

# MINUTES

## *Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting*

Parks & Recreation Conference Room

Thursday, December 13, 2012

### **Members Present:**

|                |                 |               |                 |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Molly Brommond | Justin Carlson  | Jonathan Cook | Susan Deitchler |
| Caitlyn Do     | Todd Fitzgerald | Karen Hand    | Peter Levitov   |
| Cleo Mullison  | Anne Pagel      | Jane Raybould | Bob Ripley      |
| Jeff Schwebke  | Joe Tidball     |               |                 |

### **Members Absent:**

Jim Crook                      Dennis Scheer

**Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act':** As per law, Chairperson Anne Pagel announced that the Board follows the regulations of this Act, as posted.

**\* APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *Minutes were approved by unanimous vote of members present, with no corrections or additions.*

**PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS (other than those listed on the current Agenda):** none

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

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

- **\* Recommendation re: declaring Willard Community Center, West 'B' St. & So. Folsom St., and adjoining property as surplus:** Susan Deitchler brought forward, from the Committee, a recommendation to declare Willard Community Center, located at West "B" Street & So Folsom Street, and adjoining property as surplus. Nicole Fleck-Tooze briefed the Board on the history/background of the Center and detailed the exact perimeters included in the surplus request. ***After Nicole's presentation, it was moved (Ripley) and seconded (Carlson) to declare Willard Community, West B Street & South Folsom Street, and adjoining property, as surplus.*** This item will now be placed on the Planning Commission agenda for their review and action. It will then be forwarded to the City Council along with an agreement from Willard Community Center that could be approved at the same time.

#### **Futures Committee - Bob Ripley (Chair) 471-0419 or 488-5131**

- **\* Recommendation re: adoption of Rules and Regulations for Urban Gardens in Public Parks:** Proposed rules and regulations for urban gardens in public parks provides policy direction regarding establishment and management of urban/community gardens in park areas including: site selection, organizational management, layout of plots, acceptable plantings, garden practices, approval process, and decommissioning of the gardens. The 2040 Lincoln-Lancaster County Comprehensive Plan states that urban gardens can be an appropriate land management approach for areas of public parkland not committed to active recreation uses. The proposed rules and regulations provide guidance for development of such privately managed garden areas located on public parkland. Nicole Fleck-Tooze distributed copies of the proposed rules and also a copy of some minor amendments to the rules. She gave a powerpoint presentation to the Board on this agenda item and a copy of the Rules and Regulations will be attached to the file copy of these minutes. Nicole referred to concerns from the Health Department on this agenda item and. ***It was moved (Levitov) and seconded (Cook) to change the***

**language that states a minimum size of an urban garden as 10,000 sq. ft. to 6,000 sq. ft. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.** A copy of all amendments will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.

***It was also moved (Cook) and seconded (Levitov) to change the language under 'Process for Approval, B, to read 'include distribution of flyers by the organization to residents within 300' of the park boundaries and add the sentence at the end of section B to read: The Parks Director may modify the area based on circumstances.***

***After general discussion among members and neighborhood representatives, it was moved (Ripley) and seconded (Carlson) that the Rules and Regulations for Urban Gardens in Public Parks move forward by a vote of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board as amended, including recommendations from the Health Department.. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***

The next step in the process, after the Board's approval, will be to send a recommendation to the Mayor to approve by executive order and also to get feedback from the County Extension Office. The City would then move forward with the Neighbors Park location and discussion for an agreement for that particular park.

#### **Golf Report:**

- **Rounds and revenue report for October:** Dale Hardy reported that a Golf Committee has finally been formed and Todd Fitzgerald will serve as the Chairperson and Tom Nesbitt will serve as Vice Chair. Cleo Mullison, a student member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, is also a member of the committee. The Mayor appointed the three at-large members to the committee. A sub-committee met on Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> and selected National Golf Foundation to do the golf sustainability study.
- Rounds were down 12% in October as it was the 8<sup>th</sup> coldest October on record, but they rebounded a little in November (7% for the fiscal year). The 10 rounds for \$100 punch card sales were good with well over 100 being sold.
- The Holmes Clubhouse constructed is on schedule with a completion date of April 30, 2013.

#### **Executive Committee - Anne Pagel (Chair) - 570-9194**

- **Discussion regarding executive sessions** - Jocelyn Golden (City Attorney's Office) went over the Roberts Rules of Order regarding executive sessions for the PRAB and said that about the only time this would pertain to the Board would be if the issue pertained to a personnel issue or if there was a potential bid for real estate. A copy of her remarks will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.
- **\*Election of Officers - 2013:** ***It was moved (Deitchler) and seconded (Raybould) to elect Anne Pagel and Chair and Todd Fitzgerald as Vice Chair of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for a 2-year term. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***
- **Appointment of Board member to the Lincoln Cares Advisory Committee:** Bob Ripley and Anne Pagel will represent the PRAB on this Committee.

#### **Staff Report:**

- **Presentation by the Plant Oasis Group re: proposal for an indoor plant conservatory:** Anne Vidaver, Tom Tallman, Janene Dodson and Dave Erickson were present to brief the Board on a proposal for an indoor plant conservatory to be located in

Lincoln in the area of 21<sup>st</sup> & N Street. Two of the most important reasons they feel there is a need for an indoor conservatory is the need for a green refuge and the need for a place to grow and display unusual and exotic plants. It would also be a contribution to the economy of Lincoln due to a large amount of visitors who would go to the conservatory. The group responded to questions asked by Board members. Lynn Johnson said the next step in the process will be to take the staff recommendation to the Fees & Facilities Committee and representatives of the Plant Oasis Group and begin working on a guidance statement.

- **2012 Swimming Pool Operations Report:** Holly Lewis went over the 2012 Swimming Pool Operations Report with Board members. The report included attendance, subsidized swims, admission fees, gate revenue, concession revenue, expenses to revenues, safety statistics, pool closings, special programming, rentals, admission reimbursement, donated admission, aquatics staff and individual cost per swim. Holly then responded to questions from the members. A copy of the report will be attached to the file copy of these minutes.
- **Review of LMC Title 12:** Lynn Johnson said the Mayor has asked Departments to review the Lincoln Municipal Code items that pertain to their Department. One of the changes he would like to see in Parks & Recreation section of the LMC is the one that talks about weapons and/or projectiles in parks. Model rockets and airplanes have caused the safety concerns in park areas previously. The suggestion is to withdraw that section from the amendments and bring it back to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board for further review and a recommendation. It will go to the Futures Committee at their next meeting.

**Announcements:**

- None

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m.