

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Third Floor Conference Room

Thursday, September 11, 2025 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Jessica Boren

Bradley Brandt

Katie Graf

Isabelle Huertas

Tut Kailech

Ameil Kieu

Sherrie Nelson

Jonathan Petersen

Tammy Poe

Jennifer Seacrest

JJ Toczek

Sandra Washington

Members Absent:

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Adrian Lauer

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

As per law, Chairperson Jennifer Seacrest 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 a quorum of Board members present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Sandra Washington and seconded by Tammy Poe to approve the minutes from May 8, 2025, meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **"Yes": Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Tut Kailech, Ameil Kieu, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, Sandra Washington. "Abstain: JJ Toczek. "No": None.** Motion carried.

BOARD TRAINING – ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY JOCELYN GOLDEN:

Jocelyn Golden from the City Law Department provided gave a brief overview of standard processes to be followed during board meetings in accordance with the Open Meetings Act and Roberts Rules of Order, including public notification and the requirement of opportunity for public comments at meetings. Roll call of members in attendance and action items are kept in minutes of each meeting for permanent public record. A reminder was given that any correspondence between board members should include a staff member in order to comply with the Open Meetings Act and access to those records. Subcommittee meetings are not subject to these rules due to a quorum of members not being present. Executive session, abstention votes, and conflict of interest were also noted. A written, detailed training document is available by contacting Ms. Golden or a staff member.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Policies Committee – Vacant (Chair)**

It was reminded that the roll of Chair for the Policies Committee remains vacant. Committee member Tut Kailech volunteered to fulfil the role!

Shawn Quinn, Parks Operations Manager, and Denise Pearce, Special Projects Administrator, provided a summary of the proposed new Rules and Regulations Regarding Water and Ice Sports on Lakes (copy attached to

official minutes on record) following public inquiry regarding ice fishing on City lakes. Noting current Municipal Code guidelines, the new rules and regulations will provide clearer direction of permitted activities primarily at Holmes Lake, Oak Lake, and Bowling Lake. Ms. Pearce noted that since this is the initial attempt at Rules and Regulations Regarding Water and Ice Sports on Lakes, there will likely be minor updates over time. Department Rules and Regulations must be approved by the mayor. Following review and questions from board members, a motion was made by Jonathan Petersen and seconded by Bradley Brandt to recommend adoption of the Rules and Regulations in form substantially similar to that presented to allow for minor edits prior to submission to the mayor for approval.

Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Tut Kailech, Ameil Kieu, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, JJ Toczek, Sändra Washington.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Next Policies Committee meeting – Tuesday, October 21st at 4 p.m.

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Bradley Brandt (Chair)**

Bradley Brandt introduced, and JJ Yost presented a recommendation declaring approximately 0.7 acres of golf property as surplus for the purpose of sale to a townhomes developer adjacent to Highlands Golf Course. The area is currently an overgrown tree and drainage area that is routinely maintained nor part of the golf course. It was noted that while Parks and Recreation does not typically sell park or golf course land, the nuances of this small area lends to that consideration, and sale of the property will not impact golf play. Board questions and discussion was held with staff and the developer in attendance. Approval of the recommendation declaring surplus property will be forwarded to the Planning Commission for conformance with the Comprehensive Plan and essentially to City Council for consideration of a real estate agreement.

A motion was made by Katie Graf and seconded by JJ Toczek to recommend declaration of 0.7 acres of golf property as surplus as proposed. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Tut Kailech, Ameil Kieu, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, JJ Toczek, Sändra Washington.** **“No”**: **None.** **Motion carried.**

Next Facilities/Infrastructure Committee meeting – Wednesday, October 15th at 4 p.m.

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

Golf Manager Wade Foreman reviewed tree damage at the golf courses from the August windstorm. No course closures were necessary and staff spent several day with clean up and clearing of debris. Updates from reports May through August were also shared, and upcoming fall aeration was noted. Mahoney Golf Course hosted the Special Olympics of Nebraska competition with various other activities throughout event.

Membership, green fees, and golf cart pricing increases for 2026 were presented (copy of pricing breakout attached to official minutes on record) for all five of the municipal golf courses, with the last fee adjustment being in 2023. Changes were reviewed and noted that the Golf Committee have approved the new fees and are in line with area markets.

A motion was made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Tut Kailech to approve the proposed 2026 golf fee pricing as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Tut Kailech, Ameil Kieu, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, JJ Toczec, Sändra Washington.** **“No”**: **None. Motion carried.**

Next Golf Committee meeting – Thursday, October 23rd at 12 noon

- **Executive Committee – Jennifer Seacrest (Chair)**

Parks Foundation Director Randy Gordon provided recent updates:

- South Haymarket Park – the skatepark is under construction with completion in advance of the rest of the park; fundraising gap for the park remains just under \$8 million.
- Mahoney Park Playground – thank you for all who attended the joint PRAB and Foundation Board event in July
- Tierra Park – ribbon cutting held for worlds first Fitblok facility!

Jennifer Seacrest presented a letter (copy attached to official minutes on record) that she signed on behalf of the Board in advance of the meeting to Nebraska Game and Parks Commission for grant support from the Land and Water Conservation Fund for the Jensen Park Ballfield Improvement project, requesting ratification by the Board.

A motion was made by Sherry Nelson and seconded by Sändra Washington to ratify support per the letter signed by Chairperson Seacrest. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Tut Kailech, Ameil Kieu, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, JJ Toczec, Sändra Washington.** **“No”**: **None. Motion carried.**

Ms. Seacrest presented a Parks and Recreation Advisory Board slate of officers for 2026: Chair – Jennifer Seacrest; Vice-Chair – Katie Graf.

With PRAB meetings only being bimonthly, it is recommended by the Executive Committee to elect Board officers to two-year terms. This will need to be approved with a bylaw change, which was presented for review and includes additional updates for consideration.

Election of officers and updates to bylaws will be voted on at the November meeting of the Board.

Next Executive Committee meeting – Thursday, October 23rd at 4 p.m.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE, ISABELLE AND AMEIL!

Department director Maggie Stuckey-Ross presented a thank-you rose tile plaque to 2024-2025 student board member Isabelle Huertas for service to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, with a round of applause from board members. A plaque will also be sent to Ameil Kieu, who was unable to attend the meeting.

STAFF REPORTS:

Woods Pool Extended Hours – As required by Lincoln Municipal Code, the Director authorized extension of Woods Pool hours for nighttime security purposes during the City Swim Meet on July 18, 2025.

Storm Debris/Star City Shores Extended Hours – Hours have also been extended at the Star City Shores parking area for trees debris and grinding of mulch due to the August windstorm.

Mid-Biennium Budget Adjustments – Additional funding for aquatics program for priority repair and replacement needs at neighborhood pools.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Patriot Day Wreath Hanging Ceremony, Veteran's Memorial Garden, Sept 11 at 11:00 a.m.
- Maggie, JJ, Denise, Randy-- out of office for NRPA Annual Conference – Sept. 15 thru 19
- Art in the Garden, Sunken Gardens, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 20
- Final Hub & Soul 2025, Union Plaza, 6-9 p.m., Friday, Sept. 26
- Offices closed for Veteran's Day + Veterans Day events at Veterans Memorial Garden, 11 a.m., Tuesday, Nov. 11

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Chairperson Seacrest declared the meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.

Next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting – Thursday, Nov. 13th, 4 p.m.