

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
February 15, 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 February 15, 2017. Present was Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson, Denny Dinan from Recreation Dept., and Tony White from Public Works Parks Dept. Advisory Board Members present were Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Greg Johnson and Gene Svensen, and Jeff Kupfer.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on February 8, 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 and Program Information from the January 18, 2017 meeting. Motion made by Chairperson Lodes. Seconded by Member Johnson. All Aye. Motion carried.

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

**Special Programs, Events and Senior Center**  
**Submitted by David Karlson**

- Assistant Director Karlson reported on special programs, events and the Senior Center.
  - Karlson thanked Denny, Sue and the rest of the city staff from La Vista and Papillion for their help on the Senior Valentine's Day luncheon held today, February 15<sup>th</sup>. This is a cooperative event between the City of La Vista and Papillion. It was the largest yet, with approximately 150 seniors from the surrounding area enjoying lunch catered by Hy-Vee, and entertainment by the Papillion-La Vista High School Jazz Band before and during lunch. After lunch, vocalist Joyce Torcia from Merry Makers sang a variety of songs that everyone enjoyed. It is an annual event that has been occurring for many years, and everyone looks forward to it.
  - Preschool Playtime met 9 times in January and had 231 preschoolers and 188 adults with an average of over 25.6 preschoolers and 21 adults attend each session. Preschool Playtime has continued to grow again in January.
  - Ms. Jen from the La Vista Library hosted her monthly Preschool Story-time and Sing-Along on the first Thursday of the month. She had 38 preschoolers and 26 parents attend. This was our largest crowd since the start of the program.

- Preschool Craft Day had 27 preschoolers and 35 adults decorate snowmen with bingo daubers and markers.

### **Senior Center**

- Throughout each month, seniors are able to attend a lunch catered by Valley Food Services on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They can play Bingo on Monday and Friday, Chair Volleyball on Wednesday and Friday, participate in Tai Chi on Tuesday and Thursday, join our quilting/sewing/knitting-crocheting group each Wednesday, and play Pinochle on the first and third Wednesday of each month. In addition, on Monday morning we have a Coloring Book Club, and on the second Wednesday of each month, we have the Sarpy/Cass Department of Health & Wellness Senior CARE Clinic at the Center, providing foot care and other miscellaneous health care to seniors for a minimal fee.
- Wednesday January 4<sup>th</sup>, 26 seniors helped us celebrate with a “Post Noon Year’s Eve Party” which included the very popular band “George and the Jrs”.
- On Tuesday January 24<sup>th</sup>, 8 seniors joined us on our monthly movie outing to see the movie “Sully”.
- In late January, over 30 seniors participated in 3 days of competition in our “Senior Winter Olympic Games”. The games included Hot Wheel races, javelin throw (with pool noodles), a spelling bee, bean bag toss, free throw contest, timed jigsaw puzzle challenge, chair volleyball and of course, several rounds of Olympic Bingo! As it worked out, all of the participants were able to win at least one prize. Some of the seniors said they would like to do this quarterly, so that is something we will think about.
- On January 25<sup>th</sup> Merrymakers performer Billy Troy performed for 27 seniors.

### **Youth and Adult Sports Submitted by Denny Dinan**

- *Dinan discussed youth and adult sports and special events.*
  - Adult Women’s Volleyball is in week 7 of a 14-week season. We have 9 teams playing in the winter league.
  - Youth Basketball League is in week 6 of an 8-week season. Tournament play will start the first week of March and run for 2 weeks.  
Youth Basketball Clinic for grades 1 & 2 finished on Saturday, February 11. The clinic ran for an hour each Saturday and lasted 5 weeks. We had 35 participates in the clinic this year which is up from the 23 participants we had last year. We had 8 volunteers from the Police Department conduct the coaching clinic. The kids really enjoyed having them as coaches this year.
  - Major League Baseball’s Pitch, Hit & Run Competition is scheduled for Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11a.m. at the La Vista Sports Complex. This is our 2<sup>nd</sup> PH&R event, and once again we are hosting it in conjunction with Sarpy County Tourism.
  - Registrations are now being accepted for the following programs:  
Youth:
    - Boy’s Baseball registration deadline is Mar 11<sup>th</sup>. The season will begin in April.
    - Co-Ed flag football registration deadline is Mar 18<sup>th</sup>, and the season starts in April.
    - Youth soccer clinic (Academy and League) registration deadline is Mar 18<sup>th</sup>, with the season beginning in April.
    - Girls Softball registration deadline is Mar 25<sup>th</sup>, and the season also begins in April.
    - Co-ed T-ball registration deadline is May 13<sup>th</sup>, season starts in June.

Adult:

- Softball (Coed and Men's) registration deadline is March 25<sup>th</sup> or until filled. The softball season begins in April.

**Public Works-Parks Dept.**

**Tony White, Public Works-Parks Dept.**

- White updated the Board Members on activities the Parks Dept. have been and will be working on.
  - Working on sheet metal at the complex which should be finished soon;
  - busy mulching trails, right-a-ways and throughout the city;
  - working on mowers and getting ready for the summer.

Stopak asked White to describe his position and duties at Public Works. White said Rob George is his supervisor (Park Foreman) and they primarily work at City Park during the spring and summer months. They maintain the fields and surrounding areas of City Park, which usually takes ½ to ¾ of the day. The rest of the day they help out at the Sports Complex, the pool, trimming trees, or other jobs needed throughout the city.

**COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR**

None.

**COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Chairperson Lodes asked Dinan if the Adult Softball was filling up as always? Dinan said the registrations just started on February 1<sup>st</sup>, so we only have a few so far.

Director Stopak reminded the Members that Joe Juarez had resigned his seat on the Advisory Board, so if they knew of anyone who was interested to let them know of the opening. Chairperson Lodes suggested posting it on the City's Facebook page if possible. Stopak said he will look into it.

Chairperson Lodes motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Member Svensen. All ayes. Motion carried.  
Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.