

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 14, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
LENEXA CITY HALL, COMMUNITY FORUM, 17101 W. 87 ST. PKWY.,
LENEXA, KS**

The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by Chairperson Jeff Mark.

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

Staff members present: Logan Wagler, Parks and Recreation Director; Mandy Danler, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Danny Huntsinger, Parks Superintendent; Nia Bey-Hughes, Building Services Manager; and Cheryl Doleshal, Senior Administrative Assistant.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the January 10, 2024, minutes was made by Mr. Rzeszut, seconded by Mr. Ewing, and approved 8-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

PARKS AND RECREATION STAFF UPDATE – NIA BEY-HUGHES (BUILDING SERVICES DIVISION OVERVIEW)

Mr. Huntsinger introduced Ms. Bey-Hughes, who has been with the department for 12 years. She was recently promoted to Building Services Manager. The Building Services Division consists of one manager, four crew leaders, 11 full-time maintenance workers and two part-time maintenance workers. Due to hiring difficulties, they also contract some of the cleaning duties out. This division maintains 10 city facilities (over 400,000sq. ft.) They are also responsible for inventory of all paper products (print/copy supplies, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, gym wipes), cleaning supplies and break room supplies (coffee). Another big area of responsibility includes event setup and teardown for weddings, parties, festivals and meetings. Some interesting facts:

- Clean over one acre of grass
- Maintain nine different kinds of flooring
- Used 5,400 rolls of toilet paper and over 39,500 trash bags in 2023

Mr. Mark appreciates how clean and maintained our city facilities are.

DONATION REQUEST OF PARK BENCH – SAR-KO-PAR TRAILS PARK (RICHARD AND ELAINE ROTH FOR MICHAEL ROTH)

The department has been offered a donation of a park bench at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park from Richard and Elaine Roth, in memory of their son Michael. Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park was Michael's favorite park. The bench will face southwest towards Rose's Pond. Michael was a Rec Center member and had worked at Flat Rock Creek Pool while in high school.

Motion for approval to accept the park bench donation from Richard and Elaine Roth was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Mr. Rzeszut, and approved 8-0.

DONATION REQUEST OF PARK BENCH – BLACK HOOF PARK (DAVE MCDERMOTT FOR JEANNIE MCDERMOTT)

Dave McDermott would like to donate a new park bench at Black Hoof Park along the trail in memory of his late wife Jeannie McDermott. They enjoyed walking the trail around Lake Lenexa and loved the view of the lake from the area near the boardwalks. The bench will be placed near the boardwalk, along the Coon Creek Trail as it enters the park, facing the marsh and Lake Lenexa.

Motion for approval to accept the park bench donation from Dave McDermott was made by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 8-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Wanda Kiewiet – Ms. Kiewiet shared she is enjoying receiving the Legler Barn Newsletter and wondered how to sign up for the various emails and newsletters that are available. Mr. Wagler said on the city website you can select which topics you would like to receive information and updates on.

Mike Rzeszut – Mr. Rzeszut recently attended his Oak Valley Homes Association meeting where new Mayor Sayers was the guest speaker. He enjoyed the meeting. He also noted the new Police magazine that was mailed to residents has several interesting sections. The daffodil dream walk along the Mill Creek trail should be blooming soon with the nice weather.

Amanda Hoernicke – Ms. Hoernicke shared she likes to recreate at Lenexa’s parks and facilities because they are clean and safe. She will miss Lenexa when she relocates to the Missouri side. Tonight is her last meeting and she thanked staff and the members for being able to participate on the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. She gathered knowledge that she will be able to take with her on her next position.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark inquired about the annual native burnings. Mr. Huntsinger reported the city has taken advantage of the good weather and most of the ones our department assists with have been completed.

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt reported she attended the groundbreaking event for the Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (LOTAC) renovation. She is excited to see the project underway and looks forward to seeing new people drawn to the area. She went to the City Center Live performance of Shakedown Strings last week. It was a nice event with a good crowd.

Director’s Report

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Attendance Report Update

A few times a year the meeting attendance report is shared with the group. Mr. Wagler shared the three reasons members of the board shall be removed by the mayor.

- Absence from three (3) consecutive scheduled meetings at which votes can be taken.
- Absence during any twelve (12) month period of more than one third (1/3) of all regularly scheduled meetings at which a vote can be taken by the board.
- Non-completion of the orientation provided for the specific board, committee, sub-committee or commission.

2024 Park Board Meeting Schedule

The 2024 Park Board Meeting Schedule has been set for location and topic(s). The desire is to introduce informative updates by P & R staff and visits to prominent parks and facilities. If you have any suggestions or questions regarding the schedule, please reach out to Mr. Wagler.

2024 Calendar of Events

A calendar of events and festivals was given to the Board.

Chair and Vice-Chair Elections

Elections for chair and vice-chair will be held at next month’s meeting. Please be thinking of your nominations.

Ms. Aquino-Brech arrived during the Director's Report at 5:53 p.m.

Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (Community Center/Senior Center) Renovation

The groundbreaking ceremony held last week was great. The renovated one-building facility will be beautiful and a nice addition to Old Town. Renovation on the east side will be completed in September. Senior Center operations will move into their new home and the current Senior Center will be demolished. All aspects of the project are scheduled to be completed by the end of the year.

The Lenexa Arts Council will make a final recommendation on the LOTAC mural that was selected by Lenexa residents to the City Council in early March. They will also present information on a possible new art piece for Black Hoof Park.

Ad Astra Pool Reconstruction

The RFQ for the design team has gone out. This project will have a robust community engagement piece which will allow residents to have a say in the new pool. Thoughts are the new pool will be considerably smaller than the current pool and more in line with the neighborhood focused Flat Rock Creek Pool.

Mr. Wagler also reported the following:

- Progress is moving along on the new Justice Center. The slated completion date is late June/early July.
- The Lenexa Arts Council and the Lenexa Rotary will be partnering on the 2024 Peace Poles Community Art Project. There were 40 submissions turned in. The exhibit will be on display at Black Hoof Park May 1 through September 30. The poles will be auctioned off in November.
- There are skate classes (Skateboarding 101) scheduled to begin on March 23 at Rolling Magic.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- Rec Center visits continue to be strong.
- Five new treadmills for the fitness floor are being delivered February 22.
- There are two Winter Farmers Market days left (February 24 and March 30). The regular Saturday season market days open April 27.
- Registrations for summer camp filled in 10 minutes. There are wait lists for all nine weeks. Interest in camp continues to be strong.
- Cupid's Gems Jewelry Show was held on February 3. There was a nice turnout.

- The Updated Parks and Recreation Master Plan will be sent to the Board to review before their March 11 meeting. At the March meeting recommended acceptance of the plan will be voted on.
- The new Sar-Ko-Par Aquatic Center is moving along. The nice weather has been beneficial for the project. A short video of the new slides was shared. In May the Board will meet at the park and have a site visit of the center.

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- The weather has also cooperated with taking down holiday lights.
- The facility crew has been doing preventative maintenance of fitness equipment and building tables for the Public Market.
- Replacement lights and pool filters have been installed in the natatorium. The third-floor glass panels along the track needed to be removed so those lights could be installed.
- The annual ROW tree trimming has been completed. Landscape and turf crews are now working on the ROW plantings along with spring bed cleanup and mulching.
- Getting the equipment ready for spring is a priority this time of year.
- Cedar Station Park project phase I is wrapping up. The contractor is working on punch list items. Finalizing utilities and installing fiber into the park continues. Landscaping and turf will be completed in-house by park staff in the next few months. A ribbon cutting ceremony will be planned for the end of April or early May.
- Buffalo Meadows replacement playground will be installed in early spring. The shipping date has been confirmed for March 14.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Rzeszut, seconded by Mr. Sics, and approved 9-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary