

City of La Vista
Park & Recreation Advisory Committee Minutes
December 18, 2013

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 December 18, 2013. Present were Recreation Director Scott Stopak, Assistant Director David Karlson and Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen. Advisory Board Chairperson Pat Lodes, Members Russ Wiig, Joe Juarez and Jeff Kupfer. Also present: Brian Lukasiewicz, Public Works. Absent were Members Corey Jeffus and Program Coordinator Ryan South.

A notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Papillion Times on December 11, 2013. 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 the 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

Recreation Director Scott Stopak called the meeting to order.

Recreation Director Stopak led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Recreation Director 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

Recreation Director Stopak asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2013 meeting. Motion made by Chairperson Lodes. Seconded by Member Wiig. Motion carried.

Stopak asked for approval of the program information. Motion made by Chairperson Pat Lodes. Seconded by Member Wigg. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM RECREATION DIRECTOR AND STAFF

Stopak reported that the Community Center will be closing on Tuesday, December 24 at 12 noon and all day on Wednesday, December 25. The Community Center will also be closing on Tuesday, December 31 at 5pm and all day on Wednesday, January 1 in observance of the holidays.

Assistant Director David Karlson reported that the Recreation Department received two grants from the La Vista Community Foundation. The first grant received was for \$800.00 for our annual coat drive. The money will be used to purchase new youth sized coats that will be delivered to the Papillion-La Vista School Foundation and distributed to low income families in our community. The second grant for \$1,000.00 will help us fund our Annual Easter Egg Hunt. In addition, the La Vista Community Foundation will be volunteering at the event.

Karlson also reported that the first annual Snowflake Flurry was a big success with people in the community dropping off over 100 snowflakes to help us decorate the Community Center for the holiday season.

Karlson reported that La Vista's Annual Holiday Tree Lighting Ceremony was held on Monday, December 2. An estimated crowd of over 800 people attended the Ceremony which included caroling with the La Vista Jr. High choir before Santa Claus lit the tree. Families then moved inside the Community Center where children of all ages could visit Santa in his Holiday Village and enjoy a bowl of soup while enjoying a variety of holiday entertainment.

Karlson also reported that the Pancakes and Pajamas Story time will be held on December 19 and the Afternoon Holiday Movie on December 20.

Program Coordinator Rich Carstensen reported that the Senior Center received two grants from the La Vista Community Foundation. The first grant received was for \$2,000.00 to purchase chairs for the Senior Center participants. The second grant was for \$600.00 to purchase transportation on the Special Services Vehicle for individuals that are in need.

Rich also reported on the following activities for the Senior Program:

Wednesday, December 4 the Pinochle card group will play after lunch. We have 12 individuals who play.

Monday, December 9, 12 seniors made paper snowflakes for the Senior Center.

Tuesday, December 10, was the Holiday Lights Tour. We traveled around the cities of La Vista, Ralston, and Papillion, then went to Mid-Town to see the lights. We had 26 seniors on the trip.

Wednesday, December 11, was movie day after lunch. 8 seniors went to see "The Book Thief".

Friday, December 13 was the Holiday Cookie Exchange and trip to the Mormon Trail Center to see the Ginger Bread House Display.

Tuesday, December 17 was the Mayor's Holiday Pot Luck. We had 50 seniors for this event. We had entertainment from the La Vista Jr. High Drum Choir and also entertainment from a magician.

Today, Wednesday, December 18, the La Vista Jr. High Show Choir had a Holiday Show for seniors.

Monday, December 23 we will have our Holiday Gift Exchange and Christmas Song Sign-a-long.

Monday, December 30, 2014 is our New Year's celebration. To help celebrate the New Year, we will have some musical entertainment.

Rich also reported that on Monday, December 23, we will have our Hot Wheels Holiday Drag Races at 3:00 p.m. for children and adults. You can bring your favorite Hot Wheels or Match Box car or truck and compete on an electronic drag racing track.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR

Park Foreman Brian Lukasiewicz reported that the City recently received a grant for \$5,000.00 for trees from Trees for Nebraska Towns.

Brian also reported that the parks department has made several updates to the landscaping at City Hall and the Community Center in the last few months.

COMMENTS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

No comments.

Member Kupfer made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Member Wiig. Motion carried. Adjourned at 7:35p.m.