

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Parks and Recreation Conference Room, 3131 O Street, Suite 300

Thursday, August 9, 2018 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Brad Brandt	Justin Carlson	Veronica Chapman	Jim Crook
Leirion Gaylor Baird	Peter Levitov	Sherrie Nelson	Anne Pagel
Tammy Poe	Bob Ripley	Deb Schorr	Jeff Schwebke
Joe Tidball			

Members Absent:

Andrew Minchow Kathi Wieskamp Vacancy (Fitzgerald)

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	Holly Lewis, Assistant Director
JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager	Chris Myers, Parks Operations Manager
Jocelyn Golden, Asst. City Attorney	Maggie Stuckey, Parks Foundation Director
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 Peter Levitov and seconded by Leirion Gaylor Baird to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: “**Yes**”: **Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Tammy Poe, Bob Ripley.** “**ABSTAIN**”: **Brad Brandt, Justin Carlson, Veronica Chapman, Deb Schorr, Joe Tidball.** “**No**”: **None.** Motion carried.

Jeff Schwebke arrived at 4:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

• **Fees & Facilities Committee – Justin Carlson (Chair) 402-770-7188**

JJ Yost reviewed a concept (copy attached to official minutes on record) for a new Wilderness Nature Camp facility at Pioneers Park as a replacement for the original facility destroyed by fire at Wilderness Park in October 2017. JJ provided many of the details which would result in a simple construction with funding proposed through the upcoming CIP plus a fundraising campaign with the Lincoln Parks Foundation and the Friends of the Pioneers Park Nature Center. The intent would be to have the facility completed for the 2020 Wilderness Nature Camp use. Following brief discussion between Board members and staff, a motion was made by Bob Ripley and seconded by Jim Crook to approve endorsement of the concept plan as presented for the replacement Wilderness Nature Camp program, with direction to the Lincoln

Parks Foundation to proceed with the capital campaign. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Brad Brandt, Justin Carlson, Veronica Chapman, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Tammy Poe, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Joe Tidball. **“No”**: None. Motion carried.

- **Futures Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 402-470-3384**

Jeff Schwebke provided a recap of committee discussion and public input regarding the renaming of University Place Park as “Seng Park at University Place”. An email was received from Mike DeKalb and a letter from Megan Ourada in support of the renaming. Mr. DeKalb, Donna DeKalb, and Ms. Ourada were present at the meeting and spoke favorably of the proposal. Following recommendation by the Board, official approval will be requested from City Council, after which an event will be planned at the park to introduce the new designation. A motion was made by Ann Pagel and seconded by Justin Carlson to recommend the renaming of University Place Park at N. 48th & Francis Streets as Seng Park at University Place in recognition of Mayor Coleen Seng’s public service. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Brad Brandt, Justin Carlson, Veronica Chapman, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Tammy Poe, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Joe Tidball. **“No”**: None. Motion carried.

Jeff Schwebke and Lynn Johnson discussed establishment of a policy regarding placement of inflatables and bounce houses on Parks & Recreation facilities and park land. Jocelyn Golden from City Law Department provided research and assistance in creating the proposed policy. Intent of the policy and the permitting process to be followed is to ensure the use of such devices in public areas of Parks & Recreation property promote safety and reasonable enjoyment of park premises. Peter Levitov requested that the acronym ASTM be fully defined as American Society for Testing and Materials in the policy and also that the word vomit be added to Section IV, Safety Requirements for Use of Bounce Houses, item #5. Joe Tidball questioned whether the policy should state that it does not refer to moveable inflatables, such as zorb balls. Upon recommendation of approval by the Board, Parks & Recreation staff will work to establish a list of bounce house providers to be used by individuals requesting such permit. A motion was made by Deb Schorr and seconded by Bob Ripley to recommend approval of the policy regarding Placement and Use of Inflatables and Bounce Houses on Parks & Recreation Facilities. Following additional discussion a motion was made by Peter Levitov and seconded by Justin Carlson amend the original motion to spell out the acronym for ASTM and add the word current to that reference under Section II definition of bounce house, to add “and vomiting” and “or incident” to Section IV.5, and to clarify under Section II definition of bounce house that the policy will not refer to moveable inflatables such as zorb balls. Upon roll call vote of the amendment members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Brad Brandt, Justin Carlson, Veronica Chapman, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Tammy Poe, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Joe Tidball. **“No”**: None. Motion carried. Roll was then called on the original motion as amended with members voting as follows: **“Yes”**: Brad Brandt, Justin Carlson, Veronica Chapman, Jim Crook, Leirion Gaylor Baird, Peter Levitov, Sherrie Nelson, Anne Pagel, Tammy Poe, Bob Ripley, Deb Schorr, Joe Tidball. **“No”**: None. Motion carried.

- **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Chair) 402-416-0137**

Sherrie Nelson provided an update on recent golf operations including rounds and weather, success of the player development program at Ager, and CIP and customer satisfaction surveys. Lynn Johnson communicated an upcoming fairway replanting project at Ager Golf Course which will be performed by UNL turf grass program staff and students. The transition of project and cost savings will be monitored by the program, with UNL contributing two-thirds of the cost. Brad Brandt noted the letter received from Mayor Beutler responding to the Golf Committee's request for general fund budget support being declined due to the many needs and priorities in other areas such as emergency, fire, and police.

- **Executive Committee – Brad Brandt (Chair) 402-421-7734**

Lincoln Parks Foundation – Maggie Stuckey: Sunken Gardens and Rose Garden donation box thefts have resulted in this manner of collections being discontinued. The LPF Board will discuss different alternatives. LPF has recently applied for a major grant to assist in the Irving-Stransky-Rudge project; a donation milestone has been reached by neighbors of Trendwood Park with pathway paving work to begin this fall; a significant donation was received for Cooper Park which will allow for work to begin there this fall replacing restroom and picnic shelter roofs, an adult fitness station near the playground, addition of a bikerack, along with improvements to the plaza space and the addition of a half-court basketball area.

STAFF REPORTS:

Lynn Johnson provided a presentation and overview of the Parks & Recreation budget and CIP requests for the 2018-2020 fiscal years (copy attached to official minutes on record).

Deb Schorr left at 5:15 p.m.

Bob Ripley left at 5:15 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Belmont Shelter groundbreaking, a fundraising effort associated with Streets Alive, will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, August 10th.
- Offices will be closed on Monday, September 3rd for Labor Day.
- The Taste of the Tall Grass dining event is Sunday, September 16th, and the Fall Festival will be Friday, September 28th, both at the Spring Creek Prairie

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.