

City of La Vista  
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes  
January 18, 2017

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of LaVista convened in open and public session at 7:00 p.m. on January 18, 2017. Present was Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson, Denny Dinan from Recreation Dept., and Jeff Thornburg from Public Works. Advisory Board Members present were Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Greg Johnson and Gene Svensen, and Jeff Kupfer.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on January 11, 2017. Simultaneously given to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice are attached to the minutes. Availability of the agenda was communicated, in advance notice, to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee of this meeting. All proceedings hereafter were taken while the convened meeting was open to attendance of the public. Further, all the subjects included in said proceedings were contained in the agenda for inspection within ten working days after said meeting, prior to the convened meeting of said body.

#### CALL TO ORDER

Director Stopak called the meeting to order.

Stopak led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Stopak made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference and read the Emergency Procedures Statement.

#### A. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Director Stopak asked for a motion to approve the Minutes and Program Information from the December 21, 2016 meeting. Motion made by Chairperson Lodes. Seconded by Member Svensen. All Aye. Motion carried.

#### 2. REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

- Assistant Director Karlson reported on special programs, events and the Senior Center.
  - Preschool Playtime met 9 times in December with 214 preschoolers and 166 adults participating. This was an average of over 23 preschoolers and 18 adults attending each session. Preschool Playtime's attendance was up by 69 children from last month.
  - Ms. Jen from the Library hosted her monthly Preschool Story-time and Sing Along on the first Thursday of the month and had 24 preschoolers and 20 parents attended.
  - From December 12<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup>, Santa Claus made his annual phone calls to over 3 dozen La Vista kids.

#### Senior Center

- Throughout each month, seniors are able to attend a lunch catered by Valley Food Services on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. They can play Bingo on Monday and Friday, Chair Volleyball on Wednesday and Friday, participate in Tai Chi on Tuesday and Thursday, join our quilting/sewing/knitting-crocheting group each Wednesday, and play Pinochle on the first and third Wednesday of each month. In addition, on Monday morning we have a Coloring Book Club, and on the second Wednesday of each month, we have the Sarpy/Cass Department of Health & Wellness Senior CARE Clinic at the Center, providing foot care and other miscellaneous health care to seniors for a minimal fee.

- At our City Council meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>, Sharron Bailey, from our Wednesday Quilting and Sewing group, presented 30 homemade quilts to the Papillion/La Vista Fire Dept. and the La Vista Police Dept. These quilts are used on the squad and kept in the police cars to be given to people in cases where they may need them. An example would be if there is a car accident in cold weather, the officer or fireman may use a quilt to keep the involved person warm. That person is also allowed to keep the quilt. They are very much appreciated by our first responders! The members of the Quilting and Sewing club also have been making “fidget quilts” for Alzheimer patients, and quilts for cancer patients. The fidget quilts have different squares with different textured materials and items. They have a regular assembly line going while making these quilts!
- Over a two-night period, a total of 24 seniors enjoyed our annual Holiday Light Tours. As a new twist, we had them meet at the Community Center a half hour prior to our departure. We had hot chocolate, cookies and also sang Christmas carols before departing on the tour.
- On Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, Leslee Campbell with the Sarpy Department of Health and Wellness gave a presentation on fitness walking programs for seniors. Each participant received a free tote bag with fitness information and a free pedometer.
- December 7<sup>th</sup> Kim Eames from Merry Makers performed for 26 seniors after lunch.
- Friday December 9<sup>th</sup> the La Vista Jr. High Show Choir performed for a group of 29 seniors.
- On Tuesday December 13<sup>th</sup>, we took 12 seniors on a trip to the Mormon Trail Center Gingerbread House Festival.
- Karlson also wanted to give props to the Special Services Bus Driver-Al Cardin, Paul Merkuris and Gary Golike. From October through December 2016, our bus ridership rose by 283 riders compared to last year during the same period. This is due to the drivers rearranging the schedules to be able to fit more passengers in. They have all been doing a great job.

## **YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS**

**Submitted by Denny Dinan**

- Dinan discussed youth and adult sports and special events.
  - Adult Women’s Volleyball fall league ended on December 28<sup>th</sup>. The winter session started on January 4<sup>th</sup> and has 9 teams. The season will run for 14 weeks.
  - Youth Basketball League games started on January 7<sup>th</sup> and will run through February 26<sup>th</sup> with a tournament to follow. The La Vista Community Center is schedule for basketball games Saturdays from 10:30 AM through 5:30 PM and on Sundays from 1:30 through 6:30.
  - Youth Basketball Clinic for grades 1 & 2 started on Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> from 9AM – 10 AM and will run for 5 weeks. This is a parent participation clinic where the fundamentals of basketball are the focus. We have 35 boys and girls participating in the clinic this year which is up from the 23 participants we had last year. We have 8 volunteers from the La Vista Police Department who are coaching the clinic.
  - Registrations are now being accepted for the following youth programs: Boy’s Baseball, Coed Flag Football, Youth Soccer Clinic (Academy and League), Girls Softball, and T-ball.
  - Adult Spring/Summer Softball League registrations will open on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

#### COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson Lodes asked Director Stopak if he had seen the newspaper article on the field usage fees for the new Nebraska Sports Complex. Stopak said he did see them, and we still had lower rates.

Director Stopak reminded the members of the Employee Appreciation Dinner on January 27<sup>th</sup> at the Embassy Suites. The dinner will begin at 6pm, with dinner at 7:30. Awards and prizes will be given announced afterwards.

Chairperson Lodes motioned for adjournment. Seconded by Member Johnson. All ayes. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:15 p.m.