

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Woods Park Place Lower Level Training Center, 3131 O Street

Thursday, August 13, 2020 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Bradley Brandt
Jonathan Petersen

Justin Carlson
Isabel Salas

Jim Crook
Rick Vest

Gatran Gatnoor

Members Absent:

Roy Christensen
++ Tammy Poe
Kathi Wieskamp

Dylan Cork
Jeff Schwebke

Sherrie Nelson
Jennifer Seacrest

Anne Pagel
Lori Thomas

Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director
JJ Yost, Planning & Facilities Manager
Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator
Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Adm.
Maggie Stuckey, Parks Foundation Director

Holly Lewis, Asst. Director/Recreation
Chris Myers, Park Operations Manager
++ Jocelyn Golden, Asst. City Attorney
Denise Pearce, Special Projects Adm.
Theresa Sabatka, Secretary

++ denotes Zoom attendee

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. Chairperson Carlson began by reviewing the established protocols for the Board meeting due to the current COVID-19 pandemic:

- A quorum is established by the number of board or committee members attending the meeting in person. Board members accessing the meeting remotely may listen/watch but may not participate in discussions or vote.
- Members of the public may comment by Zoom.
- Staff may make presentations by Zoom to limit the number of people physically present in the meeting room.
- Subcommittees, including executive committees, may meet in person, by Zoom, by conference phone, or by a combination of these methods.

Roll was called by Theresa Sabatka declaring a quorum with seven in-person Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Jim Crook to approve the minutes from the June 11, 2020 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Gatran Gatnoor, Jonathan Petersen, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest.** **"No": None.** **"Abstain": Bradley Brandt.** Motion carried.

A motion was then made by Rick Vest and seconded by Jim Crook to approve the minutes from the July 9, 2020 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Gatran Gatnoor, Jonathan Petersen, Rick Vest.** **"No": None.** **"Abstain": Bradley Brandt, Isabel Salas.** Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Tammy Poe (Chair) 402-421-8103**
Lynn Johnson provided information and site plans (copy attached to official minutes on record) for requested outdoor dining areas outside the current Hub Café entrance and in a portion of Union Plaza. An expansion of the liquor license would also be requested for catering of special events. The site plan images include a proposal for fencing of the requested areas for the expanded outdoor dining/event space. Additional details were shown regarding the fence placement in conjunction with sidewalks.

Following further discussion, a motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Jim Crook to approve the plans for the outdoor dining area outside the Hub Café entrance and the outdoor dining/event area in Union Plaza as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”:** **Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Gatran Gatnoor, Jonathan Petersen, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest.** **“No”:** **None. Motion carried.**

Presentation was made by Lynn Johnson regarding declaration of an area in part of Cooper Park as surplus to allow transfer to Lincoln Public Schools. The area is approximately 1.5 acres in the northern portion of the park which would be for a Park Middle School project including reconfiguration of a parking lot and access drive. Playfield improvements in the northwest corner of the park will be part of the project and will be available for community use during non-school hours. Denise Pearce added more detailed information with reference to the recently endorsed amendment to the Cooper Park Master Plan and transfer of dedicated parkland to another government agency. An appraisal has not yet been completed for sale of land.

Following further questions and comments, a motion was made by Jim Crook and seconded by Bradley Brandt to recommend endorsement to proceed with declaring an area of about 1.5 acres in the northern part of Cooper Park as surplus property, allowing transfer of the property to Lincoln Public Schools. **“Yes”:** **Bradley Brandt, Justin Carlson, Jim Crook, Gatran Gatnoor, Jonathan Petersen, Isabel Salas, Rick Vest.** **“No”:** **None. Motion carried.**

Next Facilities & Infrastructure Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 19, at 4:00 p.m.

- **Policies Committee – Jeff Schwebke (Chair) 402-470-3384**
No report at this time.

Next Policies Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, at 4:30 p.m.

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

Wade Foreman provided an update for June and July golf rounds, which have exceeded targets in the last four months, with revenues remaining steady. Tree damage and loss has been seen during the past month due to storms. Various turf work and native area cleanup is ongoing.

Next Golf Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 27, at 12:00 noon.

- **Executive Committee – Justin Carlson (Chair) 402-770-7188**

Maggie Stuckey for the Lincoln Parks Foundation:

- * Fundraising goal for Cascade Fountain Renovation is at approximately 76% of \$1.6 million; brick program is exceeding anticipated timeframe goals; received donation from Downtown Rotary 14 for \$200,000.
- * Beginning work on Airpark Recreation Center replacement fundraising.
- * Third staff member has been hired at Foundation to be starting next week.

Next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Aug. 27, at 4:00 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS:

- **Transition to Fall Programming** – Holly Lewis

- * Softball continues until mid-October due to late start, with approximately 1,500 games being played; teams and officials have adapted to new COVID-19 protocols.
- * Before and After School programs have begun with current capacity at about 481, down by 30% due to new regulations and DHM's, with most locations full. Making adaptations for social distancing of participants and staffing shortages. Some After School Clubs will begin next week, varying with each individual school.
- * Flag football will begin August 24th, with reduced staff, full participation at 540 capacity, and only one facility being programmed.
- * Outdoor kickball season will start August 30th, with regular 32 team capacity.
- * Preschool at Pioneers Park Nature and Calvert Rec Center will begin in September; numerous questions from parents and current registration is very low.
- * Preliminary plans for fall volleyball league with future protocol discussion to be held with schools for facility use.
- * Planning protocols for all programs has been prepared for each individually accounting for cleaning, disinfecting, distancing, and effects of current DHM's.
- * Clubs and programs for vulnerable or high-risk individuals will not begin until the Health Department's COVID Risk Dial is in the yellow, or moderate, position for two consecutive weeks.
- * Swimming pool season attendance was at approximately 38,000, which was slightly higher than anticipated. Revenue numbers are not yet finalized.

- **2050 Comprehensive Plan** – Lynn Johnson

- * The Policies Committee will begin reviewing content of the Parks & Recreation portion of the proposed 2050 Comp plan over the next five months, then will be brought back to the full board for final review and adoption at the end of that process. A schedule (attached to official minutes on record) of Policies Committee meeting topics were outlined for Committee members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Hub & Soul series will be held Thursday's between August 27th through October 1st, 5:30 – 8:30 p.m., at Union Plaza, free admittance to the community.
- Art in the Garden at Sunken Gardens on Saturday, September 12th, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- Put the Beds to Bed will be planned for the first Saturday in November.

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Rick Vest and seconded by Jim Crook to adjourn the meeting at 4:47 p.m. with unanimous approval.