

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
November 17, 2021

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of LaVista convened in open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 17, 2021. Present was Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Senior Services Manager Kaily Stanley, Administrative Assistant Sue Tangeman, Public Works Parks Superintendent Jason Allen, Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer, and Brenda Mechels-Stuby. Absent was Youth & Adult Sports Services Manager Denny Dinan and Member Bobette Jones.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on November 10, 2021. 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 Scott 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. Stopak asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2021 meeting.  
Motion made by Member Mechels-Stuby. Seconded by Member Kupfer. All aye.  
Motion carried.

#### 2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

#### **VIRTUAL RECREATION CENTER, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND PROGRAMS**

**Submitted by David Karlson, Assistant Recreation Director**

Our FYI on the DIY Adventures in La Vista featured a virtual “Fun Friday with Friends” episode that had over 400 views in the first week. Our “Fun with Boxes II”

featured a foosball table that is made with a shoe box. This was a challenging ball and cups game. This episode also featured 5 Fun Box related books families can check out at our Library, and two creative art projects using sections of large cardboard boxes. The episode finished with a special Christmas Box that Santa sent to Ms. Jodi from the Library to give to me. Inside was a letter from Santa inviting me and all my La Vista Fun Friday friends to the upcoming activities at Santa's Workshop in December. On a special note, Santa let me know my "Fun Fridays with Friends" episodes have put me on his "Nice" list.

Our annual Christmas Tree Lighting will be a combination of an in-person event and a virtual Facebook Live event. The ceremony starts at 5:45 p.m. by the Christmas tree, the Papillion/La Vista High School choir will lead the audience in Christmas carols, followed by Santa lighting the tree. After the tree lighting, the crowd can follow Santa down to his workshop where they can meet two of his reindeer. They can then walk around the magically illuminated pond or go into Santa's workshop where Mrs. Clause will be handing out cookies and candy canes.

Santa will also be at his workshop from 4:00-6:30 p.m. on **December 3, 10 and 14.**

On Tuesday, November 9 the Community Center was the host site for the La Vista Community Foundation Salute to Veterans Grab-n-Go drive-through lunches, which was held out front of the Community Center. Hot lunches were catered from Ref's Bar & Grill and handed out to La Vista veterans who previously rsvp'd to the invitation.

## **YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS**

**Submitted by Denny Dinan, Youth and Adult Sports Manager**

All outdoor youth and adult sports finished play in October. All La Vista fields are now closed until April, 2022.

- Youth Coed Flag Football season finished up on October 16.
- Youth Soccer Clinic, Academy & League season ended on October 12.
- Senior Fall Softball season finished up on October 18.

Youth Volleyball practices started on October 4 and games started on Saturday November 6. We are partnered with the BJSA (Bellevue Junior Sports Association) again this year, and games are held at their facility by Bellevue East High School. We have 27 kids signed up with one (1) 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> grade team, one (1) 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> grade team and one (1) 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade team.

Adult Women's Fall Volleyball has played 9 games of a 12-game schedule.

### **Upcoming Programs:**

Youth Basketball League registrations will continue until November 30, and games will begin January 22. We are partnering with the Sarpy Community YMCA for basketball again this year.

Youth Basketball Clinic registrations will continue until December 29, and the clinic will start on January 8. It will run for 5 weeks on Saturday morning.

### **Events:**

Metro Wolves Girls Socctoberfest Soccer Tournament: October 22–24, 2021  
Teams = 74; Games played = 80 (rained out on Sunday 10/24); Revenue = \$3,020

Metro Wolves Boys Socctoberfest Soccer Tournament: October 29 – October 31, 2021  
Teams = 87; Games played = 162; Revenue = \$4, 170

Total Revenue = \$7,190.

### **SENIOR SERVICES**

**Submitted by Kaily Stanley, Senior Services Manager**

In October, a total of 1,267 seniors participated in Senior Center programs.

- 204 lunches were served
- 1,061 Seniors Participated in various recreational activities, while continuing to practice social distancing. Those programs were:
  - Outings to Ref's Bar and Grill, Lozier Giant Screen Theater, Olive Garden and Papio Bowl
  - In-house movies “In Her Shoes”, “Ghost and Mr. Chicken” and “Casper”
  - Music by Joe Taylor of the Merrymakers
  - Seniors played Bingo, Happy Birthday Jingo, Pitch, and Halloween Jingo
  - Fall crafts with Bob
  - Smart phone class
  - Meditation w/ David
  - Brain Games presentation with UNMC students
  - Cookie baking class
  - Boystown presentation on the history of Boystown
  - Halloween party with lots of food and various games

**PUBLIC WORKS PARKS DEPT.**

**Submitted by Jason Allen, Parks Superintendent**

In response to a question from Chairperson Lodes about whether there was going to be a Santa's parade this year, Allen responded that it will be on Sunday, November 28 from 2:30pm-7:30 pm.

Allen said a group of Eagle Scouts did a project at Southwind Park, building a Gaga Ball Game pit. This is a new game which consists of a waist-high octagon shaped pit, where approximately 10 kids can get in and kick a ball at one another while they try to avoid being hit by the ball.

Allen also said they have planted 15 trees for the Memorial Tree project. One tree did not survive the fall planting, so will replant it in the spring. There are a couple others that will also be planted in spring.

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT**

**Submitted by Scott Stopak, Recreation Director**

Stopak thanked the board members that attended the Public Engagement meeting and assisted that night.

Stopak also told the Board that the Recreation Department would be getting a new sit-down elliptical trainer in the next couple of months. Mechels-Stuby asked if Council had made a decision on the pool yet. Stopak said that the Council has not made a decision at this time.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

None.

Member Lodes made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Member Mechels-Struby. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 6:25 p.m.