

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 8, 2018 PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING LENEXA REC CENTER, 17201 W. 87 STREET PARKWAY, LENEXA, KS

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairperson Mike Rzeszut.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Gary Ewing, Diane Schmidt, Aivars Sics, Pat Thomas and Kelly Tines.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members absent: Craig Denny, Jeff Mark and Brooke Wurdack.

Staff members present: Gary Ristow, Parks and Recreation Director; Logan Wagler, Deputy Director of Parks and Recreation; Lindsay Hart, Recreation Superintendent; John Forbis, Rec Center Manager; Greg Grant, Assistant Rec Center Manager; and Cheryl Doleshal, Parks and Recreation Senior Administrative Assistant.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the July 11, 2018 minutes was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 6-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mr. Wagler requested the agenda be modified. He would like to add: Potential Sale of Parkland near Mize Lake.

Motion for approval of the adoption of the modified agenda was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Aivars, and approved 6-0.

PARKS & RECREATION STAFF UPDATE – JOHN FORBIS / GREG GRANT (REC CENTER ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OVERVIEW)

Mr. Forbis, Rec Center Manager, introduced new Assistant Rec Center Manager Greg Grant. Mr. Grant shared a little background information about himself with the Board. Mr. Forbis said the Center had a successful week celebrating the one year anniversary. The event for chartered members on Saturday evening was

well attended. Mr. Forbis presented a Rec Center first year recap. The recap included highlights, challenges faced, current statistics and future outlook. Some of the stats outlined were financials, memberships, visits and birthday parties. He stated membership numbers have exceeded expectations. Mr. Grant shared information on birthday party rentals. He said they are the third highest revenue category for the center. He also discussed plans for looking ahead. Everyone agreed the first year has been exciting.

Mr. Rzeszut thanked Mr. Forbis and Mr. Grant for their visit.

POTENTIAL SALE OF PARKLAND NEAR MIZE LAKE

Mr. Wagler stated this item just came up and before the City considers selling parkland a recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is requested. The City is considering an agreement to sell approximately 730 square feet of land to the 9759 Shady Bend Circle property owners. This property is located on the south end of Cedar Station Park / Mize Lake. The land is just a sliver of the buffer area to the park, trail and lake. The market value for this property is approximately \$4,500. The encroachment includes fencing, a swimming pool and hardscaping. The encroachment was done by mistake, not intentional. Options available to remedy the situation include: allowing the encroachment, requiring removal of the encroachment, or sale of the property. Staff feels the sale of the parkland is the best solution.

Motion to approve the sale of parkland in Cedar Station Park was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Tines, and approved 6-0.

Mr. Sics inquired who gets the money from the sale of the land. Mr. Wagler said the money will go back into the parks general CIP fund.

NEW TREE DONATION REQUEST – HERITAGE FOREST PARK (JOHN AND MARCIA ROHRER FOR PATRICK T. ROHRER)

Mr. Wagler reported the department has been offered the donation of a maple tree with a plaque to be planted near the new Heritage Forest Park playground in the Little Mill Creek South area. The request is from the parents of KCK Police Deputy Patrick Rohrer, who was killed in the line of duty in June. Patrick grew up in the 83rd & Mullen area.

Motion for approval to accept the donation of a new tree and plaque at Heritage Forest Park from John and Marcia Rohrer was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Sics, and approved 6-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Aivars Sics – Mr. Sics reported he enjoys visiting with the Farmers Market vendors and hearing what they have to say. He thinks it's a great program and has heard positive feedback. The one negative comment has been about the loud food truck generator and the exhaust fumes. Mr. Ristow said they have addressed the problem.

Kelly Tines – Ms. Tines echoed the sentiment about the Farmers Market. Ms. Tines also said her high school boys and their friends enjoy being able to play basketball at the Rec Center anytime. Their only wish is that the center would stay open later.

Gary Ewing – Mr. Ewing is thankful to have a nice facility to enjoy while the outside temperatures are high.

Mike Rzeszut – Mr. Rzeszut shared a day that he spent with his wife and grandsons at the Civic Campus. They attended the Farmers Market, played basketball in the gym, swam in the Rec Center pool and finished the day eating at the Public Market.

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt inquired about the landscaping on the roundabout just north of 87th Street & Renner. She asked if stone pillars were going to be placed on both sides. Mr. Wagler said the four roundabouts along Renner Blvd. all carry the same theme. The pillars are on one side and the plantings and natural areas are on the other side. When the plantings are planted and mature, they will present a pleasing visual.

Director's Report

Mr. Ristow reported the following:

- The City is working with a firm on a Complete Streets Study. They would like to have a representative from the Board be on the committee. If anyone is interested, please let him know.
- The art piece "Body Politic" by artist Joe O'Connell was installed this week. The colored concrete will be poured soon. The dedication ceremony is being scheduled for Tuesday, September 18.
- KCP&L will shut off power to the Rec Center and part of the parking garage this Saturday evening around 6:30 p.m. to accommodate the new construction needs of the area. Power could be off up to 8 hours.

Recreation Report

Ms. Hart reported the following:

- The Farmers Market only has a few more Tuesday morning dates. Saturdays will continue to operate through October 27.
- The Moonlight Bike Ride went smoothly with about 600 riders.
- The last week of summer camp ended Friday, August 3. It was a successful first year.
- This Friday is Movie Night at the Park. "Footloose" is the feature.
- Tiny Tot Triathlon is Saturday, August 25 at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park. There will be two courses this year. The event will now include 3-9 year olds.

Parks Report

Mr. Wagler reported the following:

- Work on the Prairie Star Pkwy. fountain at Canyon Creek Blvd. is almost complete. Staff is waiting on two glass panels. As soon as those are installed the cap stones will be put back on.
- The facilities crew has been getting the site ready for the art piece "Body Politic."
- Flat Rock Creek Pool was shut down on Sunday and Ad Astra Pool will shut down after the Tails on the Trails event Saturday.
- The natatorium at the Rec Center will be closed August 13 – 22 for annual maintenance and deep cleaning.
- Turf division is applying post-emergent herbicide on crabgrass.
- Several irrigation main breaks have occurred because of ground shifting from the drought.
- The landscape division has been busy watering new trees and landscape given the drought conditions.
- Plants in the Renner roundabouts will be planted in the next month.

Project Report

Vision 2040 Update

Mr. Wagler said the steering committee has received tons of input from the community. Currently, the information is being compiled. A flyer listing three main themes (thriving, connected and livable) was handed out. The Board is invited to attend Vision Fest on Thursday, September 20 at the Civic Campus.

Mr. Wagler reported the following:

- Work is continuing on the monument signs. Staff hopes to have them all completed in time to landscape this fall.
- KDOT has agreed to move forward with updates on the I-35 and 95th Street interchange. Plans may begin later this fall.
- New playground replacements are under way. The large playground at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park by Rose's pond will be replaced.
- The Community Center / Senior Center Study is moving along.

Mr. Rzeszut asked if the artificial yews are in for the Farmers Market garage planters. Mr. Wagler said they are here, but under review. He also asked for an update on the Johnson County Library and SMSD Aquatic Center. Mr. Ristow said the library is still on track, but the aquatic center had an issue with the structural steel which shut them down for a few weeks.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:49 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary