

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10, 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 5:33 p.m. by Vice-Chair Diane Schmidt.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Gary Ewing, Sarah Hanson, Wanda Kiewiet, Jennifer Lindsey, Jeff Mark and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board member absent: Aivars Sics.

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

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of May 13, 2026, minutes was made by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Mr. Mark, and approved 7-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

CEMETERY MASTER PLAN PRESENTATION – MANDY DANLER

The completed Cemetery Master Plan was presented to the Governing Body at the May 26 City Council meeting for their acceptance. Ms. Danler shared the final plan with the Board.

The Lenexa Cemetery Master Plan establishes a strategic roadmap for preserving the cemetery's historic character while preparing for future community needs. Through phased improvements, diversified interment options, infrastructure enhancements, and sustainable landscape design, the City of Lenexa can ensure the cemetery remains a respectful, financially sustainable, and well-maintained community asset for generations to come.

Ms. Schmidt thanked Ms. Danler for the presentation and commented she is pleased with the work that the city and (CPRA, Cemetery Planning Resource Alliance) did on the masterplan.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Wanda Kiewiet – She inquired how involved parks and recreation staff will be at the Lenexa upcoming watch parties. Mr. Wagler stated the department is in a support only role. He reminded her that the group Pitch Lenexa manages those events.

Sarah Hanson – Ms. Hanson commented about the new trail signs she has seen going up at Black Hoof Park, especially the ones that differentiate the private trails from city trails.

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt reported that there is very heavy poison ivy along areas of the Parkhurst Trail. Mr. Huntsinger commented poison ivy is everywhere this season.

Pat Thomas –BBQ is right around the corner. He thanked members Gary Ewing and Wanda Kiewiet for being ambassadors at this year's event.

Gary Ewing – Mr. Ewing accepted the 2026 Great Lenexa Barbeque Battle Proclamation from the Mayor at last month's City Council meeting.

Jeff Mark – He asked if staff is aware of the chopped-up areas along Centennial Trail. He shared that the area looks like a Bobcat went through and shredded trees from top to bottom. Mr. Huntsinger reported that the Stormwater Division did purchase a new forestry shredder to trim trees and remove invasive weeds. He has not seen the area but will check on it.

Director's Report

Mr. Wagler reported the following:

- The Rec Center Improvements Project is slated to begin late July and last 7-9 weeks. Improvements will include a wider staircase leading to the second floor and Kid Zone modifications.
- An Ad Astra Pool reopening date has not been set. Construction work continues. While staff are disappointed about not opening as hoped, there is good news that the quality of work will not suffer. Lenexa is fortunate to have two other operating outdoor pools and an indoor natatorium. Swim lessons, rentals, and all other programs including Lazars Swim and Dive Team and the Blazers Swim Program are being fully accommodated.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- The Central Green Playground and Fitness Equipment Project is moving forward. The pre-bid walkthrough has taken place. Contract bids are scheduled to open by the end of the month.

Ms. Hirst reported the following:

- Spring dance recital was held May 22 at SM West High School auditorium. Around 400 people attended the show with 160 dancers including a dad's dance. It celebrated Ms. Tauna's 50 years of dance.
- Summer camps are busy. We offer specialty camps and licensed day camps. Lots of kids enjoying summer!
- Growing Gardners program started at Lenexa Old Town Activity Center, Young Explorers at Black Hoof Park along with outdoor and indoor swimming lessons. Programming is scheduled at all our facilities.
- The Lenexa Lazars dive team hosted their first dive meet on June 9, and the first swim meet is scheduled for June 18.
- The annual youth fishing derby is this Saturday, June 13 at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park. There are 111 registrations currently.
- The next outdoor concert is Sunday, June 14 at 5 p.m. The band is Stolen Winnebago's.
- Due to weather conditions the May Movie in the Park has been rescheduled to Saturday evening, June 20 at Little Mill Creek Park.
- Playground Passports has 346 participants. The program runs through August 28.
- The Great Lenexa Barbeque Battle is rapidly approaching (June 26 & 27). There are 154 teams currently registered.
- The first community orchestra is June 27 at SM Northwest High School at 7 p.m.

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- With all the rain, turf crew is busy with mowing. Also, the second cycle of ROW mowing is underway.
- Repairs have been made at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park to several washed-out areas caused by heavy rains this spring.
- The goats are returning this week. This year they will be at Black Hoof Park.
- Tree trimming areas are along 83rd Street from Pflumm to Quivira and along 87th Street at City Center.
- The facilities crew is busy keeping the pools going and are ready to get Ad Astra Pool up and running as soon as construction is completed. All three crews: facilities, turf and landscape/forestry will play a part in completing the renovation.

- City parks are very busy this time of year with shelter rentals. The amount of trash collected each weekend is huge.
- The trail around Electric Park is being replaced. The project will take 3-4 weeks. The Lackman Trail leading to Ad Astra Park will be replaced next.
- Rose's Pond at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park is getting emergency repairs. The island and stones to the island are being restructured with added concrete reinforcements. While doing the renovation some of the pond will be dredged and cleaned around the southern end. Work should be completed by late July.

Ms. Schmidt asked if the department had ever thought of offering a community garden donation plot in line with memorial park benches and trees. She had a resident inquire. Mr. Wagler said the department has never been approached by that suggestion, but happy to discuss this with the resident.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Mr. Mark, and approved 7-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:57 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary