

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Pioneers Park Nature Center
Thursday, July 11, 2013 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

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|----------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Justin Carlson | Jim Crook | Susan Deitchler | Todd Fitzgerald |
| Larry Hudkins | Peter Levitov | Kelly O'Hanlon | Anne Pagel |
| Bob Ripley | Jeff Schwebke | | |

Members Absent:

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|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------|
| Molly Brommond | Jonathan Cook | Cleo Mullison | Joe Tidball |
| Kathi Wieskamp | Vacant Position | | |

Staff Members Present:

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| Lynn Johnson, Director | |
| Jerry Shorney, Asst. Director of Parks Operations | Dave Bomberger |
| Terry Genrich, Outdoor Education | Nancy Furman |
| Nicole Fleck-Tooze, Special Projects Administrator | Andrea Faas |
| JJ Yost, Planning & Construction Manager | Kat Schlueter |
| Angela Chesnut, Executive Secretary | |

Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act': As per law, Chairperson Anne Pagel announced that the Board follows the regulations of the Open Meetings Act, and called the meeting to order.

Anne introduced the new student member Kelly O'Hanlon, who attends Lincoln East High School and will be a senior. She has always been involved with the parks in Lincoln, and is very excited to be a part of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS (other than those listed on the current Agenda):

None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Fees & Facilities Committee - Susan Deitchler, Chair - 488-4224

Susan discussed the topic of modifications to the Irvingdale Park tennis courts through a grant offered by the United States Tennis Association. Currently there are three courts, with a proposal to modify one of the courts into three smaller courts that are fenced in. This would be a preliminary way for younger children to learn to play tennis, as well as older citizens who may not want the use of a full court. A neighborhood meeting was conducted, with general support from participants. Staff are in favor of the proposal, and the Fees & Facilities Committee has brought this forward for discussion of the Board. It was also noted by Peter Levitov, that the courts are only the second in Nebraska that are geared to eight years old and under, that are completely fenced in. Instead of the normal adult tennis courts that are 78' long, these will be only 36' long, going width-ways. The grant is from American Express who sponsors several tennis tournaments that lead up to the US Open in early September. They have selected Lincoln and one other city in Florida to receive these grants, from over 100 other applicants. All costs are born by the sponsors. All that is given up is one adult court, in order to create three smaller

courts for children, with a push in the elementary schools for kids to learn tennis. A shelter will also be built for parents or other viewers. Susan made the motion on behalf of the Fees & Facilities Committee to approve the proposed improvements to the Irvingdale Park tennis courts, which was seconded by Bob Ripley. ***Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***

A motion was made by Justin Carlson and seconded by James Crook to adjourn the meeting at 5:15 p.m. ***Motion was approved by unanimous vote of members present.***

The meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Anne Pagel.

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board members joined the Lincoln Parks Foundation Board of Directors, along with staff, and other guests for a joint meeting and informational tour Prairie Corridor on Haines Branch, with a stop at the Spring Creek Prairie Audubon Center.