

LENEXA PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD

**MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, PARKS AND RECREATION
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
LENEXA CITY HALL, PRAIRIE STAR CONFERENCE ROOM, 17101 W. 87 ST.
PARKWAY**

The meeting was called to order at 5:29 p.m. by Chairperson Jeff Mark.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members present: Gary Ewing, Amanda Hoernicke, Mike Rzeszut, Diane Schmidt, Aivars Sics and Pat Thomas.

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board members absent: Nathalie Aquino-Brech and Wanda Kiewiet.

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 August 9, 2023, minutes was made by Mr. Rzeszut, seconded by Mr. Sics, and approved 7-0.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

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

**DONATION REQUEST OF PARK BENCH – BLACK HOOF PARK, 18-HOLE
DISC GOLF COURSE (JUSTIN ROBERTSON)**

The department was offered a donation of a new park bench and plaque at Black Hoof Park from Justin Robertson. This bench will be placed at the short hole #13 in the 18-hole Disc Golf Course. Mr. Robertson is a disc golf enthusiast who uses a cart with a seat to play the game he loves.

Motion for approval to accept the park bench and plaque donation from Justin Robertson was made by Mr. Thomas, seconded by Mr. Ewing, and approved 7-0.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

Members' Reports

Aivars Sics – Mr. Sics commented the skate park opening last evening was a great event. The park looks good, and he looks forward to walking around and taking it all in when the crowds die down.

Gary Ewing – Mr. Ewing reported that when he visited the skate park last week with his grandkids there was much work left to be completed. He is happy to hear that it was ready for the grand opening and inquired about the history of the Rolling Magic name.

Mr. Wagler praised the Parks division for all their work on the skate park. A considerable number of hours and diligent manpower worked to make the grand opening a reality. He also thanked the Recreation team for planning the event. He is proud of the department.

Pat Thomas – Mr. Thomas inquired if the city has thought about having a music kiosk by the skate park.

Jeff Mark – Mr. Mark also stated the event was fantastic and ran smoothly. Kudos to the entire staff.

Diane Schmidt – Ms. Schmidt shared that the energy at the grand opening was exciting. It was impressive that the site was ready to go. She mentioned exciting things continue to grow in Lenexa.

Director's Report (Logan Wagler)

2023 KCMPRDA Boards and Commissions Appreciation Banquet – UMB Field Club at Children's Mercy Park (November 17)

The parks and recreation department will have a table at the Kansas City Metro Parks and Recreation Director's Association Boards & Commissions Appreciation Banquet. Ms. Doleshal will email a reminder to send her your RSVP's.

Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Mr. Wagler would like to hold the regular December Park Board meeting this year which falls on December 13. Tentative plans are for a joint meeting with the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Lenexa Arts Council. The consultant will present the updated Parks and Recreation Master/Comp Plan to the two groups seeking their recommendation for acceptance by City Council. The Plan will then move to the City Council for their acceptance.

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

The LOTAC project is moving along with GMP approval scheduled for November. Construction is slated to begin January 1. Three artists have been short-listed for the LOTAC new wall mural proposal. The artists will have six weeks to bring back their proposal. Final design will go to the City Council for their approval.

Staff Reports

Ms. Danler reported the following:

- The Rec Center has been offering free outdoor classes to the public. Attendance is strong.
- The **Parks and Recreation Master/Comp Plan Update** is winding down. A survey recently was sent out to gauge residents' recreation program needs. A first draft of the updated plan should be available to staff soon.
- Work continues on the **Sar-Ko-Par Aquatic Center Renovation**. The walls around the guard house and family restrooms are going up along with the lazy river underground piping.

Ms. Shartzler reported the following:

- Ad Astra Pool closed on Labor Day. Paws in the Pool was held the following Thursday (September 7). Aquatic staff are gearing up for the opening of the Sar-Ko-Par Aquatic Center next year.
- The last Farmers Market Tuesday was held on August 29. The annual survey was sent out to receive feedback on this summer's season.
- The fall soccer and flag football leagues started in early September. Participant numbers continue to rise.
- The Swingin' for a Scholarship Pickleball Tournament is this Friday and Saturday, September 15 and 16.
- The Spinach Festival was a big success last Saturday. Attendance was estimated at 7,500. There were several new additions to the event this year (Dip Off Tasting Contest (cold and hot spinach dips), high strikers activity for the young and old which ties into the Popeye theme, and incentive to the food trucks to offer spinach items.)
- Preparations continue for the Lenexa Chili Challenge, October 13 and 14 in Old Town. With the LOTAC renovation next year, the 2024 chili event will have a new layout for the teams previously located around the Senior and Community Centers on the west side.
- The Learning About Lenexa program begins tomorrow for Lenexa 3rd graders.

Mr. Huntsinger reported the following:

- The facilities crew will be winterizing the two closed outdoor pools. Work begins this week to repair the leak at Flat Rock Creek Pool.

- As noted, the entire parks division has been working on the skate park getting it ready for the grand opening.
- Mowing has slowed down due to the drought, but turf and landscape crews have been busy watering.
- It is time for fall seeding, aerating and application.
- The **Cedar Station Park** project is taking shape. With the trees and brush removed there is a beautiful Mize Lake view. The parking lot, restrooms and shelter pad are going in. Work is planned to be completed by winter.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 6:02 p.m.

Cheryl Doleshal, Recording Secretary