

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
March 16, 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 March 16, 2016. Present was Director Scott Stopak, Assistant 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 Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer, Greg Johnson, Joe Juarez and Gene Svensen.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on March 9, 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

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 from the February 17, 2016 meeting and the program information. Motion made by Member Juarez. Seconded by Member Kupfer. Motion carried.

2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Director Stopak introduced and welcomed the newest member of the Advisory Board, Gene Svensen. Gene said he is a 14 year La Vista resident, married with 2 grown children, and retired as a civilian employee from Offutt Air Force Base.

Asst. Director Karlson reported that Preschool Playtime met 8 times in February and had an average of 20 kids and 15 adult attending each session. Preschool Playtime also hosted a Papillion-La Vista School Head Start Program day that saw 30 kids and 27 adults attend.

Preschool Story Time and Sing-a-long met the first Thursday in February, and had 18 kids and 12 adults attend. Ms. Jennifer, from the La Vista Library added a song and movement component to Story Time.

Preschool Playtime Valentine Craft & Cookie Decorating Day had a great turn-out, with 24 preschoolers and 15 adults participating. For the craft this year, the children made several Valentine cards to give to their friends and family, along with decorating and eating Valentine cookies.

Discover Play Games of the World Part I had 17 kindergarten through -4th graders, 3 teens, 9 preschoolers and 8 adults. The children learned about different cultures by playing "active" games from various countries. The games included *Odd Man Out* from Ireland, *Dragons Tail* form China, *Hull I Hatten* from Holland, *British Bulldogs* from Great Britain and *Bees and Butterfly* from France.

Discover Play Games of the World Part II had 23 kindergarten through 4th graders and 11 adults participate. This time they learned about various cultures from around the world by playing board games from different countries. Some of the games available were *Draughts from Great Britain* (checkers), *Two Stones* from China, *Generala* from Latin America (similar to *Yahtzee* and *Escargot* (snail) or *Marelle Ronde* “*French Hopscotch*”

On Wednesday, February 10th, I did an outreach program at the library called Airplane Challenge. It was a variation of the very successful Discover Planes program I did last summer at the Community Center. There were 16 kids and 10 adults attending.

On Friday, February 19th I did a collaborative program at the Library called Imagination Station for preschool-age kids and their parents. There were 13 different stations where kids could use their imagination playing and creating different craft projects that they could take home. We had 47 preschoolers and 27 adults attend!

Our newest program, Tween Adventure Series hosted its first adventure on Wednesday, February 17th with 7 boys and 3 girls. The tweens (which are kids approximately 9-12 years old) learned about the science and fun of playing with catapults. The science included learning about stored kinetic energy and the differences between, tension, torsion and elasticity, and the use of a protractor to help determine their projectiles trajectory. The kids had a great time catapulting cotton balls, and couldn't believe how far they would go!

Karlson also told the Advisory Board about the new “Teen Hangout” at the Community Center. It is a corner of the game room with rugs, pillows and charging station for their electronics. The teens are able to check out charging cords for their phones or tablets, and hang out in the game room to play games, talk to friends etc. So far, it has been very popular!

Program Coordinator South reported on adult and youth sports programs.

Women's Volleyball is in its 11th week of a 12 week season. Their season will end on March 23.

Adult Softball The registration deadline is Saturday, March 19th or until leagues are full. We have already filled some of the leagues, and the others are close to being full. The season will tentatively begin on April 10th.

The Youth Basketball League is currently in tournament play, and the season will end on March 13th.

3 Year Old Soccer Clinic registration deadline was March 28th, however, the league filled up early. We will have five, one-hour sessions held on Saturday mornings beginning on April 2nd and ending on April 30th.

La Vista 4/5 Youth Soccer Academy & 6/7 Youth Soccer League registration is currently open with a registration deadline of March 19th. The season will begin on April 5th and end on May 7th with sessions taking place on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Spring Flag Football League registration is currently open with a registration deadline of March 19th. The season will tentatively begin with practices the week of April 4th, and games will start on April 16th.

Youth Baseball for ages 7–12 will begin their season in April. We will take registrations through March 12th and begin forming teams the following week. We will have 7 teams this year.

Youth Softball registration for ages 7–18 is open until March 26th. All of our youth softball teams will play in the Rainbow Softball League again this season.

Youth Coed T-Ball registration is currently open with a deadline of May 14th. This will once again be an in-house league for boys and girls ages 5 & 6. They will begin practicing in late May and start games in June.

This year, La Vista Recreation has teamed up with Sarpy County Tourism to host our first ever *Pitch, Hit & Run* competition on Saturday, April 16th at 2:00 p.m. at the La Vista Sports Complex. Major League Baseball Pitch Hit & Run (PHR) is a free, exciting skills event that allows boys and girls ages 7-14 to compete separately against their peers. Boys and girls in four separate age divisions compete against each other in pitching, hitting and running in a fun and engaging forum. There are two separate divisions of PHR: baseball and softball. Participants may compete in either division. Registration is free and can be done online on the PHR website or in person the day of the event.

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

Monday, March 7th we had 25 seniors enjoy our White Elephant Bingo. Seniors brought in a prize worth \$10 or less from home.

Wednesday, March 9th Speaker Kathy Gast gave a brief talk about Life-Lines and Hospice.

Friday, March 11th Cari Hartford from Connect Hearing came to the Senior Center for hearing aid cleaning and testing for anyone who needed it. She also brought prizes and called Bingo that day.

On Tuesday this week (March 15th), we went to see the La Vista Jr. High Show Choir perform at their school.

This Friday, March 18th *Rockin' Woody* (Tom Strohmeyer), from Merry Makers will perform for the seniors. After graduating from Kearney State College in 1983, Tom took to the road with the band the "*Rockin' Hollywoods*". In 2013, Tom went solo and started performing as *Rockin' Woody*. In a typical show, Tom puts to work his multi-instrumental ability by playing piano, guitar, trumpet, sax, and harmonica. He has plenty of material to put on a great show, and the seniors are looking forward to it.

Friday, March 25th Methodist nurses will be at the center to do blood pressure checks and also give us a report on the Norovirus and diabetes. After lunch, we will have a Blackjack tournament.

Wednesday, March 30th, we will take the seniors to the movies.

Wednesday, April 13th John Worsham from Merry Makers will perform for the seniors. This is an adult contemporary collection of original music from one of the most versatile songwriters of our time. Worsham's work ranges from pop, rock, jazz, and country.

Wednesday, April 20th Volunteers Assisting Seniors (VAS) will have a presentation about the Homestead Act and a "question and answer" session following.

Recently, the City of La Vista purchased and received our new Special Services Bus. Carstensen included a picture of the new bus in the program information to show the Board.

Golf Course Services Manager Denny Dinan discussed rounds for golf, footgolf and other activities for the golf course.

Golf Rounds February 2016	= 219 (+217 rounds from February 2015)
FootGolf Rounds February 2016	= 0 (0 rounds in February 2015)
Total Rounds February 2016	= 219 (+217 rounds from February 2015)

Golf Rounds fiscal year 15/16 thru January	= 2,342 (-8 golf rounds from fiscal 14/15)
FootGolf Rounds fiscal year 15/16 thru January	= 104 (+104 footgolf rounds from fiscal 14/15)
Total Rounds fiscal year 15/16 thru January	= 2,446 (+96 total rounds from fiscal 14/15)

The course remained closed from February 1st through February 18th due to the weather and the course being snow covered. During the last 11 days of February, we had 219 rounds, which is the 3rd highest number of rounds in February for the past 16 years.

League registrations were emailed to last years' members and many of them have responded that they are coming back this year. Mailings to businesses, schools, soccer clubs, bars and taverns along with flyers and free round coupons will be mailed out in March.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Member Johnson asked why the revenue for the Recreation Department seemed to be down. Stopak explained that it had to do with billing cycles and payments, mostly for field rentals. Sometimes billing and payments are logged at different times than the previous year, so it may look like revenue is off, but it actually is not.

Member Kupfer asked about the carved tree at the front of City grounds. He said while it looked really nice during the holiday months, now it looks a little lonely out there by itself. Jeff Thornburg (Public Works Dept.) said that plans were being discussed to landscape the area this year.

Chairperson Lodes motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Member Juarez. All ayes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:25 p.m.