

MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD ROUNDTABLE SUMMARY
March 14, 2011

Tracy Corr started the meeting at 5:35 P.M. Monday, March 14, 2011, in the Mayor's Conference Room, County/City Building, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Eighteen citizens and fifteen staff attended:

Tracy Corr	40 th & A St NA	Jeff Schwebke	Arnold Heights NA
Sue VanHorn	Country Club NA	Carolyn Brandle	Eastridge NA
Paula Rhian	Everett NA	Dianna Wright	Highlands NA
Myrna Coleman	Highlands NA	Scott Richert	Indian Village NA
Alene Swinehart	Irvingdale NA	Dennis Hecht	Meadowlane RA
Scott Hofeling	Ridge South	Scott Zager	Southwood NA
Bill Vocasek	West A NA	Fred Freytag	Witherbee NA
Jayne Sebby	Woods Park NA	Nancy Intermill	Midtown Village
Wayne Svoboda	Volunteer Partners	Liz Lange	Parks Foundation
Jonathan Cook	City Council	Randy Hoskins	Public Works
Jerry Shorney	Parks & Rec	David Bomberger	Parks & Rec
Dave Alder	Parks & Rec	Jim Portis	Parks & Rec
Matt Mittelstadt	Parks & Rec	Chris Myers	Parks & Rec
Wynn Hjermstad	Urban Development	David Ensign	Urban Development
Alex Leonard	Stronger, Safer	Chris Thomsen	Stronger, Safer
Lin Quenzer	Mayor's Office	Jon Carlson	Mayor's Office
Mayor Beutler			

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Tracy Corr opened the meeting and asked the participants to introduce themselves. Attendees checked in on the sign-in sheet.

Jon Carlson distributed information on Lincoln Energy Challenge and a nomination form for Environmental Leadership Awards. (See handouts.)

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Beutler briefly mentioned he spent much of his time the past few weeks on legislative bills in the Unicameral that directly affect the City's budget process.

PARKS LONG GRASS POLICY – PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Jerry Shorney, Assistant Director, Parks and Recreation Department, presented information on the Long Grass Policy. Parks and Recreation Department has more than 6,000 acres of park land. In 2004, they mowed about 2,300 acres. To reduce costs, they evaluated passive areas in the parks. They started two programs: Prairie in the Park and Long Grass in the Park. This year, Parks will mow about 1,600 acres because neighborhood parks probably will have some long grass areas. They will continue to mow on a 14-day cycle the high activity areas: picnic, shelter, ball field, play and playground areas. They will mow the long grass areas about twice a year. (See handout.)

Jerry distributed information on the long grass areas in parks within the four districts. The information compares Total Park Area with Long Grass Area. (See handouts.) Citizens who have questions or complaints about the long grass should contact their district office:
Jim Portis, NW – 402-441-7958 Chris Myers, NE – 402-441-7887
Dave Alder, SW – 402-441-7891 Matt Mittelstadt, SE – 402-441-7890
Additionally, they may contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 402-441-7847. They also may e-mail to parks@lincoln.ne.gov

Jerry fielded questions and comments from the Roundtable.

Liz Lange, President of Lincoln Parks Foundation, presented information on the foundation's work (see handout). A new mini-grant program will help the Parks and Recreation Department during these difficult fiscal times to fund mowing, landscaping, etc. This program provides grants up to \$500. The Foundation will mail the information to the neighborhood associations this week. Groups may apply between April 1 and May 13.

Liz fielded questions and comments from the Roundtable.

PROPOSED ACCESS MANAGEMENT POLICY – PUBLIC WORKS & UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Randy Hoskins, Assistant City Engineer, Public Works and Utilities Department, presented a PowerPoint slide show on the proposed Access Management Policy (available at: <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/docs/pdf/access-mgmt-ppt.pdf>). For three years, the City has worked to develop this proposed policy. The DRAFT document is available at: <http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/docs/pdf/access-mgmt.pdf>

Access management is controlling vehicle movements onto and off streets to maintain peak safety and efficiency of the transportation system. The PowerPoint presentation covers the proposed policy.

Public Works will hold public information meetings from March through May 2011. They will present the policy to the Planning Commission on July 29, 2011. On July 18, 2011, they will introduce it to the City Council who will hold a public hearing on the policy on July 25, 2011. The goal for an approved and adopted policy is August 2011.

Citizens may comment on the website:
<http://lincoln.ne.gov/city/pworks/docs/access-mgmt.htm>

Randy fielded questions and comments from the Roundtable.

SET APRIL AGENDA

The next meeting of the Mayor's Neighborhood Roundtable is Monday, April 11, 2011, 5:30 P.M., in the Mayor's Conference Room, County/City Building, 555 South 10th Street, **3rd floor**. Next month's agenda will include the Mayor discussing the impact of legislative bills on the budget process and a presentation on the LES Energy Incentive Program.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:27 P.M.

Get comfortable saving **MONEY**. It's easy!

Group giveaways

March 2011

Your favorite school, business, non-profit, neighborhood association and/or faith-based group can earn eco-friendly prizes if they spread word about the Challenge!

Earn your prizes

Groups don't need luck to win prizes. They can earn prizes by encouraging others to note their group as an affiliation when joining the Challenge. No need to count—we'll keep track of how many people affiliate with your group and be in contact with winners.

Affiliation levels and prizes:

Schools: 30% of current enrollment pledged

Prizes: Solar trash compactor, recycled-content bike rack

*school competition ends May

Businesses/non-profits: 25 pledges

Prizes: Curbside recycling service, ENERGY STAR refrigerator, recycled content bike rack

Neighborhood/Homeowner associations: 50 pledges

Prizes: Recycled content bike rack, recycled content park bench, trees

Faith-based groups: 50% of current congregation

Prizes: Curbside recycling service, recycled content bike rack, solar trash compactor

School giveaway ends May 27. Business/non-profit, neighborhood/homeowner, and faith-based ends July 31. Prizes are limited. Terms and conditions may change as the Challenge progresses.

We're not shy. Invite us over!

We can send a representative to talk to your group about the Challenge and what it offers—energy checkups, prizes, tax credit information and more!

Whether it's hosting a booth at an event or presenting a slideshow, we'll help you earn your prize. Give us a call or shoot us an e-mail and we'll find a time that works for you.

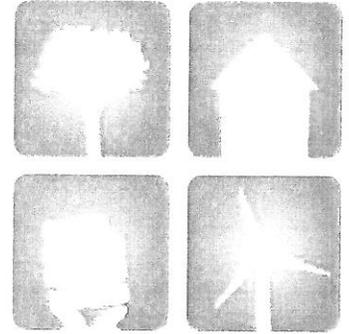
Volunteers needed!

Interested in educating others about energy? We're looking for volunteers to conduct Basic Energy Checkups in homes. The next training is **Tues., Apr. 5 at 7 p.m.**

Volunteers get a folder of energy saving info and a free t-shirt. E-mail us at green@lincoln.ne.gov if you're interested!

To remove your name from our mailing list, please send an e-mail to green@lincoln.ne.gov with "REMOVE" in the subject line.

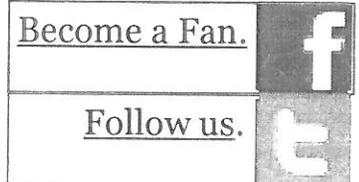
Questions or comments? Email us at green@lincoln.ne.gov or call 402-441-7658



LINCOLN ENERGY CHALLENGE

2143 "O" Street

402-441-7658



February Winners

Share progress to stay eligible for random prize drawings!

1/7 Jessica Munford
Gift card (Russ's Market)
CFLs (Wolfe Ace Hardware)

2/11 John & Laura Schram
Gift card (Bison Witches)
CFLs (Wolfe Ace Hardware)

2/18 Rochelle Dyer
Gift card (Ideal Grocery)
CFLs (Wolfe Ace Hardware)

2/25 Bob & Gina Egenberger
Gift card (Open Harvest/
Coffee House)
CFLs (Wolfe Ace Hardware)

Prizes donated by local businesses.



**CITY OF LINCOLN & LANCASTER COUNTY
ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP AWARDS
NOMINATION FORM
DEADLINE: APRIL 6, 2011**

The Lincoln-Lancaster County Environmental Leadership Awards honor businesses, organizations and individuals who have demonstrated environmental stewardship and dedication to sustaining and improving our environment.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Awards are given in each of the following categories:

- Business and Industry**
- Education** - educating the public or providing education in schools/colleges
- Community or Nonprofit Organization**
- Government**
- Agriculture**
- Individual Citizen**

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for an award, nominees must have been instrumental in identifying, reducing, or solving an environmental problem and/or promoting public awareness and active concern for the enhancement and protection of the environment. Additionally, nominees must demonstrate one or more of the following environmental practices:

- **Pollution Prevention/Risk Reduction:** Eliminate or significantly reduce the use of toxic products or harmful air emissions; reduce risk posed by hazardous materials through design, engineering, or other practices. Engage in integrated pest management.
- **Waste Reduction and Recycling:** Reduce the amount of waste discarded and use sound recycling approaches.
- **Water Conservation:** Reduce water use, increase reuse of water resources, increase use of rainwater and runoff or utilizing land use designs that reduce runoff or use drought tolerant plants.
- **Soil Conservation:** Reduce soil runoff or erosion and engage in practices that eliminate soil depletion.
- **Energy Conservation:** Reduce the use of electricity or fossil fuels by using energy-efficient products; using solar or passive heating and cooling systems; or engaging in other energy efficient practices.
- **Cleanup and Beautification:** Create or improve an area or neighborhood's visual quality through approaches such as: litter pickup; neighborhood clean-ups; removal of junk cars, tires, or appliances; and cleanup of streams, ponds, lakes, or shorelines.
- **Residential and Commercial Development:** Projects that use SMART growth principles; result in carbon impact reductions; use "green building" design principles; use environmentally friendly and recycled content products; use energy efficient and water conserving designs; maintain or restore natural features; or reduce construction waste.
- **Other environmental practices**

WRITTEN SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENT

Submit a written summary describing how the nominee's efforts and achievements fulfill the eligibility as defined above. Please explain the following three items in the summary including specific environmental practices and quantify results:

- Description of environmental activity.
- Degree and length of involvement in environmental activity.
- Impact on public health, the environment or environmental awareness.

Letters of endorsement, photos, charts, or other supporting materials are encouraged.

DEADLINE

Please submit the Nomination Form and Summary of Achievement online by **April 6, 2011** at:
www.lincoln.ne.gov keyword: awards

Although submitting the nomination electronically is preferred, hard copies of the Nomination Form and Summary of Achievement may also be postmarked by April 4, 2011 to:

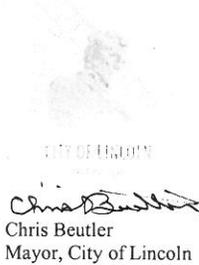
Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department
Environmental Public Health Division
3140 N Street
Lincoln, NE 68510

QUESTIONS?

Call 402-441-4602

CEREMONY

The City of Lincoln and Lancaster County 2011 Environmental Leadership Awards Ceremony will be held from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Friday, June 3, 2011 at the Nebraska Champions Club, 707 Stadium Drive. Award recipients will be contacted prior to the ceremony. This awards program is funded primarily through private donations and sponsors.



Deb Schorr
Deb Schorr
Chair, Lancaster County Commissioners

DETACH AND RETURN WITH THE WRITTEN SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENT

NOMINEE INFORMATION

DATE SUBMITTED: _____

Nominee Name _____ **Phone** _____

Mailing Address _____ **City** _____ **Zip Code** _____

E-mail _____

Check one category:

- Business/Industry
- Education
- Community/Nonprofit Organization
- Government
- Agriculture
- Individual Citizen

NOMINATED BY

Name _____ **Address** _____

E-mail _____ **Daytime Phone** _____

Written summary of achievement attached?

Synopsis of Lincoln's Park Operations Long Grass Areas

Our land management practices for conservancy areas and other areas started to change during FY 2004-05. When we began implementing these changes, we located the majority of the long grass areas to areas typically less utilized and more remote from areas adjacent to private property and public right of ways.

In order to match our maintenance levels with our funding levels, we are finding it necessary to include long grass areas in areas of higher visibility. (We will continue to maintain our high activity areas, such as our picnic, shelter, ball field, play and playground areas on a 14 day mowing cycle.)

These long grass areas save money, not only in staff time and equipment, but also cuts down on fuel, fertilizer, and pesticide usage. In many areas native plants will naturally replace existing grasses and selected areas will be re-seeded to establish native species.

An added benefit to these long grass areas is an increase in wildlife value for our urban environment. This increases the opportunity for wildlife viewing and is a great way for our children to experience the great outdoors and interact with nature's abundant wildlife.

It is important to us that the citizens of Lincoln have a quality experience in our parks. We strive to strike a balance between the amounts of area in our long grass program with our areas that receive more intensive land management.

To see all that Lincoln's Park and Recreation Department has to offer, please go to: www.lincoln.ne.gov/parks .

Additional resources for some frequently asked questions regarding long grass areas:

- http://www.co.guilford.nc.us/gheh/cms/health%20hazards/index_hhaz.htm
- <http://lancaster.ne.gov/weeds/natural.htm>
- <http://lancaster.ne.gov/weeds/abatprog.htm>

Southeast District Locations and Reduction in Acres Mowed

	Total Park Acres	Long Grass Acres thru 2010	2009- New Long Grass Acres by location for 2010-2011	Total Long Grass Acres Slated for 2010-2011
Pine Lake	19.15	10.50	2.24	12.74
Tierra	99.96	88.53	4.22	92.75
Bishop Heights	6.91	0.20	5.20	5.40
Colonial Hills	17.23	5.11	0.00	5.11
Country View	7.68		5.13	5.13
Cripple Creek	6.50		1.40	1.40
Eden	6.00		2.98	2.98
Edenton South	4.19		2.24	2.24
Henry	5.60		1.13	1.13
Larson	12.57	0.29	0.49	0.78
Neighbors	13.87	2.89	0.00	2.89
Pansing	9.39		2.59	2.59
Roberts	16.05	1.90	7.39	9.29
Trendwood	18.62	1.10	5.46	6.56
Williamsburg	9.30		1.30	1.30
Holmes	234.28	143.21	0.00	143.21
Antelope South	72.65	3.52	0.00	3.52
Total District Acres	559.95	257.25	41.77	299.02

Northwest District Locations and Reduction in Acres Mowed

	Total Park Acres	Long Grass Acres thru 2010	2009- New Long Grass Acres by location for 2010-2011	Total Long Grass Acres Slated for 2010-2011
Bowling Lake	34.20	5.07	4.24	9.31
Oak lake	77.48	43.41	0.00	43.41
Roper	112.08	40.98	15.92	56.90
Oak Creek Dog Run	16.67	16.67	0.00	16.67
Arnold Heights	17.25	6.19	2.13	8.32
Ashley Height	1.99	0.25	0.00	0.25
Belmont	13.42		5.94	5.94
Hayward	19.31	10.61	0.00	10.61
Highlands	10.77	2.66	2.56	5.22
Keech	8.37		4.79	4.79
Lintel	2.24		0.57	0.57
Olympic Heights	12.12	6.23	2.37	8.60
Pentzer	3.40		0.38	0.38
West Lincoln	4.62	1.97	0.66	2.63
Total District Acres	333.92	134.04	39.56	173.60

Northeast District Locations and Reduction in Acres Mowed

	Total Park Acres	Long Grass Acres thru 2010	2009- New Long Grass Acres by location for 2010-2011	Total Long Grass Acres Slated for 2010-2011
Ballard	8.15		1.76	1.76
Bethany	8.43	0.25	1.26	1.51
Fleming Fields	28.58	19.97	0.00	19.97
Mahoney	98.83	38.97	0.00	38.97
Peter Pan	10.09	0.67	0.00	0.67
Seacrest	44.88		12.07	12.07
Uni Place	20.98	1.40	0.00	1.40
Woods	38.19	0.52	1.41	1.93
35th & Madison	1.67		0.40	0.40
45 & Gladstone	1.19		0.17	0.17
Idlywild	0.66		0.25	0.25
Easterday	5.60		0.52	0.52
Herbert	7.21		3.87	3.87
Kahoa	6.12		1.55	1.55
McAdams	1.39		0.92	0.92
Piedmont	8.38		1.33	1.33
Stuhr	2.68	0.08	0.29	0.37
Sunrise	1.84		0.58	0.58
Taylor	18.96		11.40	11.40
Tyrrell	9.81		4.31	4.31
UpCo	5.70		0.43	0.43
ECCO	1.21		1.08	1.08
Midtown Commons	0.39		0.22	0.22
Total District Acres	330.94	61.86	43.82	105.68

Southwest District Locations and Reduction in Acres Mowed

	Total Park Acres	Long Grass Acres thru 2010	2009- New Long Grass Acres by location for 2010-2011	Total Long Grass Acres Slated for 2010-2011
Densmore	55.44	15.04	5.23	20.27
Irvingdale	12.14	0.87	3.30	4.17
Peterson	31.01	12.85	4.77	17.62
Sawyer Snell	51.36	18.68	0.00	18.68
Coddington	8.24		2.85	2.85
Filbert	4.48		0.87	0.87
Rudge Memorial	6.25	0.51	1.96	2.47
Standing Bear	19.75	8.17	0.60	8.77
Van Dorn	27.63	11.13	12.80	23.93
Pioneers	265.56	164.21	8.41	172.62
Total District Acres	481.86	231.46	40.79	272.25



MISSION STATEMENT

The Lincoln Parks Foundation secures and manages time, treasure, and talent resources for the betterment of Lincoln's parks and recreation facilities and programs.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Foundation was established as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization in 1992 by a group of committed community volunteers. The current Board of Directors is made up of 20 volunteers from across the business and non-profit communities. The group is dedicated to advancing and sustaining Lincoln's award-winning parks system. Primary projects include capital and program fundraising as well as assistance with volunteer coordination and recognition. The Foundation also invests and manages the various endowment funds in support of parks and projects.

In addition to interested community members, the Board includes representatives from affiliate groups such as the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board; the Friends of the Pioneers Park Nature Center; the Parks and Recreation Department; and the Veterans Memorial Garden Advisory Council.

PAST & CURRENT PROJECTS

Since 2001, the Lincoln Parks Foundation has successfully completed the following renovation and capital projects:

- Sunken Gardens - \$1.7 million
- Hamann Rose Garden at Antelope Park - \$350,000
- Union Plaza - \$4.75 million (Fundraising complete; construction complete in 2012)

Currently, the Foundation is working with the Department on two capital projects that will be publicly announced in 2011.

- Sherman Field
- Centennial Mall

In 2010, LPF established the Legacy Tree Groves program which gives donors the opportunity to honor or memorialize a loved one. In 2010, its inaugural year, the program planted 124 trees in Antelope and Mahoney Parks. In 2011, the Foundation will kick off its mini-grants program which will focus on working with neighborhood associations and other interested groups on bringing funding opportunities and volunteer efforts to neighborhood parks.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Liz Lange, President Board of Directors
lange.liz@gmail.com
(402) 890-2865

Jennifer Keitges, Administrative Assistant
jkeitges@gmail.com
(402) 441-8258