

City of Lawrence

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board February 8, 2005



MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair, Sharon Spratt, Tom Bracciano, Bill Penny and new member Chris Schumm

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

The meeting at 947 New Hampshire Street was called to order by Chair Spratt. Minutes of the January 11th meeting were approved on a motion by Penny, 2nd by Bracciano.

DeVictor gave Board members a copy of the City newsletter, "The Flame" and noted recognition of a "Best of Aquatics" award by the Aquatics International magazine, Bicycle Friendly Community recognition and Kansas Wildflower Association award for xeriscaping for the Waste Reduction & Recycling and Parks & Recreation at the Waste Reduction & Recycling facility.

DeVictor reported he attended a City Commission study session about the Carnegie Building to review the progress of the Langston Hughes – Carnegie Center for Literacy and Learning proposal for using that building. The City Commission urged that organization to file for tax status if they desire grants to finalize their plans. This group asked for city funds to assist the additional renovations needed on the building, such as elevator and restroom upgrades before it can be used again. LPRD had put in a proposal to utilize this building for programming.

Bracciano, Hecker and DeVictor reported on the joint committee for the Planning Commission, Planning staff and Parks and Recreation to incorporate the LPRD Comprehensive Master plan into the Horizon 2020 land use plan. They will meet next on February 28th to review a preliminary report.

DeVictor reported the Friends of Sesquicentennial Point continue to meet and raise funds, which is about at the \$145,000 level so far.

Staff handed out and explained a new Community Fisheries Assistance Program, which replaces the Kansas Wildlife and Parks Department Community Lakes Assistance program. Basically, KWPD will lease fishing rights for \$1,000 annually per agency and continue to stock and enforce state fishing regulations. Reports from local agencies will be required with this program and maintenance costs must be documented. Staff recommends we enter into a 5-year contract for Mary's Lake and the future ponds at the Pat Dawson Billings Nature Preserve. After discussion and questions from the

Board, Penny made a motion to approve the CFAP program and to recommend we enter into a contract with KWPD. 2nd by Schumm. Motion passed unanimously.

Shaw shared a revenue report with the Board and explained recent successful programs such as the February 5th Daddy Daughter Date Night, which was attended by about 180 folks.

Steinbrock reported he was working on the summer brochure and anticipates more advertising in it. It goes to the printer the first week in April.

Hecker reported on park projects including the recent renovations of South Park Recreation Center, some maintenance shop relocations and park district refinement.

The Board was again invited to the February 22nd KCMPRDA Boards and Commissions recognition at the Liberty Memorial in Kansas City, Missouri.

Meeting adjourned at 1:10P.M. Next meeting is March 8th, at South Park Recreation Center to see the renovations.