

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 11, 2026, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING
LENEXA CITY HALL, COMMUNITY FORUM, 17101 W. 87 ST., PKWY.,
LENEXA**

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 p.m. by Chair Aivars Sics.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Jenny De Cicco, Sarah Hanson, Wanda Kiewiet, Jennifer Lindsey, Jeff Mark, Diane Schmidt and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board member absent: Gary Ewing.

Staff members present: Logan Wagler, Parks and Recreation Director; Mandy Danler, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Danny Huntsinger, Parks Superintendent; Sarah Hirst, Recreation Superintendent; John Linder, Rec Center Manager; and Cheryl Doleshal, Senior Administrative Assistant.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

Visitors to tonight's meeting:

- Lynette Day (High school teacher and Lenexa resident) addressed the Board and shared some points of interest relating to the upcoming 2027 Centennial Park construction enhancements.
- Samuel Teklit (Kansas City, Kansas resident) attended for school research observation.
- Jack McGeary and his father (Lenexa residents) attended for a Boy Scouts project.
- Hueston Saunders (Rockhurst High School student) attended for school project.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the February 11, 2026, minutes was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Kiewiet, and approved 7-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion for approval of the adoption of the agenda was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 7-0.

Mr. Mark arrived at 5:44 p.m. to the meeting.

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF UPDATE – JOHNNY LINDER (REC CENTER 2025 ANNUAL REPORT)

Rec Center by the numbers: Overall revenue (\$4,349,198), Overall expenses (\$3,674,830); Cost recovery (118%), revenue gains (7%), expense gains (5%)

Membership stats – 12,044 total members; Membership visits (379,869), Day pass visits (47,698), Day pass revenue (\$514,518)

Rec Center pool visits - 182,088 and Splash with Me visits - 15,096

Kid Zone visits - 17,200 - First full year of KidCheck system (Quick 5-10 second check-ins, secure pick-up codes, and easy access to emergency contacts streamlined operations)

Parties – 978 total birthday parties, revenue \$229,074, 20 parties average per week, 24,000 party visitors

Facility rentals – 27 Conference room, 14 Entire facility (included 5 school field trips), 39 Rec room, revenue \$40,000

Fitness – 2,366 monthly training sessions, 64 weekly classes, 25 bikes in cycle studio were fully replaced and new recumbent bikes added on the third floor

Rec Center continuing programs, drop-in programs, special events and other 2025 highlights were also shared.

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS

Current Chair Aivars Sics stated he felt a 2-term (1-year each) works well and that he would be willing to serve another year. Vice-Chair Diane Schmidt also said she is willing to serve another year.

Motion for approval to have Mr. Sics continue as Chair and Ms. Schmidt as Vice-Chair was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Kiewiet, and approved 8-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Mr. Sics welcomed new board member Jennifer Lindsey. Ms. Lindsey shared she has been a Lenexa resident since 2012 and is excited about being a member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and looks forward to meeting everyone. The members introduced themselves, shared how long they have served on the board and are happy to welcome Ms. Lindsey.

Members' Reports

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt noticed that Municipal Services is addressing the pavement issues along the Parkhurst Trail. She also wondered if the daffodils along the Little Mill Creek Trail are blooming. They will miss Mike Rzeszut (past park board member) with his daffodil walk updates.

Sarah Hanson – Ms. Hanson commented she is glad that Lenexa is trying to keep everyone in the loop regarding e-bikes and e-scooters. Mr. Wagler said Lenexa is educating neighbors and residents on electric devices safety. Two hundred new trail etiquette signs with e-bikes, e-scooters and motorized skateboards' rules have been installed. There is also a big education push through the City's normal channels.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark said the Monday morning 5:30 a.m. cycle class is getting fuller and fuller. Instructor Kristin Crowder took a full-time position, so she is only available to teach the Monday and Saturday morning classes. He wants to make sure management knows how full her classes are.

Wanda Kiewiet – Ms. Kiewiet shared her concern regarding the paved pathway to the Gleason Glen Playground. The asphalt is buckling due to tree roots. Mr. Huntsinger will check on her concern.

Pat Thoms – Mr. Thomas said the retaining wall and new barriers at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park look nice. They will help control walking areas and issues with getting grass to grow.

Director's Report

Potential Land Donation

The city has been offered a land donation of 9.33 acres near 83rd and Clare Road. This property fills a gap and provides an opportunity for a long linear park serving multiple neighborhoods and connecting parks, schools and homes. While no vote was required, the board wanted to share their support of the donation. More steps are required and ultimate approval will belong to the City Council.

Motion to support the potential land donation of 9.33 acres was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Mark, and approved 8-0.

***Splish* – Ad Astra Pool Art Purchase**

The city has purchased a new art sculpture for the newly renovated Ad Astra Pool. With the recommendation from the Lenexa Arts Council and members of the City Council, the piece *Splish* by artist Nathan Pierce was selected. The sculpture will be placed by the entrance welcoming patrons to the pool.

Mr. Wagler also reported that the April 8 board meeting will be canceled due to the planned board retreat.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- The \$400,000 partnership donation from AdventHealth was accepted at last month's City Council meeting. The donation will be used for the **Central Green Playground & Fitness Equipment**. Currently work continues on the design phase and budget cost challenges.
- Work is almost finished on the **Lenexa Cemetery Master Plan**. As soon as the plan has been accepted by the City Council, the final document will be shared with the Park Board.

Ms. Hirst reported the following:

- Spring sports leagues start around the end of March/beginning of April.
- The art gallery exhibit: *Tales from the Heart* will be installed March 31.
- Registration for summer classes and events opens April 1.
- Learning About Lenexa Spring sessions are: April 3, 10, 23 and May 1.
- April 18 is the annual Black Hoof Park Disc Golf tournament.
- Family Night at the Public Market is April 22 (5-7 p.m.) Arbor Day Tree Art will be presented by the forestry and nature staff.
- Saturday Farmers Market opens April 25 with a native plant sale.
- Kansas City Symphony's mobile music box will be at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park for a performance April 29 at 6:30 p.m.
- Lenexa Art Fair is on Saturday, May 9 from 10 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- All holiday lights have been taken down.
- Facilities crew is starting pool prep on outdoor pools, cleaning leaves out and clearing drains.
- Public Market tables have been refinished.
- Fountains and outdoor restrooms are getting ready for the season.
- Turf crew has done a little mowing already.
- Prescribed burning is near completion.
- First application of pre-emergent has been applied.
- Turf renovations and spring seeding are going on throughout the city.
- Community gardens are getting ready for spring planting.
- Street tree pruning is complete for this year.
- Spring bed cleanup has been completed.
- Dormant shrubs have been pruned and mulched.
- Stonewall shelter at Black Hoof Park is now open for reservations.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Hanson, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary