

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room

Thursday, October 13, 2016 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Justin Carlson	Hannah Cass	Larry Hudkins	Peter Levitov
Justine Linscott	Sherrie Nelson	Anne Pagel	Robert Ripley
Jeff Schwebke	Joe Tidball		

Members Absent:

Bradley Brandt	Roy Christensen	Jim Crook
Susan Deitchler	Todd Fitzgerald	Kathi Wieskamp

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director	Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Administrator
Ann Kontor, Secretary	Jocelyn Golden, Assistant City Attorney

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 Ann Kontor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by Peter Levitov that the minutes of the September 8, 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.

Larry Hudkins arrived at 4:08 p.m.

DIRECTOR REPORT:

* Lynn Johnson provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Nebraska Gold Star Families Memorial Monument, which is a program to honor the families of Gold Star recipients who made the ultimate sacrifice for the country. The proposed monument would be in Antelope Park. The design and installation of the monument would be \$45,000. There was a discussion of monument placement, where it be placed in the park, how it would be funded, and who would maintain it. If the project is forwarded to the Fees & Facilities Committee, it would be with the understanding the Board is not giving explicit agreement to go ahead with it, but with the understanding there should be a written policy for the types of monuments and memorials placed in Lincoln City Parks.

Jeff Schwebke arrived at 4:33 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

* Nothing to report at this time.

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

* Nothing to report at this time.

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

* The September golf report (attached to official minutes on record) was reviewed. Lynn Johnson also reported that the Golf program exceeded its 165,000-round benchmark. The increase in green fees at the Pioneers and Highlands courses seemed to have no effect on the number of rounds played. Ager is still running at a deficit, but word-of-mouth and an aggressive marketing campaign, it is an asset to the Lincoln Parks. Several Board members suggested drafting a press release to celebrate the achievements of the Lincoln golf courses this season.

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

* Nothing to report at this time.

* There was a discussion about master plan for zoo expansion. It was noted that per city ordinance, this group is an Advisory Board – appointed citizens to advise the mayor on issues related to Parks. Several Board members voiced their disappointment with the new master plan, with the parking mostly north of A Street and no plans for a pedestrian footbridge across A Street. The Board has been working with the zoo since the inception of this plan over a year ago and wanted to know why the Board was bypassed; this third master plan was received with no previous warning. As the planning process progressed, the Board accepted multiple compromises to accommodate the expanding zoo's parking situation. However, this new master plan indicates that nearly all the concessions the Board was willing to make have been overlooked when the mayor made his final decision.

The mayor received input from all parties with a stake in the zoo expansion. However, the Board expressed an interest in sending a small group to visit with the mayor to see what can be done or if it is possible to further discuss the zoo expansion.

Hannah Cass left at 4:45 p.m.

Peter Levitov left at 4:51 p.m.

Following discussion by Board members, a motion was made by Larry Hudkins and seconded by Justin Carlson to have a small delegation of Board members meet with the mayor to discuss their concerns about the zoo expansion plan and its effects on Parks & Recreation. Upon roll call vote **members voted as follows: "Yes": Justin Carlson, Larry Hudkins, Justine Linscott, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Robert Ripley, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball. "No": None. Motion carried.**

Anne Pagel, Robert Ripley, Jeff Schwebke, and Joe Tidball all volunteered to meet with the mayor.

STAFF REPORT:

Terry Genrich's last day is October 21st. Board members are invited to his retirement party at the Auld Pavilion on October 20th from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The Put the Beds to Bed event will occur Saturday November 5, 2016 at the Sunken Gardens. It begins at 8:30 a.m. and is expected to last approximately two hours.

Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.