

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
June 16, 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, June 16, 2021. Present was Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Youth and Adult Sports Manager Denny Dinan, Senior Services Manager Kaily Stanley, Administrative Assistant Sue Tangeman, Public Works Superintendent Jason Allen, Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer, Brenda Mechels-Stuby and Bobette Jones.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on June 9, 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 May 19, 2021 meeting. Motion made by Member Mechels-Stuby. Seconded by Chairperson Lodes. 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

Virtual/Hybrid/Live Recreation:

As we move into the summer, our **Fun Friday episodes** have turned into **“The FYI on the DIY**, with Miss Jodi (from the La Vista Library) and I. We gave information to La Vista residents about the options they have when choosing their adventures this summer.

The programs and activities we will feature:

- Virtual-Only Activities
- Hybrid Activities, where people can join us Live or Virtually.
- In-person Only activities.

Our first video featured our first Hybrid Activity, which was our Dinosaur Day on Tuesday, June 8th. It started with a “live online” or in-person story time here on the City Hall campus at 10:00 a.m. followed by in-person activities at the library, which started at 2:00 p.m.

A second, Virtual-Only video on how to make Kindness Rocks aired on Friday, June 4th and a third video was released before our first Concert in the Park on Friday, June 11th. The concert was held at a new location this year, near the trail head and small pond in Central Park at 7:00 p.m. and featured the country band *Silas Creek*.

YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS

Submitted by Denny Dinan

Adult Programs:

Women’s Volleyball: The Spring session ended on May 5. The next session will begin in September.

Softball Summer League:

Senior League:

- **Mon/Wed night league** (16 teams): have played 15 games of a 23-game season.
- **Friday morning league** (8 teams): have played 7 games of a 21- game schedule.

Adult Softball:

- **Thursday Double Header League** (12 teams):
- **Friday Night Mens League** (6) teams:

Youth Programs:

- **Baseball:** 52 players/4 teams: leagues are into the heavy part of their schedule and will be finished by July 1.
- **Flag Football Summer:** 123 players/13 teams: League is winding down with final games scheduled to be June 19.
- **Soccer 3 yr old Summer Clinic:** 15 players (max): Finished May 8.
- **Soccer Summer Acad/League:** 89 players: Finished May 8.
- **Girls Softball:** 71 players/ 6 teams: Games started May 25 and end July 25.

- **Coed T-ball:** 70 players/6 teams: Games start on June 5 and end on July 17.

Fall Leagues:

Registration for youth Fall flag football and fall soccer, as well as adult fall softball began on June 1.

Events:

- **SlumpBuster Youth Baseball Tournament:** Tournament runs from June 19 through June 27 on La Vista fields as well as Council Bluffs and many other Omaha fields. There are approximately 400 teams in this year's tournament. The 2020 tournament was cancelled due to Covid. 2019 had over 700 teams in the tournament. The numbers are down this year due to Covid, and due to CWS initially stating fans would not be allowed at games during the times teams were registering for this tournament. CWS games are a major reason teams get in the Slumpbuster tournament as they can usually go to the games after they play their games. Since then, the CWS has opened up the tournament to fans, so the players will be able to attend if they choose to, however, it was too late for the others to register for the tournament.

LA VISTA SENIOR CENTER

Submitted by Kaily Stanley, Senior Services Manager

In May, a total of 1123 seniors participated in Senior Center programs.

- 319 Grab 'n Go Lunches were picked up in May
- 804 Seniors Participated in various recreational activities

The senior's continued to practice social distancing during our regular programs. Some special programs included:

- Outings to Romeo's, The Kolache Factory, Gretna Outlet Mall, Great Plains Black History Museum, and a Restaurant called Edge of the Universe.
- Canvas Painting Craft, Planting Vegetables and Herbs at the Senior Garden.
- Movies "Green Book", and "La La Land".
- Music by Pamela Sue, and Education Program Conducted by UNMC Students on Telehealth.
- Seniors played Bingo, Happy Birthday Jingo, Pokeno and card game called Golf.

The computers that were purchased with the Google Grant money for the Senior Center are now available for Seniors to check out. Computer classes began the beginning of June.

PUBLIC WORKS PARKS DEPT.

Submitted by Jason Allen, Parks Superintendent

- Allen reported that the landscaping at the Blue Star Memorial was finished in time for the Hometown Heroes ceremony, which took place on May 27. He also stated that they were working on getting more benches for the area that would be in the theme of the armed forces.
- Allen said all 8 trees for the Commemorative Tree program have been planted. There are 5 more applications that have recently come in and will be planted. He stated that the City also planted a tree in honor of Officer Jamie Brown's daughter, Allicyn, who recently passed.
- At the City Council meeting this past Tuesday evening, the Mayor and City Council decided that they did not want temporary fencing for the "temporary" dog park that will be going up behind the library. We will be going to go out for bids in order to get the best price we can.

Chairperson Lodes asked Superintendent Allen if the dog park was still going to be permanent? Allen said it still would be considered temporary even if it has permanent fencing. There isn't much more to tear that out than if it is the temporary fencing. And, it could become permanent if it is popular with the residents and works out in that area.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Submitted by Scott Stopak, Recreation Directo

The swimming pool had an opening date of May 29, however, it didn't actually open until Memorial Day on May 31st due to the cool temperatures. Temperatures must be 70 degrees or higher to open the pool for public swimming. Lessons can continue at any temperature.

Swimming Lessons began Monday, June 14.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Jones made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Member Kupfer. All ayes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:28 p.m.