

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
January 20, 2016

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 January 20, 2016. Present was Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Asst. Director David Karlson, Program Coordinators Ryan South and Rich Carstensen, Golf Course Services Manager Denny Dinan, and Public Works Parks Foreman Jeff Thornburg. Advisory Board Members present were Members Jeff Kupfer, Greg Johnson and Joe Juarez. Absent was Chairperson Pat Lodes.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on January 13, 2016. 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.

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 from the November 18, 2015 meeting and the program information. Motion made by Member Kupfer. Seconded by Member Johnson. Motion carried.

2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Director Stopak asked the Advisory Board members what they thought of having the monthly meetings at an earlier time, such as 4:00 p.m. Stopak said he had looked at a number of municipalities, and daytime hours seemed to be when meetings were held in many of the cities and counties. All members were okay with a time change with the exception of one member. After discussion, Stopak said meetings would continue to be at 7:00 p.m.

Asst. Recreation Director Karlson discussed special events that occurred in the month of December.

Karlson reported that the Christmas Tree Lighting ceremony, although postponed from November 30th to December 3rd, drew a record crowd. It was a beautiful night to unveil the new 8' tree totem that was carved from the old Blue Spruce that was used during the holidays, the new lighting of the City Hall/Community Center building, and Santa's lighting of the new Christmas tree. The south campus of the building was also lit up with decorations. Elsewhere, decorations and lights adorned the La Vista Public Library, La Vista Police Station and four huge trees along 78th Street at the entrance to City Park. Over 1,000 bowls of soup were served while entertainment was enjoyed. Each family was given a Christmas tree ornament made from the branches of the old Christmas tree. Overall, the night was a huge success!

Santa was busy in December making dozens of calls to children over a three day period. Other activities for kids was the Preschool Playtime Holiday Storytime with Ms. Jen from the Library, which brought in 3 preschoolers and 26 of their family members; 38 kids and 28 family members joined us for the annual Christmas Cookie Decorating in Santa's Village; 18 preschoolers and 15 adults made Christmas card and tree ornaments during the Preschool Craft time; and lastly, we finished up the holiday season with a Friday afternoon holiday movie "The Rise of the Guardians", which was viewed by 38 kids and 20 adults.

Program Coordinator South reported on current sport activities for adult and youth.

Women's Volleyball concluded their fall season on December 30th. The winter season began on January 6th and will run for 12 weeks.

Youth Basketball League is in full swing. Teams began practicing on December 14th and had their first games on January 8th. The regular season will conclude on February 28th with an end of season tournament beginning the following week.

Youth Basketball Clinic for grades 1st and 2nd began on January 9th. This is a parent participation clinic where the basic fundamentals of basketball are the focus. We have 23 boys & girls participating in the clinic this year.

La Vista 4/5 Youth Soccer Academy & 6/7 League registration is open. We will once again partner with the Phoenix Futbol Club to provide academy training and games to children ages 4 & 5 and 6 & 7.

3 Year Old Soccer Clinic registration is now open. Five, one-hour sessions, will be held on Saturday mornings at the La Vista Community Center beginning in April.

Spring Flag Football League registration is now open. The La Vista Flag Football teams will play in the Sarpy County Flag Football league again this spring.

Youth Softball for ages 7-18 registration is now open. All of our youth softball teams will once again play in the Rainbow Softball League.

Youth Baseball for ages 7-12 registration is now open. All of our youth baseball teams will play with Ralston Area Baseball Association in a cooperative league for all games.

South reported that the Round Ball Reindeer Shootout that took place on Saturday, December 12th at the Community Center was a success. Boys & girls in grades k-4th and 5th-8th competed in our first ever free throw shooting contest! This contest was for children and their parent/guardian or grandparent to compete together as a team. Each team member shot 15 free throws for a chance to win a prize. Eileen's Cookies of Papillion sponsored the event and provided us with 18 half dozen delicious cookies which we awarded to the top finishers in each age group. We had 46 total participants for this event.

Program Coordinator Carstensen reported on activities for the Senior Center and other events.

Wednesday, January 6th 10 seniors went to the Sarpy County Museum in Bellevue to see the travelling exhibit "The Way We Worked" from the Smithsonian Institution. This exhibit is sponsored by the Humanities of Nebraska. The display has already been to the Nebraska cities of Gering, Aurora, and now Bellevue. It is heading to Norfolk, Hastings, North Platte, and then will finish up in Columbus, Nebraska.

Wednesday, January 13th the seniors went to the movies to see "*The Revenant*".

Tuesday, January 19th twelve seniors were signed up to go on a lunch outing to China Star. Unfortunately, the weather was not good and roads were slippery, so only four seniors went to lunch.

Wednesday, January 20th we were happy to have a musical performance of *Prairie Sound*, who came from the Norfolk area. They performed during lunch for us, and everyone really enjoyed them. We look forward to having them again.

Coming up at the end of this week on Friday, January 22nd, we are excited to have Omaha's Joy Johnson come talk to the Senior Center group. Since her retirement seven years ago, Joy writes a comedy book series called the "BOOB Girls" which stands for "Burned Out Old BROADS". She gives presentations and loves to visit senior centers to give a humorous look on the lighter side of life. At this time, we have over 25 seniors planning to attend her presentation.

Wednesday, January 27th “*The Links*” will be performing for the seniors after lunch.

Monday, December 21st we had over 40 kids and their parents participate in our Winter Hot Wheels Races. There will be other chances to participate in racing on Monday, March 29th and Wednesday, April 20th.

Golf Course Services Manager Denny Dinan discussed rounds for golf and footgolf in December. He also reported on events and outings scheduled for the month.

Golf Rounds December 2015	= 235 (+113 rounds from December 2014)
FootGolf Rounds December 2015	= 0 (0 rounds in December 2014)
Total Rounds December 2015	= 235 (+113 rounds from December 2014)

Golf Rounds Fiscal Year 15/16 thru December	= 2,123 (+169 golf rounds from fiscal 14/15)
FootGolf Rounds Fiscal Year 15/16 thru December	= 104 (+104 footgolf rounds from fiscal 14/15)
Total Rounds Fiscal Year 15/16 thru December	= 2,227 (+273 total rounds from fiscal 14/15)

There was good stretch of weather from December 4th through December 12th that allowed us to have our second best December in 15 years as temperatures were between 51 and 61 degrees. After that, the temperature dropped and the cold and snow took over for the rest of the month.

La Vista Falls offered discounted Holiday Golf packages again this year. 11 packages were sold, which brought in over \$650. In comparison, only 3 packages were sold last year. In addition to these packages this year, over \$225 worth of gift certificates were sold during the holidays.

The Club House was rented out on December 26th for a Christmas party which brought in over \$250. Currently, the clubhouse is reserved for a birthday party on Jan 16th and a graduation party on Saturday, May 14th.

B. COMMEMORATIVE TREE PLAN

Public Works City Engineer John Kottmann presented the Commemorative Tree Program to the Advisory Board. The board members asked how you register and where will the trees will be planted. Staff explained that the registration application would be available on-line and at city facilities. The trees would be planted in City Parks or Trail System with the approval of the Parks Superintendent.

Member Juarez made the motion to accept and forward the Commemorative Tree Program to the City Council for approval. Seconded by Member Johnson. All aye.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Member Juarez commented that he attended the Tree Lighting festivities and said he thought everyone did a great job and he was really impressed.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

Member Kupfer motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Member Johnson. All ayes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:40 p.m.