

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room

Thursday, May 12, 2016 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Bradley Brandt	Roy Christensen	Jim Crook	Susan Deitchler
Peter Levitov	Olive Martin	Anne Pagel	Jeff Schwebke
Joe Tidball	Kathi Wieskamp		

Members Absent:

Justin Carlson	Todd Fitzgerald	Emily Graul	Larry Hudkins
Sherrie Nelson	Robert Ripley		

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary	Christie Dionisopoulos, Parks & Rec Foundation
Jocelyn Golden, City Attorney's Office	

Call to Order & Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act': As per law, Chairperson Anne Pagel announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, and called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Roll was called by Angela Chesnut.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Roy Christensen and seconded by Peter Levitov that the minutes of the April 14, 2016 meeting be approved as presented. ***The motion was approved by unanimous vote of members present.***

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

Kathi Wieskamp arrived at 4:05 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

• **Executive Committee – Anne Pagel (Chair) 570-9194**

* Lincoln Parks Foundation Report, Executive Director Christie Dionisopoulos:

- Disc golf group in Lincoln who volunteers and helps with the disc golf courses has submitted a grant to the Visitor Promotion Committee (VPC) for \$10,000. The total project cost for improvements to the Roper disc golf course is approximately \$21,000, with the VPC approving the grant request for \$10,000 and will soon be proposed to the Lancaster County Board.
- LPF and other supporters attended the recent City Council meeting regarding funding request for the Woods Park Tennis Center project. Christie discussed the partnership and history with Lincoln Parks Foundation and the Woods Park Tennis Center. The City Council delayed the decision for one week.
- Centennial Mall fountains are nearing completion with an event being planned for May 24th at 5:00 p.m., to turn on the fountains. (Note: this event was cancelled due to weather.)

* Anne Pagel provided information regarding guidelines for distribution from the Jonathan Cook Neighborhood Parks Grant fund (attached to official minutes on record). Recommendation from the Executive Committee is for fund requests not to exceed \$3,000 annually. Peter Levitov commented that discussion indicated concern that the fund not be exhausted quickly, and with a \$3,000 annual use the fund would last only four years. Following additional discussion, Lynn Johnson and JJ Yost indicated that the majority of neighborhood park projects rarely fall below \$15,000 to \$20,000, with JJ adding that simply replacing a slide section in a park is \$3,500 to \$5,000.

After further discussion and clarification, a motion was made by Peter Levitov and seconded by Roy Christensen to approve the Jonathan Cook Neighborhood Parks Grant fund guidelines with an amendment that annual funds not exceed \$1,500. **Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Peter Levitov; 'No': Bradley Brandt, Susan Deitchler, Olive Martin, Anne Pagel, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. Motion denied.**

Following additional brief discussion, a motion was made by Peter Levitov and seconded by Roy Christensen to approve the fund guidelines with an amendment that annual funds not exceed \$2,000. **Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Peter Levitov; 'No': Bradley Brandt, Susan Deitchler, Olive Martin, Anne Pagel, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. Motion denied.**

A third motion was then made by Susan Deitchler and seconded by Jim Crook to approve the guidelines for distribution from the Jonathan Cook Neighborhood Parks Grant fund as recommended by the Executive Committee with fund requests not to exceed \$3,000 annually. **Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Bradley Brandt, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Olive Martin, Anne Pagel, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. 'No': None. Motion carried.**

* Anne Pagel introduced the topic regarding a letter to the Mayor and City Council members from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board in support of the Woods Park Tennis Center renovation project (copy of letter attached to official minutes on record). Lynn Johnson gave an overview of the proposed recommendation that would go before the City Council following approval by the Lincoln Parks Foundation Board, with the Foundation still having additional \$200,000 in fundraising to complete, with the assistance of the Mayor. The City Council will be asked for a City contribution from KENO funds of \$975,000, adding to the Foundation's fundraising commitment of approximately \$4.6 million. The desire is to have the project begin this summer due to higher costs for winter construction and inflationary costs if postponed for a year. Following questions and short discussion, a motion was made by Peter Levitov and seconded by Kathi Wieskamp to approve the letter as presented to the Mayor and City Council in support of the Woods Park Tennis Center. **Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Bradley Brandt, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Olive Martin, Anne Pagel, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. 'No': None. Motion carried.**

- **Futures Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 261-6328**

* No report at this time.

* A brief conversation was held regarding changes to the Children's Zoo proposed renovations, which will be discussed further at the next Futures Committee meeting. The Futures Committee will meet on Wednesday, May 18th, at 4:30 p.m., rather than the regular Tuesday, May 17th timeframe.

Anne Pagel left at 4:40 p.m.

Brad Brandt presided over the remainder of the meeting.

- **Fees & Facilities Committee – Justin Carlson (Chair) 261-6328**

* No report at this time.

- **Golf Report – Brad Brandt (Chair) 473-9619**

* The April Golf report was reviewed by Board members with no questions or comments.

* Brad Brandt informed members that the Community Golf Committee held an open house which approximately 60 individuals attended, with information presented regarding the Community

Committee process. Lynn Johnson also provided an overview of the entire process that the Committee underwent from November, 2015 through May, 2016. (Copy of slide presentation attached to official minutes on record.) Lynn responded to various questions during the presentation.

* Brad discussed the recommendation regarding approval of the Severe Weather and Lightning Awareness and Notification Guidelines for Lincoln City Golf Courses (copy attached to official minutes on record), which have been reviewed and approved by the City Law Department and the City Risk Management Division, and also approved unanimously by the Lincoln Municipal Golf Advisory Committee. A motion was made by Susan Deitchler and seconded by Roy Christensen to approve the proposed Guidelines as written. **Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Bradley Brandt, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Olive Martin, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. 'No': None. Motion carried.**

STAFF REPORT:

Lynn Johnson brought forward the list of annual musical, performing arts, and visual arts events in Lincoln's parks which are proposed to be covered under the umbrella of Party in the Parks for 2016 (attached to official minutes on record). A motion was made by Roy Christensen and seconded by Jeff Schwebke to approve the events and activities for the 2016 Party in the Parks as presented.

Roll was called on the motion with members voting as follows: 'Yes': Bradley Brandt, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Olive Martin, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball, Kathi Wieskamp. 'No': None. Motion carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lynn reviewed the list of announcements as shown on the Board agenda, with observations and comments by Board members.

Meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.