

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
August 16, 2023

A meeting of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee for the City of LaVista convened in open and public session at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 16, 2023. Present was Recreation Director Heather Buller, Asst. Recreation Director David Karlson, Administrative Assistant Sue Tangeman, Adult & Youth Sports Manager Denny Dinan, Senior Services Manager Kaily Stanley, Events Coordinator Brian Allen, Parks Foreman Zac Burt, Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Jeff Kupfer, Jason Ryan, and Deborah Dogba.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on August 9, 2023. Simultaneously given to the members of the Park and Recreation Advisory Committee and a copy of their acknowledgment of receipt of the notice is attached to the minutes. The 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.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Asst. Director David Karlson called the meeting to order.

- 1.1 Karlson led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 1.2 Karlson made an announcement of the location of the posted copy of the Open Meetings Act for public reference and read the Emergency Procedures Statement.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

- 2.1 Karlson asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 19, 2023 meeting. Motion made by Member Kupfer. Seconded by Chairperson Lodes. All aye. Motion carried.
- 2.2 Updates from Recreation Staff

RECREATION DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Report by David Karlson, Assistant Director

- Karlson introduced the new Recreation Director Heather Buller, and also informed the Committee that Member Brenda Mechels-Struby has resigned her position on the Board. Mayor Kindig is looking into appointing a new person to the committee.
- The pool hours have now changed since school has begun. Through Labor Day, the pool hours will be 1pm – 8pm Saturday's and Sunday's only, and same hours on Labor Day, which will be the last day for the year. There are still several guards working, and Asst. Manager Presley Rose has taken over

management for the last couple of weekends (Manager Henry Belik has returned to college out of state as of August 18.)

- The Midwest Collectibles Toy Show held their toy show on Saturday, July 29 at the Community Center. They had 70 vendors and approximately 5,100 people attend the show.
- Karlson also reminded the Board that the original “Community Center Open House” is now being held on October 21 and is now called “Let’s Eat, La Vista!”, a community pancake feed served by the Pancake Man. The Mayor and Council will be on hand to answer questions about La Vista, along with instructors and staff of the Recreation Department will be on hand to answer questions and share information about programs offered.

SENIOR CENTER

Report provided by Kaily Stanley, Senior Services Manager

- In July, a total of 1,811 seniors participated in Senior Center programs.
 - 210 Lunches were served.
 - 1,601 Seniors participated in various recreational activities
- Some special programs included:
 - Outings to Olive Garden, Twin Creek Movie Theater, Jimbo’s Diner and Soaring Wings Vinyard
 - Movies were “Poms” and “Stand By Me”.
 - Music by Merrymaker DeAndre Jones
 - Seniors played various games including Bingo, Happy Birthday Jingo, Pitch, UNO, Hand & Foot and Bunco.
 - Other notable activities were crafts w/Bob and Cheri, a La Vista K9 Police Officer demonstration, Meditation with David, a “Making Strawberry Shortcake” class and a Sno-Cone Social.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Report given by Brian Allen, Evens Coordinator

- National Night Out was held on Tuesday, August 1 from 6:00pm-8:30pm at Central Park. The event (hosted by La Vista Police) consisted of a fun evening of games, activities and friendly conversations with community safety partners. There were equipment displays, safety information as well as face painting, balloon artists and free treats from Kona Ice, Starbucks and Alamo Drafthouse Cinema. A special proclamation from Mayor Kindig was held before a safety walk around the small pond.
- The final Trivia Night for the summer was held on Wednesday, August 9 at Heights Draft Room in City Centre. 48 people made up 13 teams. Attendance

this year for each event surpassed the last two years by more than double. June had 12 teams and July had 16 teams.

- The final Moonlight Movie of the summer was held outdoors at the La Vista Library on Friday, August 11. This was the first time since 2019 that the event was held at the library and the first time to locate the screen on the northeast corner of the grassy area just north of the Library and Metro college building. There were 75 residents in attendance for the showing of “Dungeons and Dragons”.
- **Upcoming Events:**
 - La Vista Live & Local. The final music in the park summer series will be held at the La Vista Library on Friday, August 25. Taking a cue from the site layout for the recent movie, the stage will also be located in the northeast area to help give a better viewing experience. David Downing on cello will open for Funk Trek. The event starts at 5pm with a local food truck on site. Music starts at 6pm.
 - La Vista Loop, a 2k Fun Run, will be held at Central Park on Saturday, September 16 from 10:00am – 12:00pm. This all-ages fun run will include activities and challenges along the way as well as a costume contest. Registration just opened and we have over 30 people already signed up. Volunteer opportunities for the day of the event are available.
 - Save the dates! Saturday, October 14 for Fall Fest at City Centre and a Community Pancake Feed (Let’s Eat, La Vista!) on Saturday, October 21 at the Community Center.

YOUTH AND ADULT SPORTS

Report provided by Denny Dinan, Youth & Adult Sports Manager

Youth Sports:

- **Youth Baseball, Softball, Flag Football** ended season at the end of June/early July.
- **Coed T-ball:** We had 6 teams playing in the league, which ended on July 15.
- **Senior Softball:** Spring/Summer seasons finished up at the end of July. Fall season will begin in late August for the Monday and Wednesday night league and the Tuesday and Friday morning leagues.

Fall Programs:

- **Fall Flag Football:** Practices began the week of July 17 and games will begin on August 12. We will be using 3 La Vista flag football fields on Saturdays for games over the next 8 weeks. The games run from 8am - 2pm. La Vista has 100 kids signed up on 11 teams, with seven K-2nd grade, 2-3/4 grade & 2-5/6 grade teams. We play in the Sarpy Community Youth Flag Football

League with, Papillion Rec, Monarch Spirit Football & Bellevue Junior Sports Association.

- Practice July 17 – August 11
- Games start August 12 (8 weeks)
- 100 registered participants:
 - K-2 grade: 7 teams
 - 3-4 grade: 2 teams
 - 5-6 grade: 2 teams
- La Vista partners with Sarpy Community Youth Flag Football League with, Papillion Recreation, Monarch Spirit Football & Bellevue Junior Sports Association.
- **Soccer** registration is currently open, and the deadline is August 21. The season will begin on September 9.

June Events:

- **Triple Crown/SlumpBuster Youth Baseball Tournament:**
 - The tournament ran from June 14 - June 25th on La Vista, Council Bluffs, and other Omaha fields.
 - There were 635 teams this year. In 2019, there were over 700 teams, which is the most they have had.
 - On La Vista fields, there were 186 games played in 12 days (avg.16 games per day) during the tournament.
 - \$8,435 of revenue was brought in for this tournament.

Upcoming Events:

- July 15 – 16 Cornhusker State Games - Adult Softball Tournament
- August 26 Punt/Pass/Kick Event

2.2.2 UPDATE FROM PUBLIC WORKS/COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT Report from Zac Burt, Public Works Parks Foreman

- Burt said roof replacement for City Park restroom/concessions building has been approved by City Council and will be completed this fall.
- Basketball hoops are being replace in Central Park East
- The playground equipment for Central Park has been delivered and will start being installed September 1st. It will take 3-4 weeks.
- There are 2 openings for Public Works Parks staff

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- Recreation Dept. Revenue
- Senior Activities, Meals
- Special Services Bus Revenue, Ridership
- Pool Revenue, Visitors

4. COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

None.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

6. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Lodes made a motion for adjournment. Seconded by Member Ryan. All aye. Motion carried. Adjourned at 6:35 p.m.