

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE JULY 10, 2024, PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY
BOARD MEETING
PARKS & RECREATION SERVICE CENTER, CONFERENCE ROOM, 13321
WALNUT, LENEXA, KS**

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. by Chairperson Jeff Mark.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Wanda Kiewiet, Diane Schmidt, Mike Rzeszut, Aivars Sics and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members absent: Gary Ewing and Kelly Rasor.

Staff members present: Mandy Danler, Assistant Parks and Recreation Director; Danny Huntsinger, Parks Superintendent; Joel Patterson, Lenexa Old Town Activity Center Manager; Nora Bishop, Intern and Cheryl Doleshal, Senior Administrative Assistant.

Mr. Todd Pelham, Deputy City Manager, was also in attendance.

BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion for approval of the June 12, 2024, minutes was made by Mr. Rzeszut, seconded by Ms. Kiewiet, and approved 6-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion for approval of the adoption of the agenda was made by Ms. Schmidt, seconded by Mr. Sics, and approved 6-0.

**PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AD ASTRA POOL UPDATE (SFS ARCHITECTURE,
INC.)**

Allison Vandever from SFS Architecture presented an Ad Astra Reconstruction Project Update. SFS Architecture is one member of the project team. There is a project advisory committee made up of two Lenexa City Council Members and four Lenexa Citizens / Ad Astra Coalition Leadership Members. There are three open houses planned: June 13, July 24 and September 11. Also, there will be three on-line surveys offered for feedback. Results from the first open house held

on June 13 and survey #1 were shared. Choices for pool types, amenities, programming and design themes were collected. Next step is to develop preliminary planning concept and open survey #2 which is available July 17-July 31, and the final Community Open House on July 24.

PROPOSED PARKLAND SWAP

The city has been approached by a developer to potentially swap some parkland. The property is the 60-acre undeveloped park in western Lenexa and the Brad Fire property. This future park was part of the Master Plan initiative. According to the Parks and Recreation Master Plan, this park is intended to be a passive park (possibly dog park, splash pad, pump track). The property also allows for future trail alignment.

<u>Prior to the Swap</u>		<u>After Swap</u>	
Lenexa	59.97 acres	Lenexa	71.61
Fire	94.4 acres	Fire	82.67

Lenexa gains approximately 12 acres. Both Parks and Recreation and Community Development assures this is a good trade for the city. City Council would like a recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board tonight.

Motion for approval of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board recommendation that the City Council consider the proposed trade of approximately 16 acres of City parkland at the northwest corner of Prairie Star Parkway and Mize Rd. for 27 acres of similar property located in the same area was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 6-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Pat Thomas – Mr. Thomas walks his dog every morning at Sar-Ko-Par Trails Park. Since the goats have been on-site, his daily walk time has increased because his pet, along with others, is busy watching the goats.

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt shared a photo of a sun halo that she recently captured. She is enjoying the peace poles display at Black Hoof Park. While at Black Hoof Parks he encountered a trail by the bridge that has excessive growth and needs some maintenance. Mr. Huntsinger said he will look at it soon. She also commented that the new location for the paddle board and kayak rental sign is a better choice.

Mike Rzeszut – Mr. Rzeszut thanked Mr. Huntsinger and his staff for repairing the signage at Little Mill Creek Park so quickly.

Aivars Sics – Mr. Sics gave a quick update on the BBQ. With no rain during the event, the park was not damaged as it usually is. He thanked Pat Thomas for overseeing the BBQ Ambassadors and the time he devotes to the event. Mr. Thomas commented that KCBS mentioned one reason the Great Lenexa Barbeque is one of the best competitions is due to the efforts of the ambassadors. Mr. Thomas said board member Gary Ewing served as an ambassador this year and mentioned he would like to return next year.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark shared a compliment from a friend who visited the Lenexa Farmers Market recently for the first time. The friend was quite impressed and said it's the best market she has seen.

Ms. Danler introduced intern Nora Bishop and new Lenexa Old Town Activity Center (LOTAC) manager Joel Patterson. Both shared a little background information about themselves.

Director's Report

September 11 Meeting Start Time

To accommodate the Board's attendance at the last Ad Astra Open House which begins at 5:30 p.m. on September 11, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board's September meeting will start at 5 p.m.

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- Attendance at BBQ was 9,000 total for both Friday evening and Saturday.
- We had 1,560 registered walkers and runners at the Freedom Run on July 4. The parade had 40 entries.

Staff Reports

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- Rainfalls of 5.5 inches and 3.5 inches fell within 48 hours.
- There were several flooding areas throughout the city.
- The soccer fields at Little Mill Creek Park were completely underwater. The playground had 2 feet of standing water.
- The replacement playground installation at Buffalo Meadows is complete. The parking lots at Buffalo Meadows and Electric Park will close on Monday for new curb and asphalt.
- Trail etiquette signage has been ordered. Signs for trailheads and blind curves will be installed first.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Ms. Kiewiet, seconded by Ms. Schmidt, and approved 6-0.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.
Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary