

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE MARCH 8, 2023, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING
LENEXA CITY HALL, COMMUNITY FORUM, 17101 W. 87 ST. PKWY.,
LENEXA, KANSAS**

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 p.m. by Chairperson Jeff Mark.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Nathalie Aquino-Brech, Gary Ewing, Wanda Kiewiet, Mike Rzeszut, Diane Schmidt, Aivars Sics, and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board member absent: Amanda Hoernicke.

Staff members present: Mandy Danler, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Danny Huntsinger, Parks Superintendent; Marisa Shartzler, Recreation Superintendent; Erika Geering, Rec Center Manager; Kevin Bruns, Rec Center Assistant Manager and Cheryl Doleshal, Senior Administrative Assistant.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the February 8, 2023, minutes was made by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Mr. Sics, and approved 8-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion for approval of the adoption of the agenda was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Mr. Thomas, and approved 8-0.

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF UPDATE – Erika Geering and Kevin Bruns (Rec Center Annual Report)

Ms. Geering and Mr. Bruns shared the Rec Center Review of 2022. Items presented were: Member Acquisition Efforts; Corporate Incentive Program; Membership Types and Numbers; Member Retention Efforts; Cost Recovery Comparison; Revenue – Expense Comparison; Key Operational Improvements; Member and Day Pass Visits; Reasons to Visit ;Birthday Party Recap and Rentals; Rec Shop Recap; Five Year Celebration; Staff Retention Efforts;

Program Engagement; and New in 2023. Membership comparisons for the last five years are:

Dec. 2018	8,222	Yearly Average	7,752
Dec. 2019	9,187	Yearly Average	9,102
Dec. 2020	3,164	Yearly Average	7,667
Dec. 2021	8,563	Yearly Average	7,115
Dec. 2022	10,288	Yearly Average	9,678

Both birthday party revenue and non-party rentals were up in 2022. There were 823 parties with an approximate average of sixteen parties per week. On August 6, the Rec Center hosted a 5-year celebration with over two hundred participants. Effective May 2023, memberships will increase for the first time with increases for: Household \$4, Adults \$3, Senior/Youth \$2, Plus 1 \$1 and Day Pass \$1. Also, new treadmills, rowers and cycle bikes will be replaced through the Equipment Replacement Program. A few facility improvements will be the installation of gym blinds on the 2nd floor and fresh updated new apparel and convenience items for sale in the Rec Shop.

CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR ELECTIONS

Mr. Mark and Mr. Sics stated they would be willing to continue in their current position of chair and vice-chair.

Motion for approval to have Mr. Mark and Mr. Sics continue in their current roles as chair and vice-chair was made by Mr. Rzeszut, seconded by Mr. Thomas, and approved 8-0.

SAR-KO-PAR PARK AQUATICS CENTER UPDATE – MANDY DANLER

Ms. Danler gave an update on the Indian Trails Aquatic Center Final Design and GMP (Guaranteed Maximum Price). Key points of the presentation were: project team, design goals, budget, review final design, GMP review, project schedule and effect on festivals and events. City of Lenexa, Confluence, Water Technology Incorporated, SFS Architecture, GBA Engineering and McGownGordon Construction are the project team. The design goal was to develop a modernized community-wide aquatic center with the appropriate mix of amenities. Total cost of the project including Indian Trails Aquatic Center Improvements, SKPT Park parking and pedestrian walk updates and a new skatepark parking lot is \$17,305,000 with GMP of \$15,383,143. The breakdown of fees includes construction cost, consultant fee and contingency/FFE. As of now, no 2023 annual festivals and events will be impacted by the construction except the Tiny Tot Triathlon which is moving to Little Mill Creek North Park. The renovated Sar-Ko-Par Park Aquatics Center plans to open on Memorial weekend May 2024.

DONATION REQUEST OF PARK BENCH – SAR-KO-PAR TRAILS PARK (DENISE KOMER FOR RICK KOMER)

The department has been offered the donation of a bench with a plaque at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park. Mrs. Denise Komer has asked for a new bench to honor her late husband, Rick Komer. The location of the bench will be placed to the south of the Grand Pavilion.

Motion for approval to accept the bench donation and plaque at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park from Denise Komer was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Ewing, and approved 8-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Gary Ewing – Mr. Ewing thanked Mr. Mark and Mr. Sics for a job well done as chair and vice-chair, and appreciates they are willing to serve another year.

Mike Rzeszut – Mr. Rzeszut commented that the stone facade on the Rec Center and City Hall is beginning to look stained and dirty and questioned if it would eventually look like the pillars along Prairie Star Parkway. Mr. Huntsinger said the stones are different and mentioned that Municipal Services has begun cleaning the pillars with a new chemical.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark gave a brief update about the first Parks and Recreation Master Plan steering committee meeting held last week. The committee is up and running and has begun working on the branding for the plan. He will continue to supply updates to the board.

Aivars Sics – Mr. Sics said he enjoyed watching the State of the City video and hearing about all the exciting things happening in Lenexa. He commented that there are several parks and recreation projects featured.

Wanda Kiewiet – Ms. Kiewiet inquired if the daffodils had bloomed along Little Mill Creek Trail. Mr. Huntsinger said they should all be blooming in the next two weeks.

Nathalie Aquino-Brech – Ms. Aquino-Brech shared she attended a nice party recently at the Rec Center. While on a walk with her dog at Black Hoof Park she noticed there were several people out enjoying the disc golf course even though it has not officially opened. Staff is excited about the course and anticipates it will be extremely popular.

Assistant Director's Report

Black Hoof Park Disc Golf Course Dedication (March 29, 5:30 pm)

Ms. Danler reminded the Board about the dedication for the disc golf course Wednesday, March 29 at 5:30 p.m. The Board will wear their new parks and recreation attire and department name badges for a group photo.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- The first meeting of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan Steering Committee went well. The next meeting will address the statistically valid survey. An open house is scheduled for Saturday, April 29 at the Rec Center to receive resident input.

Ms. Shartzler reported the following:

- At last month's meeting someone inquired how many Adopt-A-Spots the city has. Currently there are twenty groups comprised of families, businesses and organizations.
- New this summer will be morning swim lessons at Flat Rock Creek Pool.
- Aquatics staff is preparing for the first season of self-serve rentable kayaks at Lake Lenexa in Black Hoof Park.
- Focus is on preparing and training for summer lifeguards and concession workers.
- Spring Break Camp begins next week with fifty children registered.
- Art classes at the Rec Center have increased their maximum class limit to accommodate more students each session.
- The last winter City Center Live performance is this Saturday, March 11. The featured performer is Calvin Arsenia, world renowned harpist.
- The Community Orchestra has begun recruiting musicians for this season's three concerts.
- The last Winter Farmers Market will be March 25. The regular Saturday season opens on April 29.
- Black Hoof Open: Disc Golf Tournament on April 1 has 150 registered golfers. This is the first scheduled tournament at the new Black Hoof Park Disc Golf Course. A day of family fun is scheduled.
- Youth soccer and flag football season starts Saturday, April 1.
- Passport to Adventure Launch at Legler Barn is April 1 beginning at 10 a.m. at Legler Barn. This is a season activity which invites the community to venture out and participate in fun activities.
- The spring session of Learning About Lenexa 3rd grade field trips start back up this month.
- Registration for BBQ returning teams opened on Monday, March 3. Any open spots will open to the public on Monday, April 3.

- Everfast Fiber Networks has secured the presenting sponsorship for the Lenexa Art Fair, Great Lenexa Barbeque Battle, Lenexa Freedom Run and the Lenexa Spinach Festival.
- There are several summer event sign ups that begin on March 31. These include: Spinach Festival craft vendors, Lenexa Artists' Show entries, Lenexa Lazars Swim & Dive Team, Freedom Run, Community Days Parade entries, Moonlight Bike Ride, Tiny Tot Triathlon, and Heart of Lenexa Art Show entry applications.

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- With moisture occurring every 3-5 days it has been hard to get projects completed because the ground is so wet.
- Holiday lights at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park have not been able to be removed from all the large trees because of the mild winter. Usually, lights come down when the ground is frozen, so the turf is not destroyed by the heavy lifts.
- New staff are working on their certifications (AFO, CPSI, CDL).
- Burning natives starts next week.
- The first application of pre-emergent is going down this week.
- Winter tree planting and spring bed cleanup continues.
- All available staff is helping with the finishing touches at the disc golf course so it will be ready for the April 1 opening tournament.
- Work continues on finalizing the design documents on the Cedar Station Park Phase I project. Approval has been received from all utility companies and as soon as design documents are through the city's review process, the project will go out for bid. Construction is still planned for this year.
- Staff is working on design with Athco for the two replacement playgrounds at Buffalo Meadows Park. Public engagement from nearby families will be planned. Due to manufacturing delays the new playgrounds will open in 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary