

City of La Vista

Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes

November 19, 2008

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 November 19, 2008. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Member Pat Lodes, Member Randy Cahill, Member George Forst III. Absent: Chairperson Greg Johnson. Staff members attending were David Karlson and Eddie Burns. Staff Member Rich Carstensen was absent.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on November 12, 2008. 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

Member Lodes called the meeting to order.

Recreation Director Stopak led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recreation 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

Member Lodes made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Seconded by Committee Member Cahill. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Assistant Director David Karlson gave his report on Halloween Safe Night on October 31, 2008. The city had a good turnout, with the La Vista Fire Dept. giving out 500 hot dogs. The Recreation Dept. would like to thank the Fire Dept. and Booster Clubs for their donations for this annual city event.

Karlson also reminded the Board of the annual Christmas Tree Lighting Celebration on Monday, December 1, 2008. At 5:45 p.m., the La Vista Jr. High Choir will sing carols out by the City Christmas Tree. At 6:00, Santa will light up the tree. Following will be a chili/soup supper in the Community Center, with Santa talking with the children. There will also be several groups entertaining for the event.

Karlson is taking care of the Senior Center for November and December while Rich Carstensen is on family leave. On Wednesday, December 19, Country Heart performed country and patriotic songs for the seniors.

Program Coordinator Burns reported that this Saturday will be the last youth volleyball game of the season. Basketball registrations for 3-6 grades and basketball clinic for 1-2 grades were held Tuesday night, November 18, and will also be held on Saturday, November 22. Wrestling registrations will be on-going until November 29, 2008.

Recreation Director Scott Stopak reported that Aikido is hosting their annual lock-in on Saturday, December 6 from 6:00 p.m. – 11:30 p.m. Stopak also informed the Board that City Hall and the Community Center would be closed on Thursday, November 20, until 1:00 p.m. due to water being shut off because of a water main break. Also, Stopak will be attending a Metro Skate Park meeting on Monday, November 24, and will also be giving a speech about recreation facilities at the Leadership Sarpy meeting on Tuesday, November 25.

The Community Center will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

B. SWIMMING POOL CONCEPT DISCUSSION

Stopak stated that the recent bond issue for the new aquatic facility lost by a narrow margin in the November 4 election. The aquatic committee will be meeting again to discuss possible further action on the issue.

Member Lodes asked if there could be a breakdown of votes by ward. Director Stopak said he would check to see if that was possible.

Member Forst asked Stopak how long the current swimming pool would last if nothing were done. Stopak said they had trouble with the “baby” pool this year. There were no existing problems at the moment with the big pool. Drainage has been upgraded to meet standards. New grates need to be purchased.

Public Hearing was opened for comment.

Jeff Conley said the La Vista pool charges the same as Papio Bay, and Papio Bay has more amenities.

Member Forst stated that the new design would have more amenities. Conley said that the public had not seen any pictures of the new design. Forst said that the design and bond issue had been publicized by having public meetings, in the schools, in newspapers and in flyers sent to homes.

Member Lodes stated that people do not want to spend their time going to meetings. After the election, he said many people asked questions that they didn't know. Lodes said they somehow need to let the people know the facts.

Public Hearing was closed.

C. IDENTIFY COMPETITIVE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOCCER PROVIDER

This item has previously been on the agenda and approved but was placed on the agenda to allow further discussion. The proposal has been made to identify Lancer Soccer Club and the Panthers Baseball Club as the primary providers. Both of these clubs have previous long-term relationships with the City. Both clubs are based in La Vista and primarily have La Vista residents on the roster. With no further questions, the item will now go on to the City Council for approval.

D. FIELD USAGE POLICY

This item has been placed on the agenda to make changes on Item 2 of the Council Policy Statement - Recreation: Scheduling, Operation and Maintenance of City Fields "Priority Schedule for La Vista City ball fields" it has been re-written to place the Lancer Soccer Club and the Panthers Baseball Club as third (c) on the priority schedule for usage of the ball fields.

Teams sponsored by Papillion-La Vista school district has been moved to 6 (f) on the schedule, but will not be affected. These teams utilize fields at different times than our youth recreation leagues.

Board member Cahill asked about the fee schedule. Stopak said that was a separate issue not on the agenda at this time.

Member Lodes made a motion to approve Item D. Member Cahill seconded. Members voting aye: Lodes, Cahill, Forst. Nays: None. Absent: Johnson. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Jodi Drake-Soto asked what was going to be done about the fees. Director Stopak stated that the fees were currently set in the master fee schedule approved by City Council.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Cahill reported that a valued citizen of La Vista, Lori Wemhoff, had passed away on Monday, November 17. Lori had volunteered to coach many times over the years, and her friendship will be missed.

Stopak said they could look into getting a plaque to commemorate her service to the City of La Vista.

Member Lodes thanked the Booster Club representatives for coming to the meeting, and invited them to introduce themselves at this time, and to come to the meetings and let the Board know of activities that each club is involved with.

Introducing themselves were Randy Anderson, the Football Club President (2nd year) and 4th year coach; Jim Hough, Vice-President of the Football Club and coach; Michelle Hough—Secretary of the Football Club and 3rd year coach; Jeff Conley, Wrestling President and 8th year coach.

Asst. Director Karlson noted that the Football Club purchased new uniforms this year for the teams.

ADJOURNMENT

Member Lodes made the motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Member Forst. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.