

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE JUNE 12, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING
CEDAR STATION PARK, 9555 CANYON CREEK BOULEVARD, LENEXA, KS**

The meeting was called to order at 5:31 p.m. by Vice-Chairperson Aivars Sics.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Gary Ewing, Wanda Kiewiet, Jeff Mark, Diane Schmidt, and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members absent: Kelly Razor and Mike Rzeszut.

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

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the May 8, 2024, minutes was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 5-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion for approval of the adoption of the agenda was made by Mr. Ewing, seconded by Mr. Thomas, and approved 5-0.

Jeff Mark arrived to the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

**SEPTEMBER 11 PARK BOARD MEETING CHANGE – AD ASTRA OPEN
HOUSE**

The city is having a series of three open houses for residents to attend and share their thoughts on the redesign of Ad Astra Pool. The September 11 board meeting was originally scheduled to be a park tour, but the third and final open house has been scheduled for that evening. At that open house a final concept will be shared. The board will have a short meeting before the open house and then attend the open house. The park tour will be rescheduled for August.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Gary Ewing – Mr. Ewing took his grandkids to the Sar-Ko-Par Aquatic Center soft opening event which they all enjoyed. He offered kudos to staff for the excellent job on the pool. He suggested a menu sign on the outside of the concession stand would help patrons see what is offered.

Wanda Kiewiet – Ms. Kiewiet volunteered at the Art Fair in the kids peace pole painting tent and offered a compliment to staff art teacher Kristina Crawford.

Aivars Sics – Mr. Sics had a group graduation party for this son at the Grand Pavilion in Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park. He commented that the park is very nice and the event went great. The park is very popular and busy.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark shared the feedback he has heard on the new aquatic center has been great. Staff nailed the lazy river.

Director's Report

Mr. Wagler reported the following:

- Juneteenth is a city holiday with most offices closed, but the Rec Center will remain open with normal hours.
- Thanks to Pat Thomas who graciously accepted the BBQ Proclamation at last month's City Council meeting.
- He and Ms. Shartzler attended a meeting at Lakeview Village that Councilmember Craig Denny invited them to. They gave an update about senior programming. It was well attended.
- He is working on a plan/program for a meeting between the Arts Council and City Council on the process and procedures to help guide the LAC when acquiring new art.
- Budget requests for 2025 have been entered. At the July 9 Council meeting the budget will be fully reviewed page by page.
- Work continues on the "Share the Trail" (trail etiquette) signage program.
- The **Lenexa Old Town Activity Center Renovation** is moving along. Much of the outside structural steel has been added.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- There is a Juneteenth event at the campus commons on June 19 hosted by the county.
- The ribbon cutting event at Sar-Ko-Par Aquatic Center was a great event. Opening weekend was very busy at the new pool. People

started lining up at 8:30 am. There have been 15,463 visits to the pool so far. It's exciting to see people using the facility.

- Visits to date at Flat Rock Creek Pool are 3,352 and Ad Astra Pool 2,528.

Ms. Shartzler reported the following:

- Festival season has arrived. The Great Lenexa BBQ is next Friday and Saturday, followed by the Freedom Run and the parade on July 4.
- The last concert series of the spring is this Sunday, June 16. Concerts will resume in September.
- Summer camp began on June 3 and is going well.
- Farmer Market Tuesdays returned on May 28. We are looking to hire a nature coordinator soon.
- Joel Patterson, new Lenexa Old Town Activity Center Manager, started June 10. He will oversee Ryan Latta, Recreation Supervisor – Sports, Bettie Partington, Recreation Supervisor – Seniors and oversee the newly renovated Old Town Activity Center when it has been completed.
- Stand up paddle boards were added as rentals at Black Hoof Park along with canoes.
- Artist Doodle Dood held two public engagement events recently (Farmers Market and kids summer camp).

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- Turf crew is doing lots of mowing due to the steady rains. The 2nd application of pre-emergent is complete. They continue to manage broadleaf weeds.
- Landscape division has completed EAB treatments and bagworms are starting to appear. Trees and new plantings continue to need watering. There has been a significant amount of storm damage in the last three weeks.
- Facilities is still learning the intricacies of the new pool (SKPAC).
- Parks are busy as ever. Shelter rentals are at capacity on the weekends which generates over 100 bags of trash per day.
- Goats will be returning to Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park this Friday. During BBQ they will be in the disc golf area.
- BBQ prep is underway.
- Installation on the replacement playground at Buffalo Meadows is underway.

Summer intern Eva Ewing shared some information about herself. She attends Mizzou in Columbia Missouri. She is spending the summer working in the parks and recreation department. She has enjoyed meeting the staff and helping in so many areas. Everyday is a new experience.

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:04 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary