

April 6, 2015

The regular meeting of the Park and Recreation Board of the City of Seward, Nebraska, was held on Monday, April 6, 2015, at 5:30 p.m. at the Council Chambers in the Municipal Building, 142 North 7th Street. Members present: Randy Chapp, Lana Urban, Dennis Erks, Kenneth Schmieding, Sandy Wright; Absent: Melvin Bolte, Andrea Baack, Brady Johnson, Justin Hartman. Others in attendance: Recreation Assistant Director Patricia Sanley, City Councilmember Ellen Beck, Brian and Garrett Kuss, C. J. Novak.

Notice of the meeting was given in advance thereof by posting in the following places: City Hall, County Courthouse and Seward Memorial Library. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice of the meeting. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the attendance of the public.

Acting Chairman Chapp called the meeting to order and announced that a copy of the Agenda for this meeting is posted at City Hall, Seward County Courthouse, Seward Memorial Library, and on the front window of the Municipal Building. A copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted at this location for public inspection.

1. CONSENT AGENDA ITEM

Moved by Schmieding, seconded by Erks, that the minutes of January 5, 2015 be approved. Motion carried unanimously.

2. DOG PARK

Pat Sanley report that Alexis Scribner has taken the dog park project as far as she can for now. Alexis was thanked for all her hard work and organization on this project. Parks/Recreation/Cemetery Director Steve Ferguson and Pat will be overseeing the project going forward.

Schmieding inquired about the budget for the project and the balance of the savings for the park. Sanley reported that fencing expense in this project (which is the largest expense) is about \$4,500. At this time, approximately \$1,100 is in a bank account, with another \$2,000 check to be added to this balance. News of the potential dog park project was added to Facebook on the Seward Chat site and that the response has been overwhelming, both with offers of financial support and physical labor.

On that note, Garrett Kuss was introduced. Garrett is a high school Boy Scout from Seward who is interested in working on the project in order to obtain his Eagle Scout Award. Garrett presented his ideas and offer to the Board, and asked permission and direction to pursue the project.

Moved by Erks, seconded by Urban, to give Garrett Kuss the "go ahead" on the project, with the stipulation that Garrett first visit with Steve Ferguson and Pat Sanley regarding the plans and procedures. The motion carried unanimously.

3. GREAT PARK PURSUIT

Pat Sanley explained "Nebraska's Great Park Pursuit". The Park Pursuit is sponsored by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and Nebraska Recreation and Park Association. This Nebraska park opportunity is in its fifth year, with Seward participating for the second time. Sanley shared that each community participating chooses an area of their community to showcase and puts the "QR Code" in a particular spot for visitors to download. This year, Seward's focus is the Parade of Flags and the trail in that area (east entrance to City).

4. SEWARD BAND SHELL

Again this summer, Seward will be graced with the Community Band playing concerts on Sunday evenings at the Seward Band Shell. This year marks 50 years for Mel Bolte's association with the Park and Recreation Board, with a bulk of that time being spent as Chairman. It would seem appropriate to commend this achievement with perhaps a plaque or marker of some kind, with the designation being placed at the band shell. Mel has been a part of the Seward Community Band for many, many years. The Board agreed this would be a wonderful idea. Councilmember Beck stated that she would check with City personnel and respond to Chapp. The hope would be to have something ready by the July 4

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celebration and the dedication could be held at that time.

5. SPRING PARK/RECREATION ACTIVITIES REPORT

The following written report was presented:

SOCCER - The Recreation Dept. Is partnering once again with Concordia University for the youth spring soccer. Twenty-two teams and coaches are participating this spring. The first game is April 7. Games are played on Tuesday and Thursday nights and Saturday mornings for the month of April.

POOL - Interviews are completed, and the calendar for swim lessons is being developed. Opening date is Memorial Day, May 25. Repairs will begin on the guns which were shut off last year due to a leak.

YOUTH BASEBALL - Registration is underway for Micro T-Ball, T-Ball and Eight-and-Under Boys and Girls (coach pitch). The deadline for registration is April 13.

VOLLEYBALL - Women's volleyball season ended on March 28. Twelve teams participated this year.

BASKETBALL - The season finished on February 21 for 14 teams.

GREAT PARK PURSUIT - Seward is once again participating in the Nebraska Recreation & Park Association and Nebraska Game & Parks Great Park Pursuit. The post is at a location near the parade of flags and the trail (east entrance to City)

PUBLIC PROPERTIES ACTIVITIES - Spring projects include fertilizing and seeding of bare spots on ball and soccer fields. Tarp covers for bleachers and dugouts at Plum Creek Sports Complex, East & West fields have been installed. All backstops on ballfields are being stained. Parks and restrooms are being opened. Trenching is being completed for new electrical lines for new fuel tanks at the Plum Creek shop and cemetery. All flower beds and garden area are being cleaned. Weekly mowing of parks, ball fields and cemeteries has begun.

Chapp noted that every public swimming pool must have a licensed certified pool operator on call during open pool hours. Seward is fortunate to have two of these individuals, Pat Sanley and Doug Pollak.

Schmieding noted that the shelter at Centennial Park could use a new roof.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:34 p.m. in a motion by Erks, seconded by Urban. The motion was unanimously approved.

Sandy Wright, Co-Secretary