

**MINUTES
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
MARCH 20, 2024
6:30 PM**

1. Call meeting to order.

Reuter called meeting to order at 6:30 pm

2. Roll call

Members present: Reuter, Krantz and Stiklestad

Absent: Kramer and Sperle

Also Present: Clerk Kurihara and Administrative Assistant Vesperman

3. Minutes

Motion by Krantz, seconded by Stiklestad, to approve minutes of 10-4-2023. Motion carried.

4. Summer Recreation

Administrative Assistant Vesperman gave an update on this year's programming, which is about the same, except for the addition of a nature camp to be directed by Ashley (Krantz).

5. Pool

Administrative Assistant Vesperman also gave an update on this year's pool schedule, which is the same except for additional lap swimming times on Saturday and Sunday from 11:00 A.M. to Noon.

6. Tennis/Pickleball

Clerk Kurihara stated he and DPW John Hauth had met with School Administrator Rob Wagner to discuss partnering in the replacement of the tennis courts with a combination of new tennis/pickleball courts thru Lancaster Community Fund grant application for 2025. He will provide another update after John and him meet with Rob again sometime later this Spring.

7. 5 Year Recreation Plan

Review of the current plan was delayed until later this year to coincide with discussion on the 2025 Budget.

8. Committee Comments

- Future status of Kid's Courtyard
- Future goal to complete City trail
- Possible portable sled for park sledding hill.

The existing deck chairs need replacement due to aging. The administration will investigate new chairs for next season.

9. Future agenda items

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 8th at 5:00 P.M.

10. Adjourn

Motion by Stiklestad, seconded by Krantz to adjourn at 7:14 P.M. Motion carried.

Dave Kurihara
City Clerk

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 11, 2024
6:30 PM

1. Call to order

Reuter called meeting to order at 6:35 p.m.

2. Roll call

Members present: Reuter, Kramer, Krantz

Absent: Slaght, Stiklestad

Also present: Administrative Assistant Vesperman, Administrator Kuchta, Pool Manager Pedley Fecht

3. Minutes

Motion by Kramer, second by Krantz to approve minutes of 3/20/24. Motion carried.

4. Summer Recreation

Administrative Assistant Vesperman distributed revenue and attendance data from 2024 summer recreation activities.

- Pool: Revenue increased \$18,354 (driven in part by the Platteville shutdown, which could last two more seasons). To date, pool shows a deficit of \$98,312 for the year. In planning for 2025: scheduling will be adjusted to reflect user trends and to maximize staffing efficiency; swim-lesson descriptions will be revised and software will track pass/fail status from previous lessons; availability of fee assistance will be publicized more widely.
- Camps: Attendance increased for golf, soccer (especially soccer league) and nature camp (new). Attendance decreased for T-ball, tennis and theater. Attendance was stable for basketball. For 2025, will explore adding disc golf and pickleball camps, and transferring T-ball to Lancaster Youth Baseball Softball Association.

Motion by Kramer, second by Krantz to recommend raising private party rates to \$200 (currently \$150) and to set tennis camp rates at \$30 for one week and \$50 for two weeks. Motion carried.

5. Youth Golf Fee

Discussion of whether junior golf membership is competitive with area courses.

6. Pool Chairs

Pedley Fecht said 20 lounge chairs have been ordered to replace broken deck furniture; additional chairs likely will be ordered in time for 2025 season.

7. 5 Year Recreation Plan

Updating the Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan will be the sole focus of the next meeting. Existing plan will be distributed in advance for review.

8. Committee Comments

Nothing additional.

9. Future Agenda Items

Next meeting: Wednesday Oct. 9, 5:30 p.m.

10. Adjourn

Motion by Krantz, second by Kramer to adjourn at 7:21 p.m. Motion carried.

Michael Kuchta, city administrator

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 28, 2024 / CITY HALL
5:00 PM**

1. Call to order

Reuter called meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

2. Roll call

Members present: Reuter, Kramer, Krantz, Slaght, Stiklestad

Also present: Administrative Assistant Vesperman, Administrator Kuchta, Council Member LaBudda

3. Minutes

Motion by Kramer, second by Krantz to approve minutes of 9/11/24. Motion carried.

4. 5-Year Recreation Plan

Members reviewed the Capital Improvements Schedule in the 2023-2027 Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan. Capital projects accomplished since 2023:

- Memorial Park: T-ball fencing, shade awning over bleachers, concession stand, storage, and ADA bathrooms at ballfield; upgraded ADA shelter and storage at Sonny shelter; shade awning over play yard; bathroom steps; six picnic tables.
- Klondike Park: Gazebo painted.

No capital improvements of recreational facilities are included in the draft of the 2025 City budget. (The Memorial Park pumphouse is being replaced.)

Committee members expressed these preferences for future capital improvements:

- Remove the zero-depth water feature; reallocate money for other purposes.
- ADA bathrooms at Baus Park and in the southern half of Memorial Park.
- Spring Shelter upgrades at Memorial Park.
- Trail extension from Memorial Park to City Limits Road.
- Development at Klondike Park away from passive activities to active recreational opportunities (see discussion summary below).

Members reviewed the individual park sections in the current plan and discussed these additional ideas:

- **Klondike Park.** Success of Lancaster Trails suggests there is demand for more-rustic recreational opportunities. Short-term, city should define (and potentially demarcate) park boundaries, formalize any existing agreements with surrounding land-owners, and pursue DNR funding for streambank stabilization of the Grant River. Long-term, city should research opportunities such as an archery range and trail development, especially for snow-shoeing and the proposed connection with Schreiner Park. Along similar lines, city should research potential of a shooting range in dump area of city land across Highway K. Members will try to find a 1995 site plan for the park that is not included in the CORP.
- **Memorial Park.** More winter activities, such as broomball on the ice rink and partnering with Chamber for seasonal festival.
- **Schacht Field.** Space has not been used as soccer field for more than a decade. City has rezoned land for commercial use and is considering selling it, though it is not clear if donors would oppose that. If space remains parkland, it could be a good location for pickleball courts.
- **Schreiner Park.** Better trail signage.

Members also discussed specific references to how parkland and flood plains overlap, and how to include parks in the update of the city's overall Comprehensive Plan. These could include a formula to require a percentage of park land in the new Future Land Use Map, including questions in a community survey,

Kuchta and Vesperman committed to updating the existing document, including drafting a 2026-2030 Plan to reflect committee discussions.

5. Disc Golf

LaBudda outlined ideas to add a 10th hole at Schreiner, then double the number of holes using the same tee boxes. In addition, work is underway to create a course at Memorial Park using hand-crafted, ornamental baskets that would be sponsored by individuals or businesses. Committee members will consider incorporating these proposals into the Plan.

6. Committee Comments

Nothing additional.

7. Future Agenda Items

Next meeting: Monday Dec. 9, 5:00 p.m.

8. Adjourn

Motion by Krantz, second by Slaght to adjourn at 6:05 p.m. Motion carried.

Michael Kuchta, city administrator