

MINUTES

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board Meeting

Woods Park Place, 3131 O Street, Third Floor Conference Room
Thursday, March 14, 2024 ~ 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Jessica Boren (arrived @ 4:08 pm) Bradley Brandt Katie Graf
Isabelle Huertas Sherrie Nelson Jonathan Petersen Tammy Poe
Jennifer Seacrest

Members Absent:

Charity Iromuanya Jim Crook Tut Kailech Matt Schulte
JJ Toczek S ndra Washington Vacant (Hemmer) Vacant (Schwebke)

Staff Members Present:

Maggie, Stuckey-Ross, Director JJ Yost, Assistant Director
Holly Lewis, Assistant Director Denise Pearce, Special Projects Admin.
Chris Myers, Park Operations Coordinator Wade Foreman, Golf Business Coordinator
Randy Gordon, Foundation Director Jocelyn Golden, Asst. City Attorney
Angela Quinn, Exec. Secretary

CALL TO ORDER & RECOGNITION OF ‘OPEN MEETINGS ACT’:

As per law, Chairperson Jonathan Petersen 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 who declared a quorum of Board members present.

Adam Hintz with Friends of Wilderness Park made a brief statement and presented Board members and staff with newly designed and printed pocket-sized maps for Wilderness Park which highlight trails and other amenities, as well as Park regulations and etiquette. The maps are courtesy of listed sponsors and advertisers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Katie Graf to approve the minutes from February 8, 2024 meeting as presented. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”:** Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe. **“Abstain”:** Jennifer Seacrest. **“No”:** None. **Motion carried.**

Jessica Boren arrived at 4:08 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- **Policies Committee – Katie Graf (Chair)**
Katie Graf happily announced that Isabelle Huertas is a new Board member on the Policies Committee. No other report at this time.

Next Policies Committee meeting – Tuesday, April 16th at 4:00 p.m.

- **Facilities & Infrastructure Committee – Bradley Brandt (Chair)**
JJ Yost reviewed an amended conceptual master plan (copy attached to official minutes on record) at the South Haymarket Park that would incorporate additional property acquisitions adjoining the original park parcel. Following explanation of proposed updates to the park and discussion from Board members, a motion was made by Tammy Poe and seconded by Sherrie Nelson to endorse the South Haymarket Master Plan as amended. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **“Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe.** **“Abstain”**: **Jennifer Seacrest.** **“No”**: **None. Motion carried.**

Bradley Brandt then requested another motion from the Board to proceed with a capital campaign. A motion was made by Tammy Poe and seconded by Katie Graf to recommend to the Lincoln Parks Foundation to proceed with a capital campaign for South Haymarket Park according to the amended master plan. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: **Yes”**: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe.** **“Abstain”**: **Jennifer Seacrest.** **“No”**: **None. Motion carried.**

Next Facilities & Infrastructure Committee meeting – Wednesday, April 17th at 4 p.m.

- **Golf Report – Sherrie Nelson (Chair)**
Sherrie Nelson provided a brief overview of the golf recent report and noted current CIP projects underway.

Next Golf Committee meeting – Thursday, April 25th at 12:00 noon

- **Executive Committee – Jonathan Petersen (Chair)**
Lincoln Parks Foundation Director Randy Gordon provided updates for ongoing Foundation fundraising efforts including South Haymarket Park, Mahoney Inclusive Playground, Midwest Racers Organization track, and Lincoln Youth Football is making progress on their fundraising campaign.

Next Executive Committee meeting – Thursday, April 25th at 4:00 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS:

Director Maggie Stuckey-Ross reminded Board members of the new meeting schedule on odd months, noting that the next full board meeting would be on May 9th, and that committees would be meeting on even months.

Woods Park comments received have been added to a database that is now available to Board members. If anyone has issues accessing, they are asked to contact staff.

JJ Yost informed attendees that there will be work performed on towers at Woods Pool in the immediate future in preparation for the upcoming pool season. Maggie added that the Health Department would also be doing some remodeling in the spring to the Woods Park Place building. Routine construction will be observed in the area soon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT LISTED ON THE AGENDA:

Rosina Paolini, 1850 Dakota Street – Final year for Run for the Bridges; hope to revitalize fitness center with remainder of donated funds.

Mary Schwab, 3510 Woods Avenue – Woods Park Keep it Green and Witherbee Neighborhood Association; discussed number of trees to potentially be removed from Woods Park and the value of those trees.

Jose Soto, 509 S. 28th Street – Woods Park: encroachment by Tennis, pool events, and Wesleyan baseball field; follow Raquet Master Plan.

Peggy Olson, 508 S. 28th Street – not present to comment.

Mary Anne Wells, 3460 Woods Avenue – South Haymarket Park vision is what Woods Park used to be.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Woods Park Usage Survey will be available until March 17 at lincoln.ne.gov/WoodsParkProposal
- WE ARE HIRING! Spread the word that Lincoln Parks & Recreation is now hiring all seasonal positions – check out all openings at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/lincolnne/transferjobs>

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business for the Board a motion was made by Bradley Brandt and seconded by Tammy Poe to adjourn the meeting at 4:55 p.m. Upon roll call vote members voted as follows: “Yes”: **Jessica Boren, Bradley Brandt, Katie Graf, Isabelle Huertas, Sherrie Nelson, Jonathan Petersen, Tammy Poe, Jennifer Seacrest.** “No”: **None.**
Motion carried.

The next PRAB meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024 at 4:00 p.m. Due to the upcoming Friends of Woods Tennis proposal for Woods Park and anticipating many members of the public in attendance, the May 9th meeting will be held at Auld Pavilion in Antelope Park, 1650 Memorial Drive.