

City of LaVista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
August 15, 2007

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of LaVista convened in open and public session at 7:02 p.m. on August 15, 2007. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, John Vendetti, Greg Johnson, George Forst. Absent: Randy Cahill, Chris Kuehner.

A notice of the meeting was given advance thereof by publication in the Times on August 9, 2007. Simultaneously given to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice is 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.

A. CALL TO ORDER

Recreation Director Stopak called the meeting to order.

Seconded by Committee Member Johnson. Motion carried.

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.

B. CONSENT AGENDA

Committee Member Johnson made the motion to approve the consent agenda.
Seconded by Committee Member Vendetti. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM STAFF

Assistant Recreation Director David Karlson reported that youth fall soccer has over 200 participants, which is the largest registration for soccer ever. Flag Football has 61 youth registered, Cheerleading has 31 to date. Tackle Football has 42 in the 9/10 age division, while 11/12 division has 34 registered. Registration for tackle football is on-going.

Program Director Rich Carstensen reported that Preschool Playtime will begin again on September 4, 2007. The program will be on Tuesday and Thursday at 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and run throughout the school year. The Recreation Dept. provides soft toys, bikes, mats and an inflatable bouncer for small children to play with. Also, a reminder on the Midwest Winds Kite Fliers Kite Fly on October 14, 2007 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the La Vista Soccer Complex.

Director Scott Stopak reported that the soccer fields were opening on Saturday, August 18 for practices and games. This year, all 12 fields will be in use due to the high demand for fields.

Director Stopak reported that the La Vista Falls golf course had 1,158 more rounds of golf in July this year than July 2006.

The new Special Services Van is now on the road as of Monday, August 13. The van seats 12 passengers. Beginning October 1, 2007, The City of La Vista will be taking over the maintenance, admin work, etc. for the vans from the City of Ralston; however, it will still be a joint program between the two cities. La Vista Recreation will oversee the administrative duties, while La Vista Public Works will take care of the maintenance duties of the vehicles. There will not be any changes other than the location the vehicles are stored and telephone calls will be directed to La Vista Recreation Dept.

Since school has begun, the La Vista Swimming Pool has closed Monday through Thursday's, and are open Friday's 4-8 p.m., Saturday's and Sunday's from 1-8 p.m. The pool will also be open Monday, September 3 for Labor Day 1-8 p.m. It will then officially close for the year.

Director Stopak gave an update on the proposed aquatic facility. In the 07/08 FY budget a City wide survey was proposed and tentatively approved. Upon final adoption of the 07/08 Budget it is anticipated that the survey will be completed in the fall. After tabulating the surveys, the Park & Recreation Advisory Committee would then make a recommendation to the City Council on the next step to be taken with the proposed aquatic facility.

The new position of Program Coordinator has been advertised, and we are anticipating a start date in October. The position will be in charge of youth and adult sports, athletic field rentals, supervising evening/weekend shifts, and other office duties as needed. David Karlson will shift his attention toward special events and new programming.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Resident Donna Kozak stated she liked the idea of a survey, but would the City consider putting in a choice of a pool 2 ½ - 3 times the current pool and the aquatic park concept already being looked at? A newer pool is needed, but the citizens need a choice. Also stated that the public needs full disclosure on exactly how much a new pool would cost and for how long. Ms. Kozak also wondered about the exit proposed on 84th street. Wanted to know where it was going to be and why we need another exit on 84th Street.

Council Member Johnson stated that the intersection would be 84th & Summer Drive, which is already there, along with the lights and signals. A new intersection would not be needed.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Committee Member Johnson commented on the child who was burned on a metal slide in Bellevue. Wanted to know what the City's liability is.

Council Member Vendetti commented on the wood chips on playgrounds that have started on fire in the summer heat.

Director Stopak said he would check on liability. Also, the City is gradually changing over to rubber safety surfacing instead of wood chips.

Council Member Johnson wondered how the Cimarron Woods Park is coming along. Thought the equipment and paths were looking good.

Director Stopak said he would check the status of the park.

ADJOURNMENT

Recreation Director Stopak made the motion to adjourn. Seconded by Committee Member Vendetti. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:36 p.m.