

# MINUTES

## *Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting*

Parks and Recreation Conference Room

Thursday, February 9, 2017 ~ 4:00 p.m.

### **Members Present:**

Bradley Brandt	Roy Christensen	Jim Crook	Susan Deitchler
Peter Levitov	Justine Linscott	Sherrie Nelson	Anne Pagel
Deb Schorr	Jeff Schwebke	Joe Tidball	

### **Members Absent:**

Justin Carlson	Hannah Cass	Vacancy (Todd Fitzgerald)
Bob Ripley	Kathi Wieskamp	

### **Staff Members Present:**

Lynn Johnson, Director	JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director	Holly Lewis, Assistant Director
Sara Hartzell, Parks Planner	Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Spec. Projects Admin.
Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary	

**Call to Order & Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act':** As per law, Chairperson Brad Brandt 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 Anne Pagel to approved the minutes of the January 12, 2017 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Brad Brandt, Roy Christensen, Jim Crook, Susan Deitchler, Peter Levitov, Justine Linscott, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Deb Schorr, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball. Motion carried.**

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

None.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

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

\* Nothing to report at this time.

- **Golf Report** – Sherrie Nelson (Chair) I402-416-0137

\* Sherrie Nelson and Lynn Johnson noted that the Golf Business Coordinator process is moving to a second round of applicants, with interviews to be held in the following week. There was also discussion regarding the potential of golf events during the winter, such as "glow in the dark" golf during snow days.

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

- \* Christie Dionisopoulos stated that the Parks Foundation was founded in 1992, with this being the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year. A number of events will be held throughout the year.

- \* A “sign the beam” event is being planned for donors and patrons to sign the last beam at the new Woods Park Tennis Center, and raise it in the facility. May 1<sup>st</sup> is the anticipated completion date, with a dedication and “grand opening” to be held later in the month.

- \* The Parks Foundation is receiving \$2 million from the West Haymarket JPA as an endowment to care for improvements that have been made in the West Haymarket area. Christie discussed the Parks Foundation operating fee and the endowment investment process.

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

- \* No report at this time.

**STAFF REPORT:**

Sara Hartzell introduced herself and then gave a report on Wilderness Park Strategic planning. The park was established in 1966 and is owned by the County but managed by the City. Lincoln Parks and Recreation does the maintenance in the park. A study was done to study many facets of the park to help provide management. The NRD created a vegetation management plan. The park is over 1,400 acres. It is difficult to manage due to the variety of ground scape in the park. Parks feels it is time to reach out to people that love the park and get ideas and volunteers to help reengage people in helping. People from each group have been invited to attend the meetings. We want to determine the needs of Wilderness Park and prioritize projects using the resources we have available to us. We would also like to pursue grant opportunities to help with funding. Sara reports almost 500 completed surveys from the public. The results will be available next week.

The group will be split into two groups, a) Ecco system and b) trails. After they discuss and prioritize their group’s needs, they will be brought together to determine the best course of action for the Park. The results will then be brought to Parks Board for approval.

Sara discussed the goals that were listed several years ago. She gave a presentation on future needs of the park and its trails that were partially washed out in 2015. She also discussed the effects on the parks the change in traffic patterns will have.

March 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the split meetings. Then a meeting will be held in April to bring everyone together. Sara asked for a representative from the Parks Board to attend the meetings.

Brad asked if any Board member would like to join the Wilderness Park group, if so, please contact Lynn Johnson. A copy of Sara’s Power Point presentation is attached to official minutes on record.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Lynn announced that City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, in observance of Presidents Day. He also announced that this will be the very last meeting held in the 2740 A Street large conference room. Parks and Recreation will be moving on March 27<sup>th</sup> to 32<sup>nd</sup> & O Street, the third floor of the Lincoln/Lancaster County Health Department. A number of questions were asked about the new facility.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.