

City of Lawrence

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board January 11, 2005



MEMBERS PRESENT: Vice Chair, Sharon Spratt, Tom Bracciano, Bill Penny and LHS student Matt Riley

STAFF PRESENT: Fred DeVictor, Mark Hecker, Ernie Shaw and Roger Steinbrock

The meeting at 947 New Hampshire Street was called to order by Vice Chair Spratt. Minutes of the December 14th meeting were approved on a motion by Bracciano, 2nd by Penny.

Staff was commended on their work from the recent ice and snow storm both clearing snow and picking up broken branches from the ice storm.

DeVictor reported that Chris Schumm has been appointed to the Board and would attend the February 8th meeting. Sharon Spratt was elected Chair and Bill Penny Vice Chair for 2005.

Shaw reported recreation revenue for 2004 was \$1,318,173 or 99% of projections. Budgets were reduced accordingly to stay in line with actual revenue.

DeVictor handed out a golf course report which recommended green fee increases for 2005 by \$2.00 to generate additional revenue for Eagle Bend. Discounted 10 play cards would continue and 20 play cards with 20% discount would be offered to help take care of regular golfers. Snack bar rates would also increase for 2005.

Steinbrock explained the annual Friends of the Park program and presented a list of 2004 Friends of the Park generating over \$80,000 for the Department. On a motion by Bracciano 2nd by Penny, the Board approved the 2004 Friends of the Park for City Commission recognition.

DeVictor and Hecker reported on the joint Planning Commission/Park Planning committee, which met last on January 10th. A preliminary report of goals and strategies including updated maps of needed park locations in the expanded urban growth area will be finalized this spring for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Planning Commission and City Commission review.

Mark Hecker reported that he had attended the first BNSF rail corridor committee meeting and he and Bill Penny would attend the next one on January 19th. The three neighborhoods near 15th and Haskell Avenue area are promoting the rail-trail connection to the north from 23rd Street.

Hecker updated the Board on park proposals including recreation planning for the greenbelt park near 15th and George Williams Way, South Park Center renovations, Indoor Aquatic Center repairs and Rotary arboretum.

Shaw reported that most winter classes began this week and aquatic classes began last week. His staff is working on an annual report, summer brochure and a proposal for a sponsorship plan to approach area businesses.

DeVictor reported he will meet with the City Manager and USD 497 Superintendent of Schools, Randy Weseman soon to discuss mutual interests of future school park sites for the future.

The Board was invited to the Advisory Board appreciation reception on January 27th and told that some staff would be attending the Kansas Recreation and Park Association annual conference January 23rd-26th in Manhattan, Kansas.

Meeting adjourned at 1:25P.M. Next meeting February 8th, 2005.