

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
August 17, 2022

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, August 17, 2022. Present was Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Youth & Adult Sports Services Manager Denny Dinan, , Events Manager Brian Allen, Parks Superintendent Jason Allen, Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Brenda Mechels-Stuby, and Jason Ryan. Absent was Member Jeff Kupfer, Senior Services Manager Kaily Stanley, and Administrative Assistant Sue Tangeman.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on August 10, 2022. 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 18, 2022 meeting. Motion made by Chairperson Lodes. Seconded by Member Mechels-Stuby. All aye. Motion carried.

#### 2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Director Stopak introduced the newest member of the Board, Jason Ryan. Jason is the principal of Papillion-La Vista High School, and was formerly the Athletic Director.

Stopak also discussed the pool closing early due to staffing shortages.

## **VIRTUAL RECREATION CENTER, SPECIAL EVENTS, AND PROGRAMS**

**Submitted by David Karlson, Assistant Recreation Director**

Karlson informed the Board that we lost three Recreation Attendants during the July/August period due to various reasons. So far, only one new attendant, Allison Schechinger, has been hired.

We also hired a new custodian for the Community Center. He is Norris Payton, who is replacing Ian Parker, who was offered an internship through college in South Dakota. Congratulations to Ian, and welcome to Allison and Norris!

We had a Hydrant Party on the City Hall/Community Center campus on Thursday, July 14 at 3:00 p.m. There was well over 100 people attended our annual event.

The Midwest Collectible Toy Show was held on Saturday, July 16, from 10-3 p.m. at the Community Center. It was jam-packed with collectibles showcased by a multitude of vendors from throughout Nebraska, Iowa, Kansas, and Missouri.

They featured an impressive lineup of 'New & Vintage' collectibles: Star Wars, Star Trek, LEGO, DC & Marvel superheroes, comic books, posters, action figures, sculptural art, model kits, vintage toys, books, board games, statues, Hot wheels, Matchbox, Corgi, scale diecast, GI Joe, Transformers, Ghostbusters, custom-made items, and artwork.

The Kid's Can Run program hosted a weeklong summer camp the last week in July from 2-4 p.m. Omaha Kids Can Run Club is a running and empowerment program for children of all fitness levels. They transform traditional running games and drills into powerful life lessons by teaching them how to unleash their growth mindset. Parents know their children they are getting a great workout AND building strength of character.

The City's Outdoor Concert and Movie Series finished strong with one of the largest crowds we have had since pre-Covid. The concert featured a great local country singer, Kaylyn Sahs, and the Movie *Encanto* drew in a large crowd.

The Recreation Dept. began offering Pickleball in the gym in August. There are special times for adults and families to enjoy the game that has become quite popular over the last few years. Except for special occasions, the current hours and fees through December are as follows:

### **Hours/fees for Indoor Pickleball**

August-December 2022

Courts may be reserved up to one week ahead. Days and times are subject to change. Due to special events, some dates and/or times may be unavailable.

#### **Fees:**

\$7/hour per court (Resident)

\$10/hour per court (Non-Resident)

FREE Seniors 55+ (Resident)

\$2/hour per court Seniors 55+ (Non-Resident)

**Schedule (M-F only the east gym is available):**

**Monday**

Adults Only 9-11 a.m.  
Adults Only 1-5 p.m.  
(Not on Sept. 5, Oct. 10, Oct. 31 or Nov. 28)

**Tuesday**

Adults Only 1-5 p.m. (Not on Oct. 18 or Nov. 8)

**Wednesday**

Adults Only 9-11 a.m.  
Adults Only 2-5 p.m. (Not on Oct. 19)

**Thursday**

Adults Only 1-5 p.m. (Not on Nov. 24)

**Friday**

Adults Only 9-11 a.m.  
Adults Only 2-5 p.m.  
(Not on Nov. 25)

**Saturday**

Adults/Family 1-4 p.m. (through Sep. 10)  
Adults/Family 1-6 p.m. (Sept. 10-Dec. 31)  
(Not on Sept. 24, Nov. 5, Dec. 24 or Dec. 31)

**Sunday**

Adults/Family 1-6 p.m. (Beginning Sep. 11) (No Dec 25)

**Belly Dance** classes have returned to the Community Center in August. The new instructor Danielle Stone, has Beginner's and Advanced classes. She had 15 students in her first class.

**YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS**

**Submitted by Denny Dinan, Youth and Adult Sports Manager**

**Pre-School Playtime:**

July totals: Adults = 62 Children = 82 Total=145 Average = 18  
Starting in September and on every second Thursday of the month, a staff member from the library will be conducting a craft, story time, other activity for the kids during the 1<sup>st</sup> hour of pre-school playtime.

**Adult Programs:**

**Adult Volleyball:** Women's Fall registration has begun, and the season will start on September 22.

**Adult Softball:** Due to a late start, the softball season will finish up on September 16.

**Senior Softball:** Mon/Wed PM Spring seasons finished up July 25. Fall season began August 8. Tue/Fri AM season runs until September 16

**Youth Sports:**

**Coed T-ball:** Season finished up on July 16.

**Baseball:** Season finished up on July 2.

**Girls Softball:** League finished up on July 9.

**Flag Football:** Games will start August 13. We have 12 teams with 107 players. K-2 = 5 teams; 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> = 2 teams; 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> = 2 teams. (2021 fall =123 players/13 teams)

**Soccer:**

Soccer clinic, Soccer Academy and league registration is still open and will start after Labor Day.

PLV High School is using fields at City Park for practices and games through September.

Adult baseball leagues are using the Sports Complex baseball field through October.

The soccer complex will be hosting the 2022 JOGA Pro Soccer showcase in partnership with Omaha International Soccer, on Aug. 18-20. JOGA has been conducting showcases since 2010 and has over 60 players (men and women) that have earned trials to professional soccer clubs and over 20 players signed to pro and youth academy teams in Europe. They look for the “overlooked and undiscovered” talent in US Soccer who are looking to get a legitimate shot in Europe.

**SENIOR SERVICES**

**Submitted by Kaily Stanley, Senior Services Manager**

In July, a total of 1,407 seniors participated in Senior Center programs.

- 159 Lunches were served in April
- 1,248 Seniors participated in various recreational activities

Special programs included:

- Outings to Shirley’s Diner, Twin Creek Cinema & Longhorn Steakhouse.
- Movies “Yankee Doodle Dandy” and “50 First Dates”
- Music by Merrymaker John Worsham
- Seniors played Bingo, Happy Birthday Jingo, pitch, Uno, blackjack, kings in the corner, poker and Hand and Foot.
- Other Notable activities were Crafts with Bob and Cheryl, The Farmer’s Market Coupon Distribution Day and manicures.

Other notable activities were Crafts with Bob and Cheryl, Show and Tell, Senior Billiards tournament and the Sarpy County Wellness and Nail Care Clinic.

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

Submitted by Brian Allen, Events Coordinator

### Summer '22 Programming Highlights

**Dinosaur Day:** Thursday, June 16 at 10:30am at Community Center and at 2:00pm at La Vista Public Library. All things dinosaurs and fun! Estimated 100-participants total.

**Yappy Hour:** Thursday, June 23 at 7:00pm at the Dog Park at Southwind Park. Free giveaways for dogs and smoothies for adults and kids. An estimated 125-people attended.

**Outdoor Music & Movies:** Friday, June 24 at 7:00pm at Central Park with Rex Granite Band featuring Sarah Benck and the movie *Despicable Me* (movie was rained out). An estimated 65-people attended (live music only).

**Outdoor Music & Movies:** Friday, July 8 at 7:00pm at Central Park with Ground Zero and the movie *Jungle Cruise*. An estimated 100-people attended.

**Splash Bash:** Sunday, July 10 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM at La Vista Swimming Pool; Free; Family friendly party with a live DJ, prizes, and free food (served by the Mayor and members of City Council). The max pool capacity was reached.

**Thirsty Tuesday Trivia Night:** Tuesdays June 14, July 12, and August 9 at 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM at Kros Strain Brewing; Free; ages 21+; Pub Trivia for teams up to 4 with prizes. Attendance ranged from 6-teams to 12-teams throughout the summer.

**Hydrant Party:** Thursday, July 14 3:00 PM at City Hall Campus; Free; Cool off with water from the hydrant. An estimated 125-people attended.

**Outdoor Music & Movies:** Friday, July 29 at 7:00pm at Central Park with Kaylyn Sahs and the movie *Encanto*. An estimated 250-people attended.

### Fall '22 Programming – Upcoming Events

**Pancakes in the Park:** Saturdays from 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM on September 10 (Ardmore Park), October 1 (Central Park), October 8 (Southwind Park), and October 15 (Val Verde Park). Stack your morning with good eats and great conversations! Join the Mayor, City Council, and City staff to learn more about special projects and upcoming initiatives. Featuring The Pancake Man.

**Howl-O-Ween:** Thursday, October 20 from 4:30 PM – 6:30 PM at La Vista Dog Park. Dress your dog in a Halloween costume and snap a pic of your furry friend at our Fall themed backdrop. Stop by the city booth to enjoy a locally baked treat from Long Dog Fat Cat and giveaways for your dog. Treat yourself too with a free hot beverage from Jo-on-the-Go!

## **PUBLIC WORKS PARKS DEPT.**

**Submitted by Jason Allen, Parks Superintendent**

### **Jaycee Park update:**

Project Slam Dunk Jaycee Park basketball court upgrade by Thrasher Group. The completion was scheduled for August 17<sup>th</sup> and Jason explained the donation from Mulhall's and the planting they did.

### **Central Park update:**

The Board was briefed on the new playground, shelter and restroom that will be going into Central Park. The Board will be involved in the planning of the park and playground as more information becomes available.

### **Park Signage update:**

The Board was shown a picture of the park signage and updated that construction will start soon. Some should be installed by the end of October.

### **Thompson Creek update:**

The project has been completed.

### **Applewood Creek Trail update:**

The Board was provided the timeline of the trail project. The first phase was to close the east bound lanes of Giles so they can complete the South half of the underpass.

### **The Link/pond update:**

The pond is low and this is why we have not been irrigating. Also, Allen gave a quick update on where we were with the Link building construction.

### **Mini Park Plans Update:**

We discussed updating the Mini Park Plans. Discussion was on doing a couple parks at a time, and they will be involved in that planning process. The Board was told that staff had recommended Ardmore and Camenzind to start with and the Board agreed. We will discuss at future meeting on some of their ideas and thoughts.

### **Commemorative Tree Program:**

The Board was updated on the number of trees we need to plant this fall. Also discussed the interactive map that we are creating for the public to use. Allen also mentioned that we sent everyone that has purchased a tree a post card thanking them for their participation.

## COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

## COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Lodes made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Member Mechels-Stuby. All ayes. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 6:45p.m.