

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Suite 300, Lower-Level Training Center

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Bradley Brandt	Jim Crook	Katie Graf	Alex Halvorsen
Conleigh Hemmer	Sherrie Nelson	Jonathan Petersen	Tammy Poe
Jennifer Seacrest	Rick Vest (arrived at 4:10 p.m.)	Sändra Washington	Kathi Wieskamp

Members Absent:

Justin Carlson	Isabel Salas	Jeff Schwebke	Lori Thomas
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Staff Members Present:

Lynn Johnson, Director	Holly Lewis, Asst. Director/Recreation
JJ Yost, Planning & Facilities Manager	Chris Myers, Park Operations Manager
Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator	Denise Pearce, Special Projects Admin.
Maggie Stuckey-Ross, Foundation Director	Angela Quinn, Exec. Secretary

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

As per law, Chairperson Tammy Poe 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 Quinn declaring a quorum of Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Upon review of the minutes from the October 14, 2021 Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting, Jonathan Petersen noted a discrepancy in arrival time recorded for Isabel Salas as 4:05 p.m. and 4:08 p.m. in two different locations. The correct arrival time should be 4:08 pm. A motion was made by Sherrie Nelson and seconded by Katie Graf to approve the minutes from the meeting with the correction as stated. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: “Yes”: **Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Conleigh Hemmer, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, Sändra Washington.** “Abstain”: Jim Crook, Kathi Wieskamp. “No”: None. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Next Policies Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16th, at 4:00 p.m.

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Jennifer Seacrest (Chair)**
The update to the Parks and Recreation Department 10-Year Facilities Plan (copy attached to official minutes on record) for repair and replacement needs was reviewed and discussed with a presentation by JJ Yost. Updates are included within the four parks quadrants of the city, aquatics and recreation/community facilities, and a separate section is updated for Lincoln City Golf. Projects are shown by priority levels of A, B, or C, with restructuring of priorities when

emergencies warrant. The updated draft plan was available on the City of Lincoln website for public review and comment for 30 days. Four comments were received – two in support, one emphasizing the need for pickle ball courts, and another showing interest in the numbers provided in the plan. Board member comments and questions were addressed and support for the plan and time involved was expressed.

Rick Vest arrived at 4:10 p.m.

There were no members of the public in attendance to speak on this matter.

A motion was made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Jim Crook to endorse the 2021 update to the Parks & Recreation 10-Year Facilities Plan and City Golf 10-Year Facilities Plan as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Bradley Brandt, Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Conleigh Hemmer, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, Rick Vest, Sändra Washington, Kathi Wieskamp.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Next Facilities & Infrastructure Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 17th, at 4:00 p.m.

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

Wade Foreman updated PRAB members updates regarding City Golf Courses including the October Golf Report and the financial highlights for fiscal year ending August 31, 2021 (copies attached to official minutes on record). October above average temperatures lead to good rounds including at Pioneers where only nine holes have been open for play due to the irrigation project. Wade also reported on the success with rounds at 28.7% above target and reviewed revenue and expenditures for F.Y. 2020-2021

Next Golf Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 2nd, at 12:00 noon, replacing the regular meeting date of November 25th due to Thanksgiving.

- **Executive Committee – Tammy Poe (Chair)**

Maggie Stuckey-Ross, Lincoln Parks Foundation Director, provided the Foundation update:

- * Working with local churches in a group called Faith to Forest that has committed to working on environmental issues, specifically involving planting of trees. The Foundation has created a new fund for community forestry which was launched on November 1st, with over \$1,000 already committed.
- * Wilderness Park campaign continues with a number of donor tours in the past month. Recently a new \$100,000 donation has been received. The project completion goal is March 1, 2022.
- * Beginning budget preparation for 2022 with a Foundation Board focus on “the long game”, which will center on planned giving and estate gifts.

Board Chair Tammy Poe announced appointment of a nominating committee for 2021 Board officers which would include Jim Crook and Jeff Schwebke. New officers will be elected at the December PRAB meeting.

Next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 23rd, at 4:00 p.m., replacing the regular meeting date of November 25th due to Thanksgiving.

STAFF REPORT:

- Hours of use extensions in City parks, per municipal code, may be approved by the Department Director and reported to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Lynn Johnson informed Board members that the UNL Marine Corp utilized Wilderness Park for an overnight training on November 5th-6th.
- In response to the 2021-22 Budget, changes to park mowing frequency and various other priority areas have been made. Public right-of-way median and boulevard mowing will move from Parks & Recreation Department staff to a combination of contractual services and Transportation and Utilities Department staff. Funds will then be redirected in order to increase mowing cycles in parks.
- An 18-member committee has been assembled for outdoor inclusive play planning and an introductory meeting has been held. The next meeting will be a working meeting to discuss layout brainstorming, with larger community meetings to be held in the near future to incorporate ideas and suggestions from the broader community. The intent is to have the plan drafted by January and presented to the board in February requesting approval.
- A Land and Water Conservation Fund Grant worth \$400,000 was previously awarded to support the Irvingdale-Rudge-Stransky Park project, with a notice to proceed now received and the design preparation to begin soon. This matching grant is being supported by a combination of CIP money plus a large share from donations through a very successful Parks Foundation campaign.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Put the Beds to Bed volunteer event in the Sunken Gardens was held on Saturday, November 6
- Veterans Day Parade was held on Sunday, November 7 at 2:00 pm, at State Capitol building
- Virtual Veterans Day Program was aired on LNKTV at Lincoln.ne.gov on November 11 at 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm
- Virtual Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day Program will be aired on LNKTV at Lincoln.ne.gov on December 7

ADJOURN:

A motion was made by Kathi Wieskamp and seconded by Jennifer Seacrest to adjourn the meeting at 4:53 p.m., with the next PRAB meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 9th, at 4:00 p.m. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Bradley Brandt, Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Conleigh Hemmer, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, Rick Vest, Sändra Washington Kathi Wieskamp.** **“No”**: None. **Motion carried.**