

# MINUTES

## *Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting*

Parks and Recreation Conference Room

Thursday, September 8, 2016 ~ 4:00 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Bradley Brandt	Justin Carlson	Hannah Cass	Roy Christensen
Jim Crook	Susan Deitchler	Larry Hudkins	Peter Levitov
Justine Linscott	Sherrie Nelson	Anne Pagel	Jeff Schwebke

### **Members Absent:**

Todd Fitzgerald	Robert Ripley	Joe Tidball	Kathi Wieskamp
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### **Staff Members Present:**

Lynn Johnson, Director	JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director	Christie Dionisopoulos, Parks & Rec Foundation
Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary	

**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.

### **Introduction of New Student Members:**

Anne Pagel introduced the two new student members, Hanna Cass and Justine Linscott, and each were welcomed by Board members and staff present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Peter Levitov and seconded by Justin Carlson that the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting be approved as presented. **The motion was approved by unanimous vote of members present, with Hannah Cass and Justine Linscott abstaining.**

Sherrie Nelson arrived at 4:05 p.m.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:**

None.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

\* Lynn Johnson discussed the master plan that had been developed for Belmont Park with an emphasis for “play in nature”. Caroline Butler has approached Parks & Recreation staff regarding placement of a community tree house structure within Belmont Park, which would be consistent with the master plan. Ms. Butler had applied for potential grant funding to support the project, which she was recently not awarded. Staff, however, felt that the concept should be presented to the Board for recommendation. Through the Fees & Facilities Committee discussion, a list of guidelines was also suggested:

- The structure should be constructed of durable materials that require minimal maintenance.

- The structure should be an elevated, roofed platform with a maximum size of 400 square feet.
- Placement and design of the structure should take advantage of sloping topography on the site to minimize ramping.
- Play features should not be integrated into the design of the structure.
- The appearance of the structure should complement and be harmonious with existing features in Belmont Park.
- An endowment should be established for ongoing care of the structure based on life-cycle costs and a maintenance program to keep the structure in good repair.

Following discussion by Board members, a motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by Susan Deitchler to approve staff recommendation of the community tree house project in concept and continue to explore development in Belmont Park, with the above stated guidelines. Upon roll call vote **members voted as follows: “Yes”: Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Hannah Cass, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Justine Linscott, Sherry Nelson, Anne Pagel, Jeff Schwebke. “No”: None. Motion carried.**

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

\* Nothing to report at this time.

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

\* The August golf report (attached to official minutes on record) was reviewed, with Brad Brandt reporting that the Golf Committee did not meet in September. Lynn Johnson also reported that the Golf program finished in the black for the 2015-16 fiscal year, with a total of 168,244 rounds being recorded.

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

\* Lincoln Parks Foundation Report, Executive Director Christie Dionisopoulos:

- Woods Tennis Center Groundbreaking – Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, at 7:05 p.m.; tennis pro and Olympic medalist Jack Sock will be present.
- Centennial Mall Dedication – Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, at 1:30 p.m., in the State Capitol Rotunda, with Mall tours to follow; the first bronze plaque has been installed, with many to follow.
- Near South Park & Bretta Park – Near South Neighborhood Association has reached the fundraising campaign goal of just under \$37,000 for the 19<sup>th</sup> & A Street park and Bretta Park, for plantings and improvements at each location, including endowment; work will begin immediately in Bretta Park, with completion anticipated next spring.

Larry Hudkins arrived at 4:18 p.m.

\* Anne Pagel introduced the next item regarding a master plan for a disc golf course at Roper East Park, with Jerry Shorney providing an overview of the project request. Dominic Sawtelle of the Lincoln Flying Disc Club (LFDC) gave a brief history of the Roper West disc golf course as well as information regarding tournaments and continuing popularity of the sport. LFDC members have voluntarily worked to create a temporary course at Roper East, until a stream channel stabilization project was completed at Roper West. The LFDC is now requesting approval to install a new permanent disc golf course in Roper East Park, ultimately providing two courses which would aid in bringing larger tournaments to Lincoln. Following inquiries and discussion from Board members a motion was made by Larry

Hudkins and seconded by Justin Carlson to approve the master plan for a disc golf course in Roper East Park as presented. Mr. Sawtelle indicated that the LFDC would also like to improve the disc golf course in Roper West Park in the future.

**STAFF REPORT:**

JJ Yost provided a presentation on the construction season accomplishments and ongoing projects (Power Point photos attached to official minutes on record) – trails at Pioneers Park, Billy Wolff, Jamaica, Cavatt; Centennial Mall; Star City Shores; Pickle Ball Courts; Grand Terrace Park; Jensen Park; Valentinos Idylwild Park; Havelock Park; University Place Park; Public Gardens maintenance facility and greenhouse; Neighbors Park; drinking fountains at numerous locations; Rickman’s Run dog run; Woods Park Tennis Facility; Airport Entryway Corridor; Palo Alto; Woodsdale Boulevard; Ager Golf Course; Irving Rec Center; Tierra Park; Pioneers Woman. JJ also noted upcoming projects that will begin this fall or next spring. It was suggested that the same presentation be given at an upcoming Pre-Council meeting.

Lynn Johnson noted that the next Fees & Facilities Committee meeting would be held on September 15<sup>th</sup> with discussion regarding the playground renovation at Taylor Park. The Committee members will be requested to meet on site at Taylor Park for the discussion.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The dedication of Nebraska’s Centennial Mall will be held on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m., in the Warner Chamber at the State Capitol building, with walking tours of the Mall to follow the dedication event.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.