DIRECTORS' ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
Monday, November 8th, 2021
555 S 10th Street
LUXFORD STUDIOS

I. MINUTES
   1. Approval of Directors' Minutes from November 1st, 2021

II. ADJUSTMENTS TO AGENDA

III. CITY CLERK

IV. MAYOR'S OFFICE

V. DIRECTORS CORRESPONDENCE
   1. BP211027-1 Urban Design Committee, Geri Rorabaugh
   2. BPC211028-1 PC Final Action Notice, Geri Rorabaugh
   3. BPC211028-2 PC Action, Geri Rorabaugh
   4. BP211002-1 Weekly Admin Approvals, Geri Rorabaugh

VI. BOARDS/COMMITTEE/COMMISSION REPORTS

VII. CONSTITUENT CORRESPONDENCE
   1. Zoning Change item for Nov 1, Sandra Johnson
   2. My testimony on agenda item “Ally Paving District for the alley…”, Barb Morley
   3. Group Therapy Bike issues, Tom Ross
   4. Idiots At Traffic ‘Engineering’, James Bunch
   5. The Things They Carry Ruck March, Tyler Kuthe
   6. Discrimination at Lincoln Sports Foundation, Gunther E Donoso

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
URBAN DESIGN COMMITTEE

The City of Lincoln Urban Design Committee will have a regularly scheduled public meeting on Tuesday, November 2, 2021, at 3:00 p.m. in City Council Chambers on the 1st floor, County-City Building, 555 S. 10th Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, to consider the following agenda. For more information, contact the Planning Department at (402) 441-7491.

AGENDA

1. Approval of UDC meeting record of September 7, 2021.
   * Memo from Stacey Hageman

DISCUSS AND ADVISE
2. Haymarket South streetscape, 6th to 7th under Rosa Parks Way – UDR21089

STAFF REPORT & MISC.
3. Staff report & misc.; Enersen Urban Design Award

Urban Design Committee’s agendas may be accessed on the Internet at
https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/City/Departments/Planning-Department/Boards-and-Commissions/Urban-Design-Committee

ACCOMMODATION NOTICE
The City of Lincoln complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 guidelines. Ensuring the public’s access to and participating in public meetings is a priority for the City of Lincoln. In the event you are in need of a reasonable accommodation in order to attend or participate in a public meeting conducted by the City of Lincoln, please contact the Director of Equity and Diversity, Lincoln Commission on Human Rights, at 402 441-7624 as soon as possible before the scheduled meeting date in order to make your request.
PLANNING COMMISSION FINAL ACTION
NOTIFICATION

TO: Mayor Leirion Gaylor Baird
    Lincoln City Council

FROM: Geri Rorabaugh, Planning

DATE: October 28, 2021

RE: Notice of final action by Planning Commission: October 27, 2021

Please be advised that on October 27, 2021, the Lincoln City-Lancaster County Planning Commission adopted the following resolutions:

Resolution PC-01780, approving SPECIAL PERMIT 19021A, to expand the existing Rokeby Ridge CUP (Community Unit Plan) by approximately 31.46 acres, with a waiver to maximum height, on property legally described as Lot 1 and the remaining portion of Lot 2, Marquardt Addition, located in the SW 1/4 of Section 26-9-7, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located at 84th Street and Rokeby Road;

Resolution PC-01781, approving SPECIAL PERMIT 531H, amending the Wilderness View Townhomes CUP (Community Unit Plan) to allow for the addition of 17.88 acres and 44 single-family attached dwelling units, with waivers to permit more than 40 units on a permanent dead-end, waive the requirement to provide vehicle turnarounds, and allow a non-standard cul-de-sac, on property legally described as Lot 29, I.T., located in the SE 1/4 of Section 14-9-6 and Lot 48, I.T., located in the SW 1/4 of Section 14-9-6, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located at Maple View and Carlton Drives; and

Resolution PC-01783, approving SPECIAL PERMIT 19036A, to allow for the construction of a large Solar Energy Conversion System, on property legally described as Lot 36, I.T., in Section 8-10-8; Lot 6, I.T., and Lot 14, I.T., and NW1/4SE1/4, and that portion of Lot 13, I.T., lying within the City of Lincoln Extra Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ), all located in Section 9-10-8; Lot 13, I.T., Lot 14, I.T., and that portion of E1/2SW1/4 lying within Lincoln's ETJ all located in Section 10-10-8; Lot 1, I.T., Lot 2, I.T., and that portion of Lot 6, I.T., Lot 7, I.T., and the SE1/4NW1/4 lying within Lincoln's ETJ all located within Section 15-10-8; Lots 3, 16, 24 and 25, all I.T.'s, all located within Section 16-10-8; Lots 22, 23, 40 and 46, all I.T.'s, and Outlot A Stevens Creek Pointe First Addition, and Outlot B Stevens Creek Ridge 4th Addition, all located in Section 21-10-8, Lincoln, Lancaster County, Nebraska, generally located from 134th to 180th Streets and from Holdrege Street to Havelock Avenue. A map of the area under consideration is available for review in the Planning Department Office located at 555 So. 10th Street.

The Planning Commission action on these applications is final, unless appealed to the City Council by filing a notice of appeal with the Planning Department within 14 days of the action by the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission Resolutions may be accessed on the internet at www.lincoln.ne.gov (search for "PATS"). Click on "Planning Application Tracking Service (PATS)" at the top of the page, click "Selection Screen" under "PATS Tools" on the right side of the screen, type in the application number (i.e. SP19021A, SP531H, SP19036A), click on "Search", then "Select", and go to "Related Documents".

F:\devreview\final action notices\cc\2021\102721
**ACTION BY PLANNING COMMISSION**

NOTICE: The Lincoln/Lancaster County Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, October 27, 2021, at 1:00 p.m. in Hearing Room 112 on the first floor of the County-City Building, 555 S. 10th St., Lincoln, Nebraska. For more information, call the Planning Department, (402) 441-7491.

Masks are strongly encouraged for our public meetings in this building.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Planning Commission action is final action on any item with a notation of *FINAL ACTION*. Any aggrieved person may appeal Final Action of the Planning Commission to the City Council or County Board by filing a Notice of Appeal with the City Clerk or County Clerk within 14 days following the action of the Planning Commission.

The Planning Commission action on all other items is a recommendation to the City Council or County Board.

The Planning Commission will be allowing testimony on agenda items by videoconferencing. For those who wish to testify by video, you must register with the Planning Department Office to participate by calling 402-441-7491 or emailing Plan@lincoln.ne.gov by 10:00 a.m. the day of the meeting. You will be asked to provide your name, address, phone number and the agenda item(s) you wish to speak on, and your position on this item. On the day of the hearing, you will receive a link via email, which will be needed to join the hearing to provide your testimony.

AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2021

[Commissioner Corr absent; Commissioner Scheer exited at 2:30 p.m.; Commissioner Ball existed at 5:30 p.m.]

Approval of minutes of the regular meeting held October 13, 2021. **APPROVED: 8-0; (Corr absent)**

1. **CONSENT AGENDA:**
   (Public Hearing and Administrative Action):

   **ANNEXATION AND RELATED ITEMS:**

   1.1a ANNEXATION 21007, to annex approximately 31.46 acres, more or less, on property generally located at 84th Street and Rokeby Road.
   Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
   Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: **CONDITIONAL APPROVAL: 8-0** (Corr absent), as set forth in the staff report dated October 13, 2021. Public hearing before the City Council is currently pending.

1.1b CHANGE OF ZONE 21043, from AG (Agricultural District) to R-5 (Residential District), on property generally located at 84th Street and Rokeby Road.
Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: **CONDITIONAL APPROVAL: 8-0** (Corr absent), as set forth in the staff report dated October 13, 2021. Public hearing before the City Council is currently pending.

1.1c SPECIAL PERMIT 19021A, to expand the existing Rokeby Ridge CUP (Community Unit Plan) by approximately 31.46 acres, with a waiver to maximum height, on property generally located at 84th Street and Rokeby Road. ***FINAL ACTION***
Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: Brian Will, 402-441-6362, bwill@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission ‘final action’: **CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated October 13, 2021: 8-0 (Corr absent). Resolution No. PC-01780.**

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONFORMANCE:**

1.2 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONFORMANCE 21022, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Comprehensive Plan, a request to declare a portion of the Pershing Block as surplus, including approximately the north 100 feet and east 80 feet of Block 63, Original Plat, generally bounded by Centennial Mall, 16th Street, and M and N Streets.
Staff recommendation: In Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
Staff Planner: Andrew Thierolf, 402-441-6371, athierolf@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: **FINDING OF CONFORMANCE: 8-0 (Corr absent). Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.**

1.3 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONFORMANCE 21023, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the West O Redevelopment Plan, to add the "Instinct Redevelopment Project Center of Excellence (formally known as Nature’s Variety)", for phase II of the original Nature's Variety Redevelopment Project, on property generally located at 309 SW 32nd Street.
Staff recommendation: In Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan
Staff Planner: George Wesselhoft, 402-441-6366, gwesselhoft@lincoln.ne.gov
This item was removed from the Consent Agenda for a separate public hearing. Planning Commission recommendation: **FINDING OF CONFORMANCE: 8-0 (Corr absent). Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.**
1.4 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CONFORMANCE 21024, to review as to conformance with the 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster Comprehensive Plan, a proposed amendment to the Antelope Valley Redevelopment Plan, to add the "Antelope Square Apartments Redevelopment Project", a residential housing development on a full city block, on property generally located north of P Street between 22nd and 23rd Streets.

**Staff recommendation:** In Conformance with the Comprehensive Plan

**Staff Planner:** Stephanie Rouse, 402-441-6373, srouse@lincoln.ne.gov

**Planning Commission recommendation:** FINDING OF CONFORMANCE: 8-0 (Corr absent). Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021, at 5:30 p.m.

**SPECIAL PERMITS:**

1.5 SPECIAL PERMIT 531H, amending the Wilderness View Townhomes CUP (Community Unit Plan) to allow for the addition of 17.88 acres and 44 single-family attached dwelling units, with waivers to permit more than 40 units on a permanent dead end, waive the requirement to provide vehicle turnarounds, and allow a nonstandard cul-de-sac, on generally located at Maple View and Carlton Drives.

**FINAL ACTION***

**Staff recommendation:** Conditional Approval

**Staff Planner:** Rachel Christopher, 402-441-7603, rchristopher@lincoln.ne.gov

**Planning Commission 'final action':** CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated October 18, 2021: 8-0 (Corr absent). Resolution No. PC-01781.

1.6 SPECIAL PERMIT 21045, to allow for an ADU (Accessory Dwelling Unit), on property generally located at 7005 South 162nd Street.

**FINAL ACTION***

**Staff recommendation:** Conditional Approval

**Staff Planner:** Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tcajka@lincoln.ne.gov

**Planning Commission 'final action':** CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as set forth in the staff report dated October 11, 2021: 8-0 (Corr absent). Resolution No. PC-01782.

2. **REQUESTS FOR DEFERRAL:** None.

3. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA:** See Item 1.3.
4. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION ONLY:

CHANGE OF ZONE:

4.1 CHANGE OF ZONE 21037, from R-2 (Residential District) and R-4 (Residential District) to an R-2 and R-4 PUD (Planned Unit Development), with associated waivers, on property generally located at 4720 Randolph Street.

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval
Staff Planner: George Wesselhoft, 402-441-6366, gwesselhoft@lincoln.ne.gov
Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

5. PUBLIC HEARING AND ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION:

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT:

5.1 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENT 21002, for the adoption of PlanForward 2050, the Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan.

Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Andrew Thierolf, 402-441-6371, athierolf@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 8-0 (Corr absent).
Public hearing before the City Council is tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 22, 2021, 5:30 p.m.

MISCELLANEOUS:

5.2 MISCELLANEOUS 21011, for the adoption of the Lincoln (MPO) Metropolitan Planning Organization 2050 (LRTP) Long Range Transportation Plan.

Staff recommendation: Approval
Staff Planner: Allan Zafft, 402-441-6369, azafft@lincoln.ne.gov
Planning Commission recommendation: APPROVAL: 8-0 (Corr absent).
This Plan will be reviewed by the MPO Technical Committee on November 19, 2021, and is scheduled before the MPO Officials Committee on December 15, 2021.

SPECIAL PERMITS:

(*** 2:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: ****)
5.3 SPECIAL PERMIT 19036A, to allow for the construction of a large Solar Energy Conversion System, on property generally located from ½ mile west of 134th to east of 148th Streets and from O Street to Havelock Avenue. A map of the area under consideration is available for review in the Planning Department Office located at 555 So. 10th Street. ***FINAL ACTION***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval

Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tajka@lincoln.ne.gov


(*** 4:30 P.M. PUBLIC HEARING ITEM: ***)

5.4 SPECIAL PERMIT 21042, to allow for the construction of a large Solar Energy Conversion System, in compliance with Section 13.051 of the Lancaster County Zoning Regulations, on property generally located from west of 148th to 190th Streets and from Holdrege Street to north of Havelock Avenue. A map of the area under consideration is available for review in the Planning Department Office located at 555 So. 10th Street. ***FINAL ACTION***

Staff recommendation: Conditional Approval

Staff Planner: Tom Cajka, 402-441-5662, tajka@lincoln.ne.gov

Planning Commission ‘final action’: CONDITIONAL APPROVAL, as amended by the Planning Commission: 4-2 (Cruz and Rodenburg dissenting: Corr, Ball and Scheer absent). The motion failed due to not receiving the necessary five affirmative votes. The Planning Commission will take action on this application at the November 17, 2021, hearing. The public hearing on this application was closed.

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AT THIS TIME, ANYONE WISHING TO SPEAK ON AN ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA, MAY DO SO.

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Adjournment 9:05 p.m.
Memorandum

Date:  November 2, 2021

To:  City Clerk

From:  Rhonda Haas, Planning Dept.

Re:  Administrative Approvals

cc:  Geri Rorabaugh, Planning Dept.

This is a list of City administrative approvals by the Planning Director from October 26, 2021 through November 2, 2021:

Administrative Approval 21052, to Use Permit 140G, Appian Way Regional Shopping Center, approved by the Planning Director on October 28, 2021, to modify Walmart to include a Market Fulfillment Center in place of the garden center, reducing the overall floor for the store to 198,532 with 1,018 parking stalls provided, on property generally located at South 84th Street and Highway 2.
I respectfully ask the council to reject a zoning change for the mostly market-rate apartment building to be built in the Malone Hawley neighborhood. This proposed project does next to nothing to advance the goal of providing the badly needed "affordable" housing situation in Lincoln. In fact, it is a slap in the face to the 50/50 affordable projects built by NeighborWorks.

I add Joe Shaw's opposition reasons regarding parking, traffic, and safety.

Sincerely,
Sandra Johnson

from Joe Shaw:
The City Council will hear a proposed zoning change this Monday, Nov. 1. There is a mostly market-rate apartment building planned to be built in the Malone Hawley Neighborhood adjacent to Antelope Creek Park. There is a zoning change before the city that changes the density from 90 to 156 per 1000 ft and allows one parking space per unit parking. This will allow the developer to build a 156-unit development with only 15 affordable housing units. This will be built directly adjacent to two 50/50 affordable housing projects built by NeighborWorks. No one in our neighborhood will be able to afford to live in these apartments. Please join with our neighbors in opposing this project. The only hope we have is if our fellow citizens will join us. Send a message to: councilpacket@lincoln.ne.gov

1. We are urging the City Council to reject this zoning change or to delay approval in order to mitigate the drastic effects this project would have on our neighborhood.
2. This project will add traffic to an area that already has two one-way streets (P&Q) with vehicles traveling at unsafe excessive speeds, and two bus lines on 23rd St. We are already concerned about the speeds on the streets where our children play and as they walk or bike to Elliot School.
3. 1:1 parking requirements are clearly aspirational. The Planning Department would love for that to be realistic, but it defies common sense. At minimum, there will be two cars per unit in this project. Plus their guests' cars. This could add more than 200 cars to street parking. We already have full streets on game days and from UNL students parking and riding the bus to avoid parking fees at UNL. In addition, many of the units in Antelope Creek Village have only one car garages, Our cars and our visitors must park on the streets. Our street parking is already full. The Planning Department says people will use public transit in arguing for 1:1 parking requirements. How will they shop? Grocery stores are miles away from our food desert. They say people will bike to work. Great, but the people we know who bike to work also have cars, this isn't NYC or San Francisco with a lot of transit choices. Let's be realistic about the parking needs.
4. The Bicycle Master Plan's goals of having bike lanes on P and Q will require a 'lane diet' and we will most likely lose street parking on those streets. Why has that not been taken into consideration?
5. The residents directly surrounding this proposed project bought into 50/50 affordable housing developments because they care about their community, living in a diverse neighborhood and in a neighborhood where there has been 25 years of neighborhood building, affordable housing, and civic engagement sponsored by both the city and NeighborWorks Lincoln. We love that we know our neighbors by name and that we are all working together to make a difference in our community. Many of us had the expectation that this project would be a similar 50/50 affordable housing project. We find 15 units of affordable housing is not enough. There are very few people in the Malone/Hawley neighborhood that will be able to afford these apartments. A market rate, oversized, over-dense project is not compatible with the neighborhood and community that NeighborWorks and the city have spent millions to create and stabilize our neighborhood, and this project will definitely negatively impact all the good that has been done here. This project is an affront to our community.
6. We are not NIMBYs, everything is already in our backyard. We happily host several apartments for the developmentally disabled, several of the city's most busy social service agencies - Lutheran Family Services, a recently expanded Catholic Social Services, Hope Spoke, the Malone Center, CentrePointe, and numerous community gardens,
I sent this earlier asking for a confirmation that it had been received, but never got a response. Please see the attached
November 1, 2021

TO: City Council, City of Lincoln

FROM: Barbara Morley

This email is in reference to the agenda item “Alley Paving District for the alley from N33rd St to N34th St between W and X.

I am one of the property owners affected by this proposed “Paving District.” My husband and I own two adjacent lots at 3326 “W.” The house on one of the lots historic and we are working on restoring it. When we purchased it, it was in significant disrepair (more than we were every told). We intend to put any available money into further restoring it. The other lot is a side yard and backyard to the house.

I OPPOSE the creation of this District for the following reasons:

1. We do not utilize this alley. We have never utilized the alley and do not intend to utilize the alley. I do not foresee any future owner wanting to utilize the alley.
2. The house was not built with the purpose of entry from the alley; the land is not landscaped for it. The driveway entry is at the front on W. St, not the back through the alley. The property would require extensive re-arranging of the land to allow for it.
3. Our property is fenced with an expensive privacy fence that blocks us from the alley. There is a beautiful backyard with great potential.
4. A paved alley would increase through traffic from 33rd to 34th street, creating undesirable noise to otherwise quiet backyards.
5. The assessment to us would be greater than 17% of the estimated $93,000 cost, despite that it has no benefit to us.
6. The amount of the estimated assessment (over $16,000) is prohibitive. It would prevent us from further restoring the house by diverting our resources to a use of no benefit to us.
7. In my experience, estimates for construction are usually low, and it is likely the actual numbers would be higher.
8. The amount of the assessment would decrease the value of our property because it would be a lien against the property unless it were paid in full, and even then it would be a depreciated value because we would be forced to make an investment in the paving that would contribute nothing to the either the economic value or the aesthetic value of the house to the neighborhood.
9. I hope anyone in support of this is totally aware of the assessment. Many might be supportive if they assumed that a public project like paving is being paid for the city. Many are not financially able to pay the assessment.

Clearly, I see that a few would see an increase in the value of their property, because houses on X have recently been built with entry from the alley, but those of us who would lose value and get no value in return from the paving should not be assessed.
Hello,
My name is Tom Ross and I travel to Lincoln all the time. I work in heart valve cases at Bryan Lgh. The past several times I always have bike party's weaving in front of my car or people yelling /screaming. We have almost crashed several times into this large party bikes. I called the owner of group therapy bike tours on several occasions. He was rude and unprofessional. Please advise how bike party's are legal in the hay market? I would like to discuss this with anyone in charge. Thank you!

Tom Ross
CryoLife, Inc.
Cardiovascular Representative
Cell: 402.431.3312

On-X Heart Valves I Cardiac Tissue I PhotoFix Pericardium I Chord-X
BioGlue I Vascular Tissue I TMR I CarbonAid
Council Members,

I'm really getting tired of the Midwest passive-aggressive no-action answers that LTU provide for concerns about traffic issues reported on UPLNK. Here's the latest, another excuse for the fact that most of the hicks and hayseeds around here don't know how to drive and need to pull the corncob out of their rear ends before getting behind the wheel of an automobile. We'll save the conversation for how NOBODY here (except for myself and anyone else that has lived where traffic circles have been in use) signals their exit from roundabouts for next time. Here we go:

**Taxpayer concern:** Cornhusker Hwy. left-turn lane northbound onto State Fair Road receives a lengthy flashing yellow arrow. Cornhusker Hwy. left-turn lane to southbound State Fair Road goes from green arrow to red, absolutely no flashing yellow. There are numerous times that traffic in this turn lane are prevented from moving through the intersection after yielding when there is little or no eastbound traffic, often with no cars at all. Southbound traffic going to Taco John's, Subway, or on to Devaney and the University of Nebraska often gets backed up, especially when grain trucks or John Henry vans are lined up trying to make what is basically a U-turn.

**LTU lame response:** The westbound to southbound left-turn at State Fair Drive & Cornhusker is protected-only, meaning a green arrow and not a flashing yellow arrow, due to a history of crashes. This change was made several years ago to address safety issues. The eastbound to northbound left-turn does not have a historical safety issue, hence it has a flashing yellow arrow programmed throughout the day. The westbound left-turn is a heavy volume movement, so it is given as long a green as reasonable to accommodate the demand realizing there are seven other vehicle movements along with four pedestrian crossings here that also need green time. Also, the flashing yellow arrow is permitted here in evening and overnight hours since the crashes that used to occur were clustered in daytime hours.

Then they close the issue so commenting stops. Here's my response: I see a great deal of traffic turning across Cornhusker into Home Depot, Raising Cane's, and all the other businesses with that flashing yellow. So like my neighbor's silky terrier, that dog doesn't hunt.

Add this to the myriad of 'No Turn on Red' signs that we have at major intersections in Lincoln. Having spent four years in Europe during the frenzied last days of Communism, they remind me of the ubiquitous 'No Turn On Red' signs found all throughout the former Soviet puppet nations of Central and Eastern Europe.

I know nothing is going to change but I'm not going to stop being a PITA to the rocket scientists at LTU. How about putting Shane Dostal in charge, a voice of sanity in a sea of psychobabble. Mazel Tov...

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ThanxABunch, Jim
To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Student Veterans of America-University of Nebraska Lincoln Chapter. We are teaming up the University of Iowa Veterans Association to raise awareness for US Military and Veteran Suicide. We will be conducting a 325 mile ruck march from Kinnick Stadium in Iowa City, Iowa to Memorial Stadium in Lincoln, Nebraska for the November 26th Cornhusker vs. Hawkeye football game. Our Ruckers will be carrying 20 lbs to honor the 20 Veterans who take their own lives everyday.

The ruck march will begin on November 21st and end on November 26th. During that time we will be passing through your town. We are planning to have an average of ten people marching along with one to two safety vehicles with them. We wanted to inform you and your community of this event in case there are any inconveniences and also to get your community involved.

I have attached a flyer to this email with more information about the ruck march. If it is possible for you to share this flyer with your community it would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your time. If you have any questions regarding our organization and this event do not hesitate to contact me at kluthetyler3@gmail.com or at the number listed below.

If you would like to sign up or volunteer for the ruck please follow this link to a google survey for sign up.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfd6k-0Z0orSpOzXuY01P-KsTQIGUdwpYW3i0Jk-ap9_FjlQbw/viewform?usp=sf_link

If you would like to donate to help support the ruck please follow this link to our donation page.


Sincerely,

Tyler Kluthe
University of Nebraska—Lincoln
Treasurer, Student Veterans of America- UNL Chapter
kluthetyler3@gmail.com
402-480-4931
The Things They Carry Ruck March

The University of Nebraska- Lincoln Student Veterans and the University of Iowa Veterans Association are rucking from Kinnick Stadium to Memorial Stadium to raise awareness of Veteran and military member suicide.

The 325 mile ruck march will kick off on Wednesday November 17th, 2021. Team Iowa will hand off the game ball to Team Nebraska on November 21st at Freedom Rock in Menlo, Iowa. Nebraska will deliver the game ball to the November 26th Cornhusker vs. Hawkeye football game.

Rucking will be divided into shifts of roughly 20 miles each. Those rucking are asked to carry 20 lbs of personal belongings to honor the 20 Veterans who take their own lives everyday.

For more information on how to sign up, volunteer or donate:
Email: veterans@unl.edu
Facebook: The Things They Carry Ruck March
Good morning Mr. Lesoing,

Thank you for being so kind and allowing us to kick the ball around at the sports complex yesterday evening after the incident described below.

The purpose of this email is to document what I found to be discriminatory behavior by James Bovaird a.k.a. "Jim Bovaird" at Lincoln Sports Foundation.

The conversation with Mr. Bovaird.

It is unfortunate that Mr. Bovaird found it necessary to kick us out of Lincoln Sports Foundation yesterday. My wife, 2 kids, ages 10 and 8, and myself were kicking the ball around on Soccer Field 7 when Mr. Bovaird drove up, got off his car and from about 25 yards yelled "You can't be here, these fields are closed and this is private property". I found his approach aggressive and responded "why not?" "Is it because we are Mexican?". He responded "It's because of insurance". I asked "Insurance, Really?" and informed him that I had been there several times prior and had not been an issue. He stated "If one of you steps in a hole and twists their ankle, you are going to sue us" We than started to gather our belongings and I continued to find justification as to why, really, we were being out. I asked again, "why are we really being kicked out?" His response was "well, you called me a Racist". I then informed him that I was Active Duty Military serving in Lincoln and had insurance. He said "You can go talk to the guy in the backhoe, he is the President of the Board". Before getting in our car, I asked Mr. Bovaird "Are you proud of yourself? You just kicked a family out, does this make you happy?" He did not respond. The whole time he stood in the same spot, with his arms crossed and yelled all responses. He stood there until we got in our car and he followed us closely out of the soccer fields area. I then waved him next to me, asked his name, and advised him I would be filing a complaint.

Why I found this to be discriminatory.

There were other people using the facilities. Runners were running laps around the soccer fields on the concrete. If insurance was really a concern, these runners were in more danger than we were. They were running in the dark without reflective gear were cars drive. Also, they could easily step on a rock, cement groove, or weeds growing though cement gaps and twist their ankle as well. They were not asked to leave.

Mr. Lesoing's reaction.

A couple minutes after being escorted out by Mr. Bovaird, we returned to talk with you, Mr. Lesoing. We parked and waved you off the Backhoe. We briefly explained, we had been kicked off the field. While shaking your head in disappointment, you asked "who kicked you out, Jim?", I confirmed and in a professional, kind manner, you pointed to some other fields and said "You guys can go kick the ball there. Kick all you want, have fun". Thank you for that Sir.
The impact this caused on my kids.

As I stated in the conversation with Mr. Bovaird, I am active duty military, making us a military family. My military kids have to endure things most children don't have to. I was deployed to the Middle East in March of 2019, they saw their dad board a plane without guarantee they would ever see him again. They spent a full year without their dad by their side. In July of 2020 during the pandemic, they were uprooted from their home, school, and friends in California to come serve with their dad in Lincoln, NE. I am constantly having to leave for weeks, even months, at a time for training. Military kids have to build new relationships everywhere they go. These same kids had to sit there yesterday and listen to someone yell and run them out of the soccer field but all we were doing was playing soccer, more importantly, having family time. My youngest, 8 years old, was really sad with watery eyes and had many questions. He felt we had done something wrong and I had to sit an explain that we hadn't. Not sure how this experience will affect them. I guess only time will tell.

My opinion.

Mr. Bovaird needs to read, understand and employ your mission statement. The very first sentence reads "own and operate a sports complex that will be a service to the community". Unless he doesn't consider us part of his community. The second paragraph reads "our values of honesty, integrity, and commitment to excellence to be a premier sporting facility that provides opportunities for all youth and families in our community." Mr. Bovaird's actions do not reflect this statement.

Thank you for time.

Very respectfully,

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