.

Scott Stopak, Recreation Director

- Stopak reminded the Board that Halloween Safe Night will be held on Tuesday, October 31st from 5:30-7pm, or until all the kids have gone through the lines. Besides vendors handing out candy, there will be hot dogs and outside there will be hay rack rides. This year there will be 35-40 vendors handing out candy in the gym.
- On Tuesday, November 7th, is the annual Veteran's Day dinner at the Embassy Suites, in which they all have been invited.

Ann Eastman, a La Vista resident, addressed the Advisory Board about the Special Services Bus. She feels it is great that La Vista has such a program, but it can only provide her with assistance about two-thirds of the time. She wanted to say that our employee, Gary Golike is a wonderful bus driver and does everything possible to accommodate, but she was wondering about having two buses run five days per week, and even possibly having a full time bus driver? She said many people did not even know about this service, but now do and would use it if it could accommodate them.

Member Kupfer wanted clarification, that it was accommodating her, but she wanted more service? Ms. Eastman stated that they try to accommodate the best they can, but cannot always.

Member Johnson asked if there was a schedule and how it worked. Karlson explained that work and medical trips are prescheduled as well as grocery trips. All other trips are scheduled on a 24-hour notice.

Chairperson Lodes asked about the grocery runs, and if the drivers stay there while they shop. Karlson explained that they do not stay there, and sometimes they take them in shifts allow more riders to go.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

Chairperson Lodes motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Member Johnson. All ayes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:30 p.m.