

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
May 17, 2023

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, May 17, 2023. Present was Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Denny Dinan Youth and Adult Sports Manager, Kaily Stanley Senior Services Manager, Brian Allen Community Events Manager, Administrative Assistant Sue Tangeman, Parks Superintendent Jason Allen, Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer, Jason Ryan, and Deborah Dogba. Absent: Brenda Mechels-Struby.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on May 10, 2023. Simultaneously given to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice is attached to the minutes. The 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.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Asst. Director David Karlson called the meeting to order.

- 1.1 Karlson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.2 Karlson made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference and read the Emergency Procedures Statement.

**2. CONSENT AGENDA**

- 2.1 Karlson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2023 meeting. Motion made by Member Kupfer. Seconded by Member Ryan. All aye. Motion carried.
- 2.2 Updates from Recreation Staff

**SENIOR CENTER**

**Report given by Kaily Stanley, Senior Services Manager**

In April, a total of 2,133 seniors participated in Senior Center programs.

- 232 Lunches were served.
- 1,901 Seniors participated in various recreational activities.

Some special programs included:

- Outings to Papio Bowl, Sage Bistra, The Zoo and Osaka Grill
- Movies shown were “Easter Parade” and “Rocketman”.
- Music by Merrymaker Tom Strohmeyer.
- Seniors played Bingo, Happy Birthday Jingo, Pitch, UNO, Hand & Foot, and Bunco
- Other notable activities were Crafts w/Bob and Cheri, Dyeing Easter Eggs, Papillion-La Vista Schools Bond Presentation, Balloon Floor Hockey, a Coffee Social, and Meditation w/David Karlson.

## **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

### **Report given by Brian Allen, Evens Coordinator**

Salute to Summer will be held on Saturday May 27, 2023, from 12:00pm – 10:00pm. This year will feature the same concept as last year with one free day of fun for all ages. Highlights include the traditional parade, community cookout, and car show mixed with new programming that includes a youth talent show, magic show, sing-a-longs, outdoor fun zones for kids, a mini game-a-thon for all ages in the Community Center, and the metro area's first ever Drone Show and fireworks show to cap the night.

Other programs that return from last year include the Mayor's brunch, Wildlife Encounters, VR Game Truck, Balloon Twisters and Face Painters. Live music from five local acts and a local beer garden hosted by Pint 9 returns too! We have also doubled the number of food and snack trucks this year.

Two days prior to Salute to Summer will be another Hometown Heroes event where we honor service men and woman at the Blue Star Memorial on City Hall campus at 6:00pm.

Other exciting community events in June include the return of Music and Movie nights held outdoors in Central Park. A Moonlight Movie (Top Gun: Maverick) will be shown on the 2nd Friday of the month (6/9). A free raffle with prizes will be held before the start of the movie. Live local music will occur on the 4<sup>th</sup> Friday (6/23) of the month with Finding Dixie and Guitars for Vets. A local food truck will be on hand for the Music nights.

A community wide garage sale is to be held all day on Saturday, June 10, Trivia Night on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month (6/14) at 6:00pm at The Heights Draft Room in City Centre, and Dino-Mania at the La Vista Library on Thursday, June 15 from 2:00pm-3:00pm round out the upcoming month of events.

If you want to volunteer let me know and if you know of anybody who would like to volunteer please send them to the website to sign-up on a simple form at [cityoflavista.org/volunteer](http://cityoflavista.org/volunteer)!

Chairperson Lodes asked about the locations of the music this summer. Allen explained which ones would be at Central Park, and the ones at the Library in August. This is due to not wanting to interfere with the outdoor concerts being held at the new Astro music venue in City Centre beginning in August.

## **YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS**

### **Report provided by Denny Dinan, Youth & Adult Sports Manager**

#### **Pre-School Playtime:**

March: Adults = 148; Children = 192; Total = 340; Avg = 38

**April: Adults = 66; Children = 83; Total = 149; Avg = 21**

### **Youth Programs:**

All youth baseball, soccer, softball, and flag football teams began practices on April 5 and games started the last week of April.

**Baseball:** 2023 = 41 players/3 teams; 2022 = 52 players/4 teams

**Flag Football Summer:** 2023 = 86 players/9 teams; 2022= 123 players/13 teams

**Soccer 3 year old Summer Clinic:** 18 players (maximum enrollment)

**Soccer Summer Academy/League:** 2023 = 64 players; 2022= 99 players

**Girls Softball:** 2023 = 65 players/5 teams; 2022= 63 players/ 5 teams

**Coed T-ball:** 2023 = 52 players/ 6 teams; 2022= 63 players/6 teams

### **Adult Programs:**

**Women's Volleyball** Spring session has 8 teams and started on April 5 and plays a 7-week schedule that ends on May 17. The next session/Fall session will begin in September.

### **Softball Summer League:**

**Senior League** games started the week of April 12. We have an evening league that plays on Mon/Wed night (16 teams) and we also have a Tuesday morning and Friday morning league.

### **Events Held:**

March 31 – Apr 2; NE Thunder Girls Fastpitch Softball Tourney- 26 teams

Apr 14-16; Omaha Echoes Girls Fastpitch Softball Tourney – 40 teams – RAINED OUT

Apr 21-23; NE Quakes Girls Fastpitch Softball Tourney – 29 teams

May 6-7; 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Cahill Combat Clash Boys Baseball Tourney – 33 teams

May 7 – Kite Festival

### **Up-coming events:**

May 19-21; Omaha United Soccer Tournament – 15 fields – 100 teams

May 20-21; NE Thunder Girls Fastpitch Softball Tourney- 24 teams

May 26 – Major League Baseball Players Alumni Association – Legends for Youth Clinic- 100 participants expected. Kids age 6-16. 9am – noon. La Vista Sports Complex. Instructors include former MLB players: Brian McRae, Chad Meyers, Turk Wendell, Bob Dernier, Whitey Richardson, Bob Randall

## **RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

**Report provided by David Karlson, Assistant Recreation Director**

Karlson introduced Debra Dogba, our newest Park & Recreation Advisory Board Member. Originally from Africa, she has lived in Nebraska for 19 years, and in La Vista for 6 of those years. Debra works at the Dept. of Education for the State of Nebraska.

Karlson discussed what has been keeping him busy, mostly pool stuff and hiring staff

for the pool, which has been difficult. Karlson said they are having meetings discussing pay rate and incentives that could be offered. A manager has been hired, Henry Belik, a college student that has grown up in La Vista.

### **3. UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Report from Cale Brodersen, Community Development**

Brodersen and Public Works Superintendent Jason Allen gave updates, timelines and costs on Central Park and the playground that will be installed there. Brodersen provided slides of the equipment ordered, which should ship in June. Installation should be late summer or early fall.

Brodersen also discussed the shelter and restroom that will be rebuilt at Central Park, and brought slides of the options for the shelter. He said they would like a recommendation on which one would be preferred, and that would be forwarded to staff and council.

The potential timeline for the restroom/shelter installation is in the summer of 2024, after completion of the road realignment and site work.

Brodersen asked the Board for a recommendation on the shelter and restroom. The #2 shelter was agreed upon. Option #2 was also chosen by the Board for the restroom.

Attached are the picture slides of both the playground ordered and the different shelter/restrooms for recommendation.

### **4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

- 3.1 Recreation Dept. Revenue, Traffic Count
- 3.2 Senior Activities, Meals
- 3.3 Special Services Bus Revenue, Ridership

### **5. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Member Kupfer asked if the Community Center was now on summer hours. Karlson said yes, the hours are M-F 8am-9pm; Sat 9am-4pm and closed on Sunday. These hours are good through Labor Day.

### **6. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

### **7. Chairperson Lodes made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Member Dogba. All aye. Motion carried.**

Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

A black and white photograph showing a group of people, including men in work clothes and a woman, looking at a large display of photographs. The display is arranged in a grid and is mounted on a stand. The people are standing in front of a white van and a building. The text 'Central Park East Improvements' is overlaid on the image.

# Central Park East Improvements

# Central Park East Playground Equipment



- Ordered
- Will ship in June
- Will be installed end of summer or early fall



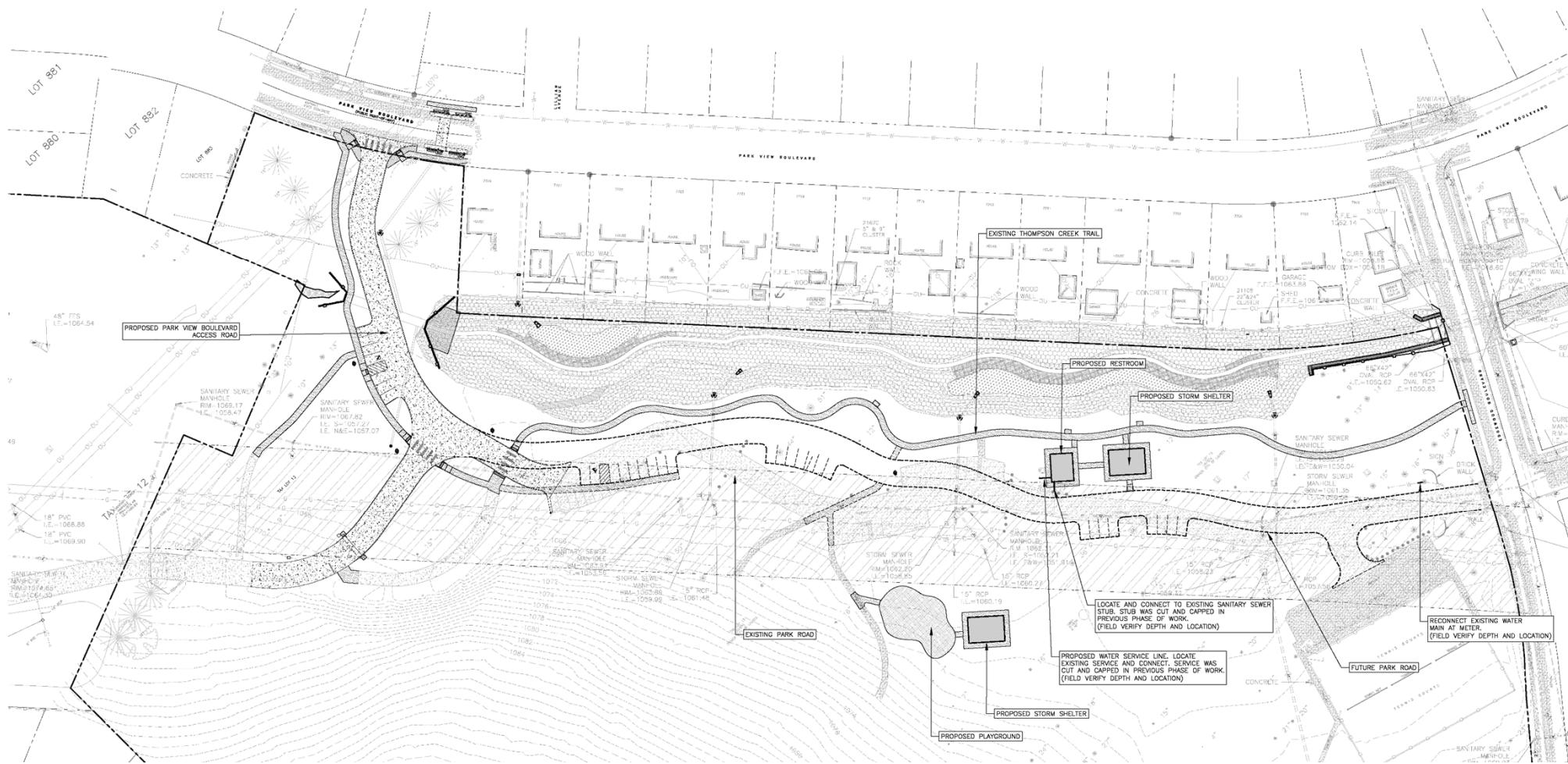








# Layout



# **Potential Timeline**

**Fall 2023**

Install  
playground  
equipment

**2024 Construction Season**

Road  
realignment &  
site work

Restroom &  
shelter  
installation



# **Shelter Concept**

- **Approximately \$150,000 including site work and installation**
- **30' X 34', but comes in other sizes**
- **Can fit 16 picnic tables underneath (96 – 128 people)**
- **Will be able to fit an additional 36-48 people at tables on adjacent concrete pad**
- **Will include electricity and lighting**

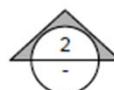
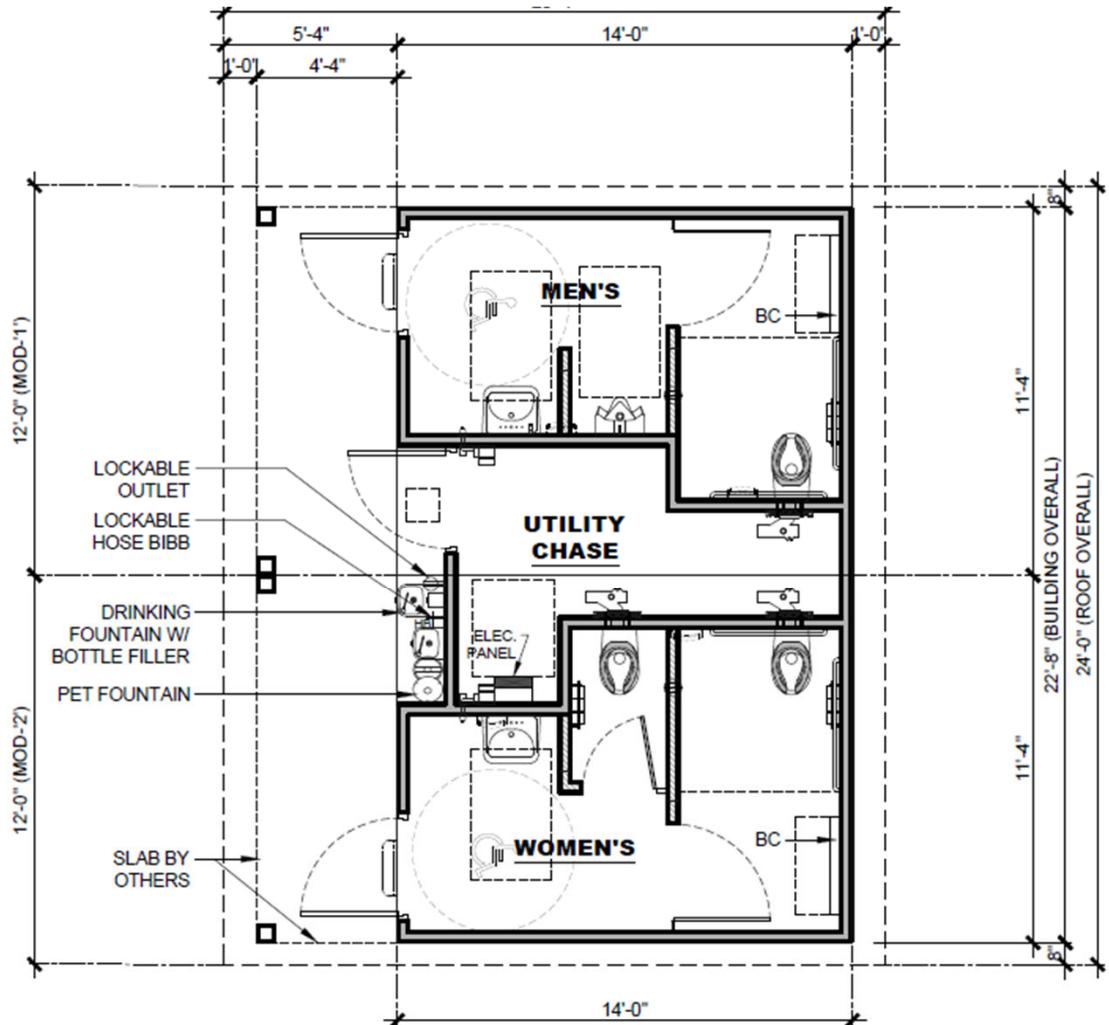
**Northern  
Skyline**



# Shelter Design Inspired by “The Link”



# Restroom Layout



**FLOOR PLAN**  
SCALE: 3/16"=1'0"

# Option #1 CXT Modular



# Option #2 Public Restroom Company Modular



# Option #3 Design – Build Examples



# Central Park East Restroom Design Options

Option

Option #1  
CXT

Option #2  
Public Restroom  
Company

Option #3  
Design – Build

Example  
Photo /  
Rendering



Estimated  
Cost of  
Building &  
Installation

~\$250,000

~\$350,000

~\$400,000+?

## Option #2

- **Matches design of proposed shelter with elements from “The Link”**
- **Mid-level price, but with certainty and within budget**
- **Quicker turnaround for construction and installation in order to stay on preferred timeline**
- **Already designed, so no additional fees just for design of structure**
- **Includes vandal-proof fixtures, water bottle filling station, water fountain, and dog water fountain**

