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City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
March 19, 2014

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 March 19, 2014. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson and Program Coordinators Rich Carstensen and Ryan South; Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Joe Juarez and Jeff Kupfer. Also present: Brian Lukasiewicz, Public Works. Absent was Member Corey Jeffus.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on March 12, 2014. 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**

Recreation Director Scott Stopak called the meeting to order.

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**

Recreation Director Stopak asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2014 meeting. Motion made by Member Juarez. Seconded by Member Kupfer. Motion carried.

**REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF**

Stopak informed the Board that Member Russ Wiig term on the Advisory Board expired last month, and there is now an opening for that position on the Board.

Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen reported on recent and future activities for the Senior Center. March activities included a St. Patrick's Day luncheon, catered by Hy-Vee. Entertainment was also provided by Merry Makers. On the 19<sup>th</sup>, the seniors went to the movies and saw "12 Years a Slave". On the 26<sup>th</sup>, the La Vista Jr. High Show Choir will perform after lunch. In April, will have a potluck luncheon, and hope to have it in one of the parks, weather permitting. Also in April, they will travel to Pella, Iowa for the annual Tulip Festival.

Carstensen also informed the Board that Hot Wheels Drag Races were held in the gym on Monday, March 10<sup>th</sup>. 26 kids and 4 adults joined in. April 21<sup>st</sup> will be the next races held.

Program Coordinator South reported on current and upcoming sports. Women's Volleyball is in week 9 of a 10 week season. The season will end on April 9<sup>th</sup>. Adult Softball deadline was March 8<sup>th</sup>, however, Monday night men's league still has openings for a couple of teams. The season will begin approximately April 1<sup>st</sup>. Youth Basketball League began tournament games last Saturday. The tournament will run until March 22<sup>nd</sup> for 3/4 grades and March 29<sup>th</sup> for 5/6 grades. La Vista Lancers Soccer League ENSA U12 boys games begin on March 28<sup>th</sup>. We have one team in the Sarpy County Soccer League, U12 girls, and their games begin April 5<sup>th</sup>. La Vista 4/5 and 6/7 Youth Soccer Academy and League registration is still open. The 4/5 academy will play Tuesday and Saturdays, and 6/7 league will play with the academy on Tuesdays, and then play games on Saturday mornings. Both start on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. The 3 year old soccer clinic will begin on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Chairperson Pat Lodes will again coach/teach the group, which includes working with parents. Spring Flag Football League will

begin their season on Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Games will all be played at the Sports Complex, and there is over 50 kids participating this season. Youth Baseball for ages 7-12 will begin in April. They will again be participating in a cooperative league with Ralston Baseball Association. This season we have one 7/8 Pinto team, two 9/10 Mustang teams and one 11/12 Bronco team. Youth softball will begin their games approximately May 12<sup>th</sup>. There are still a couple openings on the teams.

Assistant Director Karlson reported on the Valentine's Day Cookie Decorating held on Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. 24 kids ages 3-6 attended. They began by listening to a Valentine's Day-themed story, and then followed up by making Valentine cards and decorating cookies. Karlson also reported on one of the newest programs at the Community Center. The La Vista Remote Control Car Racing League meets every other Sunday for track racing. So far, 6 families are participating. The winner of each session gets the opportunity to design the race course for the next session of racing.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Brian Lukasiewicz, Parks Superintendent for Public Works, reported on some grants received for trees, and others he is working on. He has received a \$5,000 grant from "Trees for Nebraska Towns", and \$2,500 from "Celebrate Trees" from Papio Natural Resource District. Lukasiewicz also stated he was in the process of applying for other grants, one from OPPD (for trees), and a \$25,000 grant from Nebraska Environmental Quality for the purchase of a chipper. Brian also reported on the condition of the fields, and discussed getting them ready for the upcoming season.

#### COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Lodes asked how the field conditions were after the winter. Lukasiewicz said they had used winterizer and things were starting to green up. He discussed a new type of "blanket" rye grass they were trying, and also the purchase of a new aerator for the fields and golf course.

Program South stated that Lukasiewicz and he were working on updating Kelly East and West fields. These fields are being utilized more, so the need exists to make conditions better for the teams. Permanent bases, pitching mounds, etc. will be added.

Member Kupfer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Member Juarez. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.