M I N U T E S

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Lower-Level Conference Center

Thursday, September 10, 2026 ~ 4:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board was held at Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Lincoln, Nebraska, in the lower-level conference center on the 10th day of September 2026. Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in the following three public places, the designated methods for giving notice: the Lincoln Parks and Recreation Department website on September 9, 2026, the City Clerk's bulletin board on September 8, 2026; and the Lincoln Journal Star on August 30, 2026. Notice of this meeting was given to the Chairperson and all persons of this Board, and a copy of the agenda is attached to the minutes.

Members Present:

Simon Brockmeier	Maddie Gates	Katie Graf	Carter Grier
Risha Gumudavalli	Julie Heinrich	Misty Muff	Sherrie Nelson
Jonathan Petersen	Tammy Poe	Jennifer Seacrest	Sändra Washington

Members Absent:

Jessica Boren	Tut Kailech	Matt Schulte	JJ Toczek

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.

INTRODUCTIONS:

Three newly appointed members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board were in attendance for their first meeting: Simon Brockmeier (student member), Risha Gumudavalli (student member), and Julie Heinrich. Board members and staff present introduced themselves and welcomed the three new members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Katie Graf and seconded by Sändra Washington to approve the minutes from May 14, 2026 and July 9, 2026, meetings as presented. Upon roll call vote, members voted as follows: **"Yes": Simon Brockmeier, Maddie Gates, Katie Graf, Carter Grier, Risha Gumudavalli, Julie Heinrich, Misty Muff, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest, Sändra Washington. "Abstain": Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen. "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 (copy attached to official minutes on record).

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:
None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Policies Committee – Tut Kailech (Committee Head)**
  No report at this time.

Next Policies Committee meeting – Tuesday, October 20th at 4 p.m.

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Vacant (Committee Head)**
  No report at this time.

Next Facilities/Infrastructure Committee meeting – Wednesday, October 21st at 4 p.m.

- **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Committee Head)**
  Wade Foreman provided updates for July and August. Turf grass issues arose due to high heat and humidity and have been treated early to minimize course damage; tree removal and replacement continues as necessary, with some contractual plantings scheduled this fall; Ager hosted 19 golf camps, 8 youth golf leagues, and a youth-adult tournament. August had high amounts of rain which caused turf damage in some areas. Staff are reseeding for the next few weeks. Wade also reported that Highlands Golf Course was recently recognized by a MyGolfSpy article as the best municipal golf course in the state of Nebraska!

Next Golf Committee meeting – Thursday, September 24th at 12 noon

- **Executive Committee – Jennifer Seacrest (Committee Head)**
  Parks Foundation Director Randy Gordon provided an update: office renovation with storage area increase; Canopy Yard skatepark has been renamed in honor of Kevin Wilkins with an additional endowment campaign added; provided a letter of support to the department application for the ORLP grant; provided support for the department Hydrant Parties throughout the summer.

  Board Chair Jennifer Seacrest announced the 2027 PRAB slate of officers as Katie Graf as the new Chair and Maddie Gates as Vice-Chair. Members will vote for these positions at the November meeting.

STAFF REPORTS:
Meet the Team: Facilities Maintenance – JJ Yost presented the Parks & Recreation Facilities Maintenance supervisor and assistant, Josh Rowell and Jordan Walklin, and provided an overview of responsibilities and described the collaborative work with the Planning/Construction team. Mr. Rowell and Mr. Walklin introduced themselves providing

a background, current working structure, and future goals. The Facilities Maintenance team provides repair and maintenance efforts for all department infrastructure including electrical, plumbing, pools, fountains, HVac systems, and buildings, utilizing contractual services for more extensive jobs.

Aquatics End of Season Report – Holly Lewis and Melissa Lindeman shared a review of the 2026 pool season (copy attached to official minutes on record), reviewing statistical information and various programming offered. Partnerships and community events were shared as well as staffing levels for lifeguards and concessions, with a 63% return rate.

Pool Assessment/Improvements Update – JJ Yost updated attendees regarding the aging infrastructure in the nine City pools which are 50, 60, and 70 years old. JEO has been contracted to provide a facilities condition assessment to help better categorize and quantify what the conditions are so that more informed decisions can be made moving forward. A final report is expected in December.

Park Hours Extended – Denise Pearce informed that the Director had approved, per LMC 12.08.070, extending hours at the Hyde Observatory in Holmes Park for an eclipse on August 27/28, until 12:00 a.m.

Next Executive Committee meeting – Thursday, October 22nd at 4 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Labor Day – Monday, September 7th – Offices/Facilities/Centers Closed
- Patriot Day Event, Vet's Garden – Sept. 11th, 10:00 am
- Art in the Garden, Sunken Gardens – September 12, 10:00 am-6:00 pm
- Maggie, JJ, Denise, Randy – out of office for NRPA Annual Conference – Sept. 28-Oct. 2
- S'mores & Gourds + Movies in the Park, Pioneers Park Nature Center – October 2, 7:30 pm
- Put the Beds to Bed, Sunken Gardens – November 7th, 8:30 am
- Wild Fall Festival & Tree Giveaway, PPNC – November 7th, 10 am-2 pm

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business before the Board, Chairperson Seacrest declared the meeting adjourned at 4:57 p.m.

Next Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting – Thursday, November 12, 2026