

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
August 20, 2008

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of La Vista convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on August 20, 2008. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Chairperson Greg Johnson, Pat Lodes, George Forst III, Randy Cahill. Absent: John Vendetti. Staff members David Karlson, Rich Carstensen and Eddie Burns were also present.

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

Chairperson Johnson called the meeting to order.

Seconded by Advisory Board Member Forst.

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

Chairperson Johnson made the motion to approve the consent agenda.

Seconded by Committee Member Lodes. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Recreation Director Scott Stopak stated that a new Public Works La Vista Fall Golf Course Superintendent, Jeff Calentine, began his employment with the City of La Vista last Monday. He previously worked at the Plattsmouth Golf Course. We welcome Jeff to the La Vista Falls Golf Course.

Stopak also reported that the #3 cart path is now finished. It extends down to the bridge leading to the #4 hole, and should allow more golf to be played during rainy days. The hole was only closed 2-3 days, and people replayed hole #6 after hole #9 for a substitution. Stopak also stated that July was the highest round count this year, and beat July of 2007.

Assistant Director David Karlson reported on the indoor garage sale at the La Vista Community Center last Saturday, August 16th. It ran from 10 am to 4 pm, and had 16 vendors. It was very busy in the morning, with a bit slower in the afternoon. All vendors said they would return,

except for one who was actually selling crafts. The Recreation Dept. will have another one, possibly in the spring, and most likely for a shorter period of time.

Karlson also presented the Instructor Interest Form, which we will be putting on-line. It is a guideline for interested parties to fill out if interested in teaching a class at the Recreation Center.

Program Director Rich Carstensen reported on Senior Center activities this month. On Thursday, June 19, twenty Seniors went to Lincoln to tour the Capital, had lunch and visited Hay Market Park and the Sunken Gardens. On Tuesday, August 19th, 25-30 seniors met at the new Summer Kitchen Café in Southport for lunch and had an enjoyable time. In the Fall, tentative plans are to go to Nebraska City for apples and Mahoney State Park for dinner and a play.

Program Coordinator Burns reported that tackle football for 9/10 and 11/12 year olds began practice on August 4th. We were unable to fill a 13/14 year old team by the leagues deadline. Cheerleading, and soccer teams have been formed, and flag football games begin on Saturday.

Burns also reported that the Recreation Dept. has implemented a new registration procedure to begin after October 1st. Instead of have 2-3 months to register for sports, the Recreation Dept. will have 2 different days (one weekday and a Saturday) to register for a sport. A \$10 late registration fee will also be imposed. Hopefully, this will cut down on late registrations and allow for more timelier scheduling of the different youth sports.

B. SWIMMING POOL CONCEPT DISCUSSION

Stopak reported that the City Council approved going forward with a bond issue on the November ballot, with a 7-1 vote.

Public Hearing was opened for comment.

No comments.

Public Hearing was closed.

Member Forst thought that the Advisory Board Members should now go out to the public with information and answers to any questions they may have.

Stopak stated that a group would be formed to present it to the public.

Member Forst thought it would be a good idea to also attend PTO meetings at the schools, and Member Lodes thought that visiting with the Seniors would also be helpful.

C. IDENTIFY COMPETITIVE YOUTH BASEBALL AND SOCCER PROVIDER

The Lancer Soccer Club and the Panthers Baseball Club have been using the City's fields. Fields are getting harder to come by, and more people are requesting space for teams. The need exists to identify, in writing, these two clubs as providers of these sports for the City of La Vista as a means of explanation as to why they have priority over others in scheduling and renting of fields.

Advisory Board Members stated they would like to know how other cities in the area are handling the private clubs in regards to fields. The Members would like to table the discussion

to gather more information. Motion to table was made by Member Lodes and seconded by Member Forst.

D. FIELD USAGE POLICY

Stopak said that the field usage policy needs to be rewritten, where the order of priority for usage of fields would be clearly stated. The Recreation Dept. teams would be first in line, with the others being the Papillion-La Vista School District, the Lancers and Panthers Clubs, and the general public. The school district agreement cannot be placed in jeopardy, since it guarantees the Recreation Dept. teams may utilize gym space at the schools, in priority over other associations. The Recreation Dept. is having multiple requests for fields and gym space, those requesting do not understand why some groups have priority over them, especially if they are a La Vista resident.

Discussion was held by the Advisory Board on how priorities should be designated. The Members requested to table the discussion until further information is gathered. Motion to table was made by Member Lodes and seconded by Chairperson Johnson.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

No comments.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Lodes would like staff to meet with both Lancers and Panthers to discuss joining the Recreation Dept., or pay for fields as others do. Member Cahill stated that the staff and the Panthers have had meetings, and the Board of Directors for Panthers Baseball Club had voted to pay usage fees for the fields this year, instead of joining with the Recreation Dept. However, it was going to make a big fiscal impact on the club.

Member Lodes thought it was a very good idea to change the registrations to certain days, as other clubs handle registrations in this way.

ADJOURNMENT

Advisory Board Member Cahill made the motion to adjourn.

Seconded by Member Lodes. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.