

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting
Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Lower-Level Training Center
Thursday, August 10, 2023 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Jessica Boren	Bradley Brandt	Jim Crook	Katie Graf
Alex Halvorsen (arrived 4:05 p.m.)		Sherrie Nelson	Jonathan Petersen
Tammy Poe	JJ Toczek		

Members Absent:

Vacant (J. Carlson)	Vacant (C. Hemmer)	Vacant (J. Jackson)	Matt Schulte
Jeff Schwebke	Jennifer Seacrest	Sandra Washington	

Staff Members Present:

Maggie Stuckey-Ross, Director	Holly Lewis, Asst. Director/Recreation
JJ Yost, Planning & Facilities Manager	Chris Myers, Park Operations Manager
Denise Pearce, Special Projects Admin.	Jocelyn Golden, Asst. City Attorney
Wade Foreman, Golf Bus. Coordinator	Angela Quinn, Exec. Secretary

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

As per law, Chairperson Jonathan Petersen 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 who declared who declared a quorum of Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Katie Graf and seconded by JJ Toczek to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2023 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Bradley Brandt, Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek. "Abstain": Jessica Boren, Sherrie Nelson. "No": None. Motion carried.**

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board did not meet in June 2023.

A motion was then made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Tammy Poe to approve the minutes from the July 13, 2023 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek. "Abstain": Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Sherrie Nelson. "No": None. Motion carried.**

Alex Halvorsen arrived at 4:05 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Chairman Petersen announced that anyone from the audience who wished to speak on topics listed or not listed on the printed agenda sign in on the provided sheets, then state and spell their name and address prior to beginning comments. Those speaking are encouraged to focus on presenting new information, rather than repeating prior points or information and to limit comments and presentations to three minutes. The following individuals came forward to address the Board:

- Shawn Wheat, 538 N. 24th Street, #6, Lincoln – love all parks and Parks Department; concerns specified for Pentzer Park-basketball hoop, McWilliams Park-garbage bags, Tierra Park-basketball hoop/net; need to send a message that parks aren't run down.
- Brent Dickie, 2900 Wagon Drive, Lincoln – Outdoor Raquet Court Master Plan concerns with process in enacting the plan; hoping for shorter timeline and look forward to updates on progress.
- Patti Nielsen, 3348 Woods Avenue, Lincoln – Woods Park Keep It Green; lived in area over 45 years and have appreciated great improvements through the years including walkways, new trees and pollinator gardens, FitLot, drinking fountain, etc. Upon expiring the three-minute time limit, it was suggested that Ms. Nielsen email her full comments for the record (attached to official minutes on record).

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Bradley Brandt (Chair)**
Nothing to report.

Next Facilities & Infrastructure Committee meeting – Wednesday, August 16th at 4 p.m.

- **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Chair)**
Sherrie Nelson noted that a City Golf membership rate increase had been voted on by the Golf Committee and their recommendation would be presented to PRAB at the next meeting for approval. Fiscal year closes at the end of August with rounds looking good and should end the year in the black. She also stated that the City golf courses are all currently in very good condition. Maintenance crews have been busy including with tree removals.

Next Golf Committee meeting – Thursday, August 24th at 12:00 noon

- **Executive Committee – Jonathan Petersen (Chair)**
In the absence of Parks Foundation Director Randy Gordon, Maggie Stuckey-Ross provided an update on their behalf: working with Eleanor Creative on the print materials for South Haymarket Park campaign with expected October delivery date; meeting with members of City Council to share campaign basics about the park regarding plans and challenges; launching new donor and data management system; ongoing campaigns working with Lincoln Youth Football and anonymous donors.

Next Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 24th at 4:00 p.m.

- **Policies Committee – Katie Graf (Chair)**
Denise Pearce provided historic information regarding the Parks & Recreation Municipal Building, also known as “Muny” Building, which is currently used for meeting space and storage in only a portion of the facility. The Lincoln Bike Kitchen approached Parks & Recreation Department with an interest of entering into a partnership in their endeavor of providing bicycles to the community. Additional information regarding the process and creation of a shared space (diagrams attached to official minutes on record) within the facility was detailed by JJ Yost, including storage area and signage. Lynn Johnson, representing Lincoln Bike Kitchen, communicated the mission and vision of the partnership and

utilization of the Muny Building. Upon approval by the Board, an annual written agreement will be prepared. Following questions and discussion by the Board, a motion was made by Jim Crook and seconded by Bradley Brandt to endorse the use of the Parks & Recreation Muny Building in partnership with the Lincoln Bike Kitchen. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek.** **“Abstain”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Sherrie Nelson.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Following discussion by the Board at the May meeting, updates to the Parks & Recreation Department behavior policy (copies attached to official minutes on record) were highlighted by Denise Pearce and reviewed in both redacted and final form, as amended by City Attorney’s office. Upon recommendation for implementation by the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board, final approval will be at the discretion of the Mayor. Board members discussed briefly and accepted public comment:

- Brent Dickie, 2900 Wagon Drive, Lincoln –Definition of staff for Lincoln Parks & Recreation and how license agreements and licensees are translated. This will be reviewed by City Law for context.

A motion was made by Katie Graf and seconded by JJ Toczek to approve the updated Parks & Recreation Department Behavior Policy as written or substantially similar, in order to correct typographical errors. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek.** **“Abstain”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Sherrie Nelson.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Denise Pearce introduced proposed updates to Chapter 12.08.270 of Lincoln Municipal Code relating to alcohol in parks/parks facilities (copies attached to official minutes on record). Changes recommended would pertain to Lincoln Children’s Zoo events, clarification to language for Pinewood Bowl and Jayne Snyder Trails Center, and removes language regarding fundraising reporting. Board recommendation would forward updates to Lincoln City Council for final approval consideration. Evan Killeen from Lincoln Children’s Zoo provided testimony regarding the popularity of the Zoo Lights events at the Zoo and the success of other events where alcohol is served. Mr. Killeen responded to inquiries from Board members and also noted that they have communicated with the City’s Internal Liquor Commission who were in general support. A motion was made by Katie Graf and seconded by Tammy Poe to recommend approval to the City Council for updates to Lincoln Municipal Code Chapter 12.08.270 as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek.** **“Abstain”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Sherrie Nelson.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Relative to Municipal Code Chapter 12.08.270, the Parks & Recreation Department is required to adopt Rules and Regulations relating to when alcohol is allowed in parks. Denise Pearce provided an update to those Rules and Regulations (copy attached to official minutes on record) noting that the changes are minor and include grammatical, reflection of changes to previous Ordinance updates, and details regarding particular locations and department fundraising events. A motion was made by Jim Crook and seconded by JJ Toczek to approve updates to the Parks & Recreation Rules and Regulations related to serving and consumption of alcohol as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, JJ Toczek. **“Abstain”**: Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Sherrie Nelson. **“No”**: None. **Motion carried.**

Next Policies Committee meeting – Tuesday, August 15th at 4:00 p.m.

JJ Toczek left at 5:14 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS:

JJ Yost informed Board members that the department has submitted a resolution for City Council approval with the intent of applying to the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for a 2023 Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant for the purpose of improvements at seven different park playground areas.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Cooper Park Rededication Celebration by South Salt Creek Neighborhood Assoc., Saturday, August 5th, 5:00-6:00 p.m., Cooper Park Archway, 7th & D Streets
- Hub & Soul Final Friday Events at Union Plaza, 5:00 p.m., August 25th and September 29th, with a final event on October 27th added from a previous weather cancellation
- Peach Park Improvements Celebration by Near South Neighborhood Assoc., Saturday, August 12th, 5:00-8:00 p.m., with 5:30 p.m. presentation to Lincoln Parks Foundation
- Public Pools Close for the Season + Dog Splash at Star City Shores, Sunday, August 13th, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Jim Crook to adjourn the meeting. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Jim Crook, Katie Graf, Alex Halvorsen, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe. **“No”**: None. **Motion carried.**

The next PRAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 14, 2023, at 4:00 p.m.