

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Room 113, City-County Bldg..

Thursday, June 9, 2011

Members Present:

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| Andrew Barry | Justin Carlson | Jonathan Cook | Susan Deitchler |
| Curt Donaldson | Ann Pagel | Jane Raybould | Bob Ripley |
| Susan Rodenburg | Dennis Scheer | Jeff Schwebke | Joe Tidball |

Members Absent:

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| Molly Brommond | Todd Fitzgerald | Karen Hand |
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Recognition of 'Open Meetings Act': As per law, Chairperson Joe Tidball announced that the Board follows the regulations of this Act, as posted.

*** APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** *It was moved (Pagel) and seconded (Raybould) to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2011, Parks & Recreation Advisory Board meeting as mailed with the correction in the spelling of Ryan Starr's name. Motion carried by majority vote of members present with Deitchler abstaining.*

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: approving development of ADA accessible fishing piers and walkway at Bowling Lake Park:** Bill Weddle (Parks & Recreation Planning Division) spoke to this recommendation. The purpose of this proposal is to increase fishing accessibility at a local lake to those with mobility limitations by constructing two wooden fishing pier structures specifically designed for enhanced accessibility on the existing earthen bridge to the island. The full master plan for the project consists of hard surface parking and walkway improvements, the addition of a pre-manufactured restroom building and the possibility of an additional hard surface walkway from the proposed fishing piers to an existing park shelter located on the island. Future additions may also include a new restroom building and a children's playground on the island.

Proposed funding for the project will be generated from donations gathered by a user group comprised of retired Nebraska Game & Parks commission employees. No taxpayer money will be used to fund the project. They anticipate construction of the master plan will need to be completed in phases as fund raising allows with the priority project being the fishing pier structures themselves. Weddle responded to questions asked by Board members. ***After brief discussion, It was moved (F&F Committee) to recommend approval of development of ADA accessible fishing piers/walkway at Bowling Lake. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***

*** Recommendation re: declaring 2.5 acres in the northeast corner of Belmont Park at No. 14th & Manatt Streets as surplus:** Educare is a nationwide initiative to provide innovative and intensive pre-school education to at-risk infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers. There are currently 10 Educare facilities in operation, including two in Omaha. The next phase of development of nine new Educare facilities includes a new facility in Lincoln. The Educare model places the

facilities adjacent to elementary schools. A number of elementary school sites in established areas of Lincoln were evaluated and the Belmont Elementary School site was selected.

The Lincoln Educare building will be about 30,000 square feet in size with accompanying outdoor play and learning areas. The proposed location is immediately north of the Belmont Elementary School building located at North 14th & Judson Streets. The Educare building will displace four portable classrooms, the school playground, and school parking lot. The portable classrooms will be replaced with a new school classroom wing. The playground and parking lot will be relocated.

The City has been requested to consider surplusing about 2.5 acres of land in the northeast area of Belmont Park, southwest of the intersection of No. 14th & Manatt Streets. (Please see the attached map). This area would be used to develop a new parking lot to serve the new Lincoln Educare facility and Belmont Elementary School.

A neighborhood meeting was held at Belmont Elementary School on the evening of Thursday, May 26th to share information regarding the proposed Lincoln Educare facility and related changes to the Belmont Elementary School facility, as well as the request to sell land in the northeast corner of Belmont Park for development of a new parking lot.

Lynn Johnson responded to questions asked by Board members. ***After brief discussion, it was moved (F&F Committee) to recommend approval of declaring 2.5 acres in the northeast corner of Belmont Park at No. 14th & Manatt Streets as surplus to be used to construct an Educare facility to be used in conjunction with Belmont Elementary School. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***

*** Recommendation re: establishment of an operating agreement with the Willard Community Center Organization for the Willard Community Center building located at South Folsom and West "B" Streets:** Susan Deitchler reported that the City acquired a former school building from Lincoln Public Schools in the 1970's. Subsequently, the Parks and Recreation Department operated the building as a recreation center for a few years until budget restrictions forced closing of the program. The Willard Community Center (WCC), a private organization, then took over provision of programming in the building. The WCC also provides school-age programming at Roper Elementary School and Lakeview Elementary School.

For about 30 years, the City has been funding utility costs as well as a majority of building maintenance and repair expenses. Due to the current budget restrictions, this level of funding support is being discontinued. A new operating agreement between the WCC and the City is being proposed. The following provides an overview of this proposed agreement:

- The agreement will be for a ten-year period from September 1, 2011, through August 31, 2021.
- The WCC will be responsible for all costs associated with maintenance and improvements to the building. Proposed major maintenance activities or improvements to the building are to be approved by the City.
- The WCC will place five percent (5%) of gross operating revenues into a building maintenance fund for the purpose of making repairs and improvements to the building.
- The WCC will be responsible for all utility expenses, and general building operating expenses.
- The WCC will have access to the parking lot located south of the building at no cost.
- Fees for WCC programs are to be reviewed and approved by the Parks and Recreation Director.
- The WCC will indemnify the City, and will provide public liability insurance listing the City of Lincoln as additionally insured.
- The WCC will comply with standard City of Lincoln contract provisions including use of the Federal immigration verification system for employees, fair employment and labor standards, and living wage standards.

There being no discussion, it was moved (F&F Committee) to approve the recommendation to establish an Operating Agreement with the Willard Community Center

Organization for the Willard Community Center building located at South Folsom & West "B" Streets. Motion approved by unanimous vote of members present.

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

*** Recommendation re: amendments to Lincoln Municipal Code Section 12.08.270 regarding serving and consumption of alcoholic liquor in designated park areas, and related rules and regulations:** Bob Ripley reported that in December, 2006, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommended amending City regulations regarding serving and consumption of alcoholic liquor in park areas as follows. (Previous recent amendment to these regulations authorized serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages on the four 18-hole City golf courses.)

- allow serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages at designated park areas in conjunction with fund raising activities benefitting parks and recreation facilities or programs;
- allow serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with facility rental of Auld Pavilion; and
- allow serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with performances at Pinewood Bowl.

In August, 2008, the City Council approved amending regulations regarding serving and consumption of alcoholic liquor in park areas to allow beverages to be served and consumed in designated park areas (Hazel Abel Park, Stransky Park, Antelope Park Rose Garden, and Pioneers Park Nature Center) in conjunction with fund raising activities benefitting parks and recreation facilities or programs.

The proposed revisions to regulations regarding serving and consumption of alcoholic liquor in park areas are summarized as follows:

- replace the list of designated park areas where alcoholic beverages may be served and consumed during fund raising activities benefitting parks and recreation facilities and programs with a provision allowing the Mayor to designate park areas, by executive order, where alcoholic beverages may be served and consumed during fund raising activities. Broaden the types of fund raising activities to include those supporting programs and facilities of other City departments.
- allow serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with facility rental of Auld Pavilion; and
- allow serving and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with performances at Pinewood Bowl.

There would be an additional charge (in addition to the rental fee) if the facility renter wanted to serve alcohol and they would also be provided with a list of designated caterers to select from. The Board members were given a copy of the proposed rules and regulations associated with Lincoln Municipal Code Section 12.08.270 regarding service and consumption of alcoholic liquor in designated park areas.

Lynn Johnson answered questions from Board members and ***after brief discussion, it was moved (Futures Committee) to approve the recommendation re: amendments to LMC Section 12.08.270 regarding the serving and consumption of alcoholic liquor in designated park areas, and related rules and regulations. Motion approved by majority of members present with Cook abstaining.***

*** Recommendation re: acceptance of donation of painting titled "Red Cloud" by artist Neil Unterseher:** Terry Genrich reported that Carole Smith, on behalf of her brother Neil Unterseher, is offering donation of a painting by Mr. Unterseher titled "Red Cloud". The oil painting is about 28" x 40" in size and is a depiction of the "Smoke Signal" sculpture in Pioneers Park.

Parks and Recreation Department staff are recommending that the painting be displayed at the

Parks and Recreation Administration building in a location that is visible to the public. ***There being no discussion, it was moved (Staff) to recommend approval of acceptance of donation of a painting titled "Red Cloud" by artist Neil Unterseher. Motion carried by unanimous vote of members present.***

Golf Committee

- Steve Hiller reported that rounds are down about 3% and revenue is down about 6.25%. The 6" of rain that fell in Lincoln in the month of May hurt the golf program, especially on the weekends. The City continues to look for methods to get more golfers out to the courses. A new initiative from the USDA called "Get Golf Ready" will be kicked off the middle of June on Sunday afternoons. This initiative is a way to hopefully get people back to the courses for more play and will be played with 6 holes rather than 9 holes as well as other changes that will allow players to get away from the normal style of playing golf.
- Another event will be a "Night Light" to be held at Ager Junior Golf Course the week of June 12-18th. Glow sticks will be incorporated into this new unique event! 20 teams have already signed up but there's room for 30 teams and play will begin at 9:00 p.m.
- Regarding the above issue of serving/consuming alcohol at different park sites, Hiller said there have been no problems at any of the courses since the ordinance change took place that allowed alcohol to be served on the courses.

Executive Committee - Joe Tidball (Chair) - 730-5638

- No report

Staff Report:

- Update on 'Zorbing' or globe riding, proposal: Jerry Shorney reported that Ryan Starr has contacted the Corp of Engineers but it's still an on-going process. Citizens around Holmes Lake have also voiced concern about the zorbing proposal. The Department will continue to collect information and will also set up another meeting with Ryan and other City Departments to discuss concerns. A decision will not be made until everyone's had time to study the complete proposal.

Announcements:

- Rededication of Hazel Abel Park will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Thursday, July 7, 2011.
- Joint meeting of PRAB and LPF Board of Directors will take place on Thursday, July 14, 2011, 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.