

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 3140 N Street~Suite 300
Thursday, September 14, 2017 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Bradley Brandt	Justin Carlson	Jim Crook	Leirion Gaylor Baird
Peter Levitov	Justine Linscott	Sherrie Nelson	Bob Ripley
Jeff Schwebke	Joe Tidball		

Members Absent:

Hannah Cass	Susan Deitchler	Anne Pagel	Deb Schorr
Kathi Wieskamp	Vacancy (Fitzgerald)		

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director
Holly Lewis, Assistant Director	JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Admin.	Chris Myers, Park Operations Coordinator
Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator	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 4:05 p.m. Roll was called by Angela Chesnut.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by Leirion Gaylor Baird to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2017 and the July 13, 2017 meetings as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Justine Linscott, Sherrie Nelson, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball.** **"No": None. Motion carried.**

Bob Ripley arrived at 4:07 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Futures Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 470-3384**

* Jeff Schwebke introduced the item being brought forth regarding amendments to the guidelines for inscribed pavers, bricks, tiles, and plaques. Amendments would permit languages other than English, and would also allow symbols limited to ampersand (&) and heart (♥). Proposed changes were reviewed by City Law Department with no concerns. A motion was made by Jeff Schwebke and seconded by Peter Levitov to approve the proposed guidelines as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Justine Linscott, Sherrie Nelson, Bob Ripley, Jeff Schwebke, Joe Tidball.** **"No": None. Motion carried.**

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

* Sherrie Nelson and Wade Foreman provided various updates – Holmes hole #15 is currently being renovated due to water issues; customer satisfaction survey received 667 responses with good feedback and comparable ratings as in previous years; prioritization of capital improvement projects; fiscal year-end amounts will be reported during the next meeting. Other discussion was held on acres and timing of mowing, player development statistics and trends, and golf course trees in relation to Emerald Ash Borer and plans for removal, replacement, and/or treatment options. Sherrie and Wade also reported that golf maintenance superintendents and staff have begun a rotation in assignment to different courses throughout the system in order to develop a standard of maintenance operations.

- **Executive Committee – Brad Brandt (Chair) 421-7734**

* Lynn Johnson provided an update for the Lincoln Parks Foundation, informing the Board that Christie Dionisopoulos will be leaving the Foundation at the end of October, moving out of state with her family. Lynn reported that the fundraising campaign for the dog facilities continues to go well, with a “Dog Bowl” fundraiser event held recently by the Friends of the Dog Parks.

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

* Justin Carlson and JJ Yost reported that the Fees & Facilities Committee continues to review the updates of the 10-Year Facilities Plan. It is intended that a review and presentation to the full Board will be made at the November meeting, which will include the Lincoln Parks Foundation Board in order to discuss and prioritize potential capital campaigns. Final endorsement and approval of the plan will be requested at the December PRAB meeting.

STAFF REPORT:

Lynn Johnson provided information compiled as a summary of long grass maintenance and prairie in the parks programs (attached to official minutes on record). Three types of mowing maintenance were reviewed including regular park mowing of 694 acres, long grass maintenance of 715 acres, and prairie in the parks currently with 52 acres. Lynn noted that long grass maintenance and prairie in the parks is both budget driven as well as for environmental reasons. Board members discussed the mowing and long grass issues with questions and suggestions, noting the positive environmental impacts as well as the time for establishment of prairie in the parks plantings.

Due to no action items for discussion, the PRAB meeting for October will be cancelled. The Fees & Facilities Committee will meet to review the final section of the 10-Year Facilities Plan, and there will be no Futures Committee meeting in October.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.