

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

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

Thursday, March 12, 2020 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Justin Carlson	Jim Crook	Esme Krohn	Mason Minchow
Sherrie Nelson	Isabel Salas	Jeff Schwebke	Rick Vest

Members Absent:

Roy Christensen	Anne Pagel	Jonathan Petersen	Tammy Poe
Jennifer Seacrest	Kathi Wieskamp	Brad Brandt	Lori Thomas

Staff Members Present:

JJ Yost, Planning & Facilities Manager
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Administrator
Holly Lewis, Asst. Director Recreation and Natural Res.
Denise Pearce, Special Projects Administrator
Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator
Chris Myers, Parks Operations Manager
Roy Rivera, Office Specialist

CALL TO ORDER & RECOGNITION OF 'OPEN MEETINGS ACT':

As per law, Chairperson Justin Carlson 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 Roy Rivera declaring a quorum with eight Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Sherrie Nelson to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Justin Carlson, Esme Krohn, Sherrie Nelson, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest. **“No”**: None. **“Abstain”**: Jim Crook, Mason Minchow, Jeff Schwebke. **Motion carried.**

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Ms. Diane Walkowiak presented on behalf of the Indian Village Neighborhood Association in regard to Van Dorn Park and the desire for improvements. After discussions, the Indian Village Neighborhood Association Board has agreed to help raise funds for the Van Dorn playground renovation and a drinking fountain. She shared that there is disappointment regarding the decision by the Department to remove the swing set and replacing it with an open lawn play area. After speaking with several people, she has concluded that people want to keep the swings. She is asking the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to recommend to the Parks and Recreation Department to keep the larger swing, use donor money that has been pledged to the neighborhood association to replace the toddler swing and save the flat play area for a future time. J.J. Yost indicated that the decision to replace the current swing set with different play equipment was taken considering the heavy use of the shelter and adding amenities for renters with the caveat that access to the park is a concern and don't want to create a situation in which more individuals are trying to reach the park in a dangerous manner to enjoy the new attractions. Yost indicated that with safer access to the park, which is a possibility once the south beltway is constructed, further discussion can be had regarding adding amenities and turning Van Dorn Park more into a full neighborhood park. It was decided by the Board and staff to defer the discussion to the Facilities and Infrastructure Committee to explore the issue.

PRESENTATION BY PLANNING DIRECTOR DAVID CARY REGARDING PREPARATION OF THE 2050 LINCOLN LANCASTER COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

David Cary proceeded to provide the group with a presentation regarding the 2050 Lincoln Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan. In the last 30 years, the population has increased by 100,000 in the City of Lincoln. The Comprehensive Plan establishes growth policies, how and what type of growth we want to see in the community. A very important principle is the “One Community” concept. This is a great strength of Lancaster County. For more information and to complete the survey please visit: <https://www.lincoln.ne.gov/city/plan/forward/>

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Tammy Poe (Chair) 402-421-8103**
Amendment to Woods Park Master Plan to include an outdoor fitness equipment FitLot

J.J. Yost indicated that the staff has identified a location at Woods Park for the outdoor fitness equipment FitLot that was gifted by AARP. In order to proceed, it is necessary to amend the Woods Park Master Plan as the proposed location best suited for installation of the FitLot exercise station. The FitLot will be located nearby the park shelter and portable shelter and parking lot. J.J. Yost added that he reached out to the Witherbee and Woods Park Neighborhood Associations. The Woods Park Neighborhood Association is supportive of the idea, and still have not heard back from the Witherbee Neighborhood Association, however they will meet soon and share with the neighborhood. After the amendment motion is carried, it will go to the City Council.

A motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Jim Crook to amend the Woods Park Master Plan to include an outdoor fitness equipment FitLot. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: “Yes”: **Justin Carlson, Esme Krohn, Sherrie Nelson, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest, Jim Crook, Mason Minchow, Jeff Schwebke.** “No”: **None. Motion carried**

Proposed stage structure and related landscaping associated with the Lincoln Children’s Zoo event area in the southern portion of the Antelope Park Triangle

Nicole Fleck-Tooze provided a presentation regarding the proposed stage structure and related landscaping. Evan Killeen with the Lincoln Children’s Zoo and Scott Wieskamp with Lincoln Public Schools were present during the presentation to provide comments and answer questions from the group. The Zoo is preparing to move forward with the next step which is zoo stage structure. Before there is an amendment to the agreement, there was need to look into the design elements and provide feedback. With initial feedback provided from the Urban Design Committee and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board’s Facilities and Infrastructure Sub-Committee, the Zoo took that feedback into consideration and is proposing a decorative corten steel façade for the west, south and east sides, with a standing seam metal roof. The corten steel material will have a laser cut design with an organic grassland or other appropriately themed motif. LED lighting is proposed between the two layers of corten to illuminate the design at night. Additionally, a draft landscape plan has been prepared by Lincoln Parks and Recreation for the A Street frontage. Scott Wieskamp added to the presentation by informing the group about the materials to be used to build the proposed structure. A video was also shown to the group. Sherrie Nelson expressed that these is a concern regarding sound quality from the concerts and the neighborhood being nearby, Evan Killeen shared that they are working with the Pinnacle Bank Arena’s Sound and Lighting Technicians, and they are not concerned, the construction is designed so that sound will travel away from the neighborhood. The event space will be able to accommodate under 2,000 individuals. Isabel Salas stated that she was concerned that the metal sheeting would act as a barrier, limiting visibility and the cost of the metal sheeting, Isabel Salas also mentioned that there is no reason to add fencing, especially since there will be landscaping placed along the stage structure. Evan Killeen mentioned that the metal

sheeting was a recommendation by the Urban Design Committee. Nicole Fleck-Tooze clarified that the project will be paid for by the Lincoln Children's Zoo.

A motion was made by Jim Crook and seconded by Jeff Schwebke to approve the proposed stage structure and related landscaping associated with the Lincoln Children's Zoo event area in the southern portion of the Antelope Park Triangle and it is generally consistent with the Master Plan. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Justin Carlson, Esme Krohn, Sherrie Nelson, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest, Jim Crook, Mason Minchow, Jeff Schwebke. "No": None. "Abstain": None. Motion carried**

- **Policies Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 402-470-3384**
No report
- **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Chair) 402-416-0137**
Wade Foreman informed the group that the season is starting and had a few nice days.
- **Executive Committee – Justin Carlson (Chair) 402-770-7188**
Lincoln Parks Foundation
No report

STAFF REPORTS:

- **Recommendation regarding opening the public comment period on the conversion of property at Peter Pan Park**
Denise Pearce addressed the group about opening the public comment period regarding the conversion of property at Peter Pan Park. She is currently working with others on the conversion report. A part of this report includes seeking public input regarding the report and comment on what is being proposed.

A motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Isabel Salas to approve opening the public comment period on the conversation of property at Peter Pan Park. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Justin Carlson, Esme Krohn, Sherrie Nelson, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest, Jim Crook, Mason Minchow, Jeff Schwebke. "No": None. Motion carried.**

- **Presentation of landscape plan for the western portion of the Antelope Park Triangle.**
Presentation will be provided at a later date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

J.J. Yost added that Maggie Stuckey, Lincoln Parks Foundation Executive Director was not able to be present at the meeting because she is currently working on verifying the bricks sent for the World War II holders. She did want to inform the group that the Cascade Fountain campaign is running and the results so far have been very encouraging.

ADJOURN:

Motion to adjourn was made by Rick Vest with unanimous approval.

Adjourned at 5:10 pm.