

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD  
FEBRUARY 13, 2007**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Churchill, Kodada, Kraimer, and Carpentier

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Vosejpka

**STAFF PRESENT:**

City Administrator Joel Erickson, City Planner Benjamin Baker, and Public Works Director Russ Vlasak

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers at 415 Central Street West.

**2. AGENDA**

Kodada asked if there were any additions or deletions to the agenda. A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kraimer to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Carpentier, Kodada and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 3-0). Motion carried.

**3. MINUTES**

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to approve the minutes of the January 9, 2008 regular meeting. Vote for: Carpentier, Kodada and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 3-0). Motion carried.

Churchill arrives.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**5. PUBLIC HEARING**

None.

**6. OLD BUSINESS**

a. Consider Approval of Summer Recreation Service Contract / Activities

Kodada invited Kathy Peterson, Montgomery-Lonsdale Community Education Coordinator, to brief the Board on the upcoming summer recreation opportunities. Peterson said that they were looking at a 4½ hour day filled with fun and variety on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. She said every week there would be a new activity for the kids. She said that citizens can sign up for a week at-a-time, the 3-week package, or the 6-week package. She said that they will offer softball again, and it would be similar to last year. Kodada asked how swimming lessons would work because of the pool closure. Peterson stated that since Montgomery-Lonsdale does not have a pool this year, they will bus the kids to the LeCenter pool for

swimming. She said that compared to Jordan and the surrounding area, rates for summer recreation are reasonable. Kraimer asked if summer recreation books would reach Lonsdale residents who live in the New Prague school district. Kodada recommend placing a contact number in the local newspaper. Peterson said that books would be out a week after Easter. Peterson said she would try to advertise so everyone in the area knows about the upcoming summer programming opportunities.

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to recommend approval of the service contract and summer recreation program scope. Vote for: Churchill, Carpentier, Kodada, and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 4-0). Motion carried.

b. Discuss Agreement between ISD # 394, Montgomery-Lonsdale, and the City of Lonsdale

Erickson provided a brief background on the agreement including the key points:

1. The City will require the developer of the Tollefson site to dedicate parkland on the east side of the property adjacent to the school property.
2. The school district will pay the balance of their levied assessment, upon approval of the agreement
3. The City will commit funds to the following projects:
  - a. Extension of the City's walking path on the school property (completed fall 2007);
  - b. Upgrade the ballfield by installation of an irrigation system, bleachers, and fencing.
4. A committee consisting of City staff, City residents and school district employees will oversee the design and implementation of these projects.
5. All improvements made under this agreement will be operated and maintained by the School District.

Erickson explained that the agreement was previously reviewed at the January 2008 meeting, and he asked the Board to review it again because of modification made. He said Staff is proposing only to include the following projects in the agreement:

1. City trail extension;
2. Require the Developer of the Tollefson site to dedicate parkland adjacent to the school site; and
3. Make improvements to the ballfield;

Staff is proposing to delete:

1. Creation of a nature center.
2. Pedestrian crosswalk signal

Erickson stated that any amendments to the agreement will be presented to the Council at their next meeting. He said that Superintendent Lunn still thinks a nature center should be constructed because it would benefit the entire community.

Kodada stated that irrigation for a little league field is a novelty, and he didn't want to come up short on Sticha Park improvements that would benefit all ages. Carpentier agreed that Sticha Park should be a priority this summer. Kraimer stated that the

agreement should only include fencing and bleachers (not-to-exceed \$20,000.00) for the school's ballfield and the \$15,000.00 underground irrigation system should be deleted. Kraimer also suggested the PTO as another possible funding source for school projects. Churchill added that a lawn irrigation system usually shortens the root structure in grass lawns due to the high amount of watering. Kodada suggested that the nature center (not-to-exceed \$15,000) be placed back on the agreement in-lieu-of the irrigation system. The Commission agreed that a nature center would benefit the whole community. Erickson explained that a nature center would probably start with just a few woodchip trails running through the wetland and wooded areas north of the school. Vlasak stated that "Sentence To Serve" may be able to help with the nature center project.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kraimer to recommend approval of the Development Agreement between the City of Lonsdale and Montgomery-Lonsdale Public Schools - ISD # 394 agreeing to the following improvements:

1. Require the Developer of the Tollefson site to dedicate parkland adjacent to the school site; and
2. Make bleacher and fence improvements to the ballfield (not-to-exceed \$20,000.00)
3. Nature Center construction (not-to-exceed \$15,000.00)

Vote for: Churchill, Carpentier, Kodada, and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 4-0).  
Motion carried.

c. Discuss Jaycee Park Ice Rink Reconstruction

Erickson stated that the Board discussed making improvements to the Jaycee ice rink at their last meeting. Erickson presented a map showing the current ice rink dimensions along with an overlay of a regulation sized rink. He said the current rink is approximately 160' x 70' and a regulation size is 200' x 85'. Erickson provided the Board with cost estimates totaling \$73,500.00 to improve the current rink. He recommended not enlarging the rink, rather improving the current rink and funding the improvements over the next couple of years. The Commission discussed encroaching the rink into the parking lot or onto the County's property to the east. Kraimer asked if the Rice County Highway Department stock piles could be spread out so they don't create an eyesore. Kraimer and Carpentier recommended budgeting the \$73,500 out over 5 years. Kraimer stated that the current lighting around the rink is terrible. Vlasak said that 2 out of the 4 lights are out, and he would work on replacing the broken lights. The Commission decided to hold off on the project and budget appropriate funds over the next couple of years so improvements can be implemented in the near future.

**7. NEW BUSINESS**

a. Obtain Fence Quotes for Softball Field at Sticha Park

Baker requested approval for Staff to obtain fence quotes for the softball field at Sticha Park. Kodada stated that he would like to get going on Sticha Park. The Commission suggested obtaining quotes for both the school ballfield and Sticha Park.

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Carpentier to obtain quotes for fencing around the Sticha Park ballfield and the East Elementary School ballfield. Vote for: Churchill, Carpentier, Kodada, and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 4-0). Motion carried.

b. Discuss Capital Improvement Plan for Parks, Trails, and Recreation

Baker asked the Board to consider creating a capital improvement plan for parks, trails, and recreation. He mentioned that in 2007, the Lonsdale Park & Recreation Advisory Board prepared a Master Parks & Open Space Plan. He said that the plan listed proposed park and trail improvements along with a strategic plan. Baker presented the Board with an example of a park improvement plan with priority ranking and a 5-year CIP example. Baker asked the Commission to review the Master Plan's listed improvements and rank them from high priority to low priority for the next meeting. The Commission decided to pursue a CIP to help them organize, prioritize, and fund future projects.

**8. MISCELLANEOUS**

None.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Kraimer and seconded by Churchill to adjourn the meeting. Vote for: Churchill, Carpentier, Kodada, and Kraimer; Against: None (Vote 4-0). Motion carried. The meeting ended at 7:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

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Benjamin Baker, City Planner