

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
February 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 February 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 Corey Jeffus, and Joe Juarez. Also present: Jeff Thornburg, Public Works. Absent were Members Jeff Kupfer and Russ Wiig.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on February 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 January 15, 2014 meeting. Motion made by Member Jeffus. Seconded by Chairperson Lodes. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Stopak reported that the initiative to place .05 cent sales tax on the May 2014 ballot passed at the City Council meeting last night. This will help fund Vision 84. Also at the council meeting, the Council approved the authorization to advertise request for proposals for the Recreation Program Master Plan, which will help guide the department in providing the correct programming, sports, etc. for the City of La Vista. This will be a 6-7 month process. Stopak also reminded the Board that June 29th is the annual Splash Bash and August 2nd is the Urban Adventure Race.

Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen reported on recent and future activities for the Senior Center. February 10th the seniors played Valentine Bingo. Wednesday, February 12th the seniors went to the movies. Some of the seniors went to see *The Monuments Men*, while others saw *Philomena*. Friday, February 14th was the annual Valentine's Day Senior Luncheon hosted by the cities of La Vista and Papillion. There was over 120 people at the luncheon this year enjoying a catered lunch by Hy-Vee and strawberry cake made by Helen Sinnett. Entertainment was provided by the Papillion-La Vista High School Jazz Band before and during lunch, and Johnny Ray Gomez played the accordion and sang after lunch. On Wednesday, February 19th the seniors had Hot Wheel Drag Races after lunch. All enjoyed and want to have them again. Friday, February 21st, the *Links* singers will entertain the seniors after lunch. This was a delayed show from February 5th when the Senior Center was closed due to the weather. Tuesday, February 25th the seniors will be going to the A+ Buffet Mongolian Grill for lunch. Going forward into March, the seniors will be contacting other centers in the hopes of playing chair volleyball with them. They have visited Corrigan, Montclair, Florence and Bellevue Senior Centers in the past. On Thursday, March 13th we will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with corned beef and cabbage catered by Hy-Vee. The Mayor will also join the seniors and discuss the proposed .05 cent sales tax increase for La Vista which will be on the ballot in May. Wednesday, March 26th the La Vista Jr. High 8th grade show choir will provide entertainment.

Carstensen also informed the Board that Hot Wheels Drag Races will be held in the gym on Monday, March 10th for any youth and adults who would like to join in. The races will be held again to kick off La Vista Daze in May.

Program Coordinator South reported on current and upcoming sports. Women's Volleyball is in week 4 of an 11 week season. We have 12 teams playing this winter which is 4 more teams than we had in the fall. Youth Basketball League is in full swing. We are in the 6th week of a 9 week season. Tournament play will begin on March 15th. Youth Basketball Clinic for grades 1st and 2nd began on January 18th. The clinic finished their 5 week session last Saturday, February 15th. La Vista Lancers Soccer League registration closed on February 8th. This spring, we will have a one U12 girl's team playing in the Sarpy County Soccer League, coached by Jerry Saint, and one U12 boy's team playing in ENSA coached by Mark McNamara. La Vista 4/5 Youth Soccer Academy registration is currently open with a registration deadline of March 8th. We will once again partner with the Phoenix Futbol Club to provide academy training to youth ages 4 & 5. La Vista 6/7 Youth Soccer League registration is currently open with a registration deadline of March 8th. They also partner with the Phoenix Futbol Club to provide academy training and league games to youth ages 6 & 7. Spring Flag Football League registration is currently open with a registration deadline of March 8th. The La Vista Flag Football teams will play in the Sarpy County Flag Football league again this spring. Youth Baseball for age 7-12 registration is open until March 8th. Our La Vista teams will once again play in a cooperative league with Ralston Baseball Association for all games this spring. Youth Softball for age 7-14 registration is open until March 8th. We will also have one 15-18 year old team again this season. All of our youth softball teams will play in the Rainbow Softball League.

South also gave an update to the Board on the Active Network at the Recreation Dept. It went live on February 1st, and the public can now register for sports online. In addition, all our memberships have switched from Membertrac to Active. The staff has done a great job and there have not been any issues with the changeover. Up to today, we have taken 99 registrations on Active of which 39 of them were done online. 16 of those were from non-residents. We have done \$1,959 business online, which is 51% of our income for this period.

Assistant Director Karlson reported on a program he helped with this year called the Golden Sowers Book Club. This is an organization that gets kids in Grades K-3rd grade interested in reading by participating in crafts and activities that tie into their monthly reading theme. January's book theme was "Cars", so the Assistant Library Director Jodi Norton asked Karlson to lead the activity and craft by providing Boxcar Races. I divided the 21 kids into 3 pit crews then gave them 15 minutes to decorate their cars. When the cars were finished we raced for over an hour with various relay races such as a GPS race where the drivers were blind folded and the Pit Crew had to be their GPS and give them commands to race around an obstacle course; a reverse obstacle course where the drivers had to race around the race track backwards; and a race where the cars had to pick up an additional passenger each lap. The kids had a lot of fun.

Also, La Vista's annual Coat Drive collected over 250 used coats this year. The coats were delivered to the Papillion La Vista Community Schools Foundation and distributed to families in need within the Papillion/La Vista School District. Earlier in the year Karlson wrote a grant to the La Vista Foundation and received an \$800.00 grant which was able to provide brand new coats for 25 students. One of the coats went to a young boy whose only wish to Santa this year was a new coat. Although it arrived after Christmas, he was very excited to be able to pick out a new coat this year.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

No Comments.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Joe Juarez thanked Rich Carstensen and the City for the Valentine's Day luncheon. His parents attended and had a great time.

Member Juarez made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Chairperson Lodes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.