

Board of Parks Commissioners
Tuesday, April 6, 2021 12:00 PM
Council Chambers
1369 25 Avenue
Columbus, NE 68601

1. Statement of compliance with Open Meetings Act.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT

**NEBRASKA
REVISED STATUTES
84-1407 THROUGH 84-1414**



**EFFECTIVE
NOVEMBER 14, 2020**



This is a complimentary copy of the Open Meetings Act - Nebraska Revised Statutes 84-1407 through 84-1414. We hope you find it helpful when conducting your public meeting.

There were revisions made to the Open Meetings Act in the 2020 Nebraska State Legislature. The most recent version of the Open Meetings Act in this manual is in effect as of November 14, 2020.

This manual is provided to Nebraska municipalities by the League of Nebraska Municipalities (LONM) and the League Association of Risk Management (LARM).



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84-1407. ACT, HOW CITED. SECTIONS 84-1407 TO 84-1414 SHALL BE KNOWN AND MAY BE CITED AS THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

**84-1408. DECLARATION OF INTENT;
MEETINGS OPEN TO PUBLIC.**

It is hereby declared to be the policy of this state that the formation of public policy is public business and may not be conducted in secret.

Every meeting of a public body shall be open to the public in order that citizens may exercise their democratic privilege of attending and speaking at meetings of public bodies, except as otherwise provided by the Constitution of Nebraska, federal statutes, and the Open Meetings Act.

84-1409. TERMS, DEFINED. FOR PURPOSES OF THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

(1)(a) Public body means (i) governing bodies of all political subdivisions of the State of Nebraska, (ii) governing bodies of all agencies, created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, of the executive department of the State of Nebraska, (iii) all independent boards, commissions, bureaus, committees, councils, subunits, or any other bodies created by the Constitution of Nebraska, statute, or otherwise pursuant to law, (iv) all study or advisory committees of the executive department of the State of Nebraska whether having continuing existence or appointed as special committees with limited existence, (v) advisory committees of the bodies referred to in subdivisions (i), (ii), and (iii) of this subdivision, and (vi) instrumentalities exercising essentially public functions.

(b) Public body does not include (i) subcommittees of such bodies unless a quorum of the public body attends a subcommittee meeting or unless such subcommittees are holding hearings, making policy, or taking formal action on behalf of their parent body, except that all meetings of any subcommittee established under section 81-15,175 are subject to the Open Meetings Act, and (ii) entities conducting judicial proceedings unless a court or other judicial body is exercising rulemaking authority, deliberating, or deciding upon the issuance of administrative orders;

(2) Meeting means all regular, special, or called meetings, formal or informal, of any public body for the purposes of briefing, discussion of public business, formation of tentative policy, or the taking of any action of the public body; and

(3) Videoconferencing means conducting a meeting involving participants at two or more locations through the use of audio-video equipment which allows participants at each location to hear and see each meeting participant at each other location, including public input. Interaction between meeting participants shall be possible at all meeting locations.

**84-1410. CLOSED SESSION; WHEN; PURPOSE;
REASONS LISTED; PROCEDURE; RIGHT TO
CHALLENGE; PROHIBITED ACTS; CHANCE
MEETINGS, CONVENTIONS, OR WORKSHOPS.**

(1) Any public body may hold a closed session by the affirmative vote of a majority of its voting members if a closed session is clearly necessary for the protection of the public interest or for the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual and if such individual has not requested a public meeting. The subject matter and the reason necessitating the closed session shall be identified in the motion to close. Closed sessions may be held for, but shall not be limited to, such reasons as:

- (a) Strategy sessions with respect to collective bargaining, real estate purchases, pending litigation, or litigation which is imminent as evidenced by communication of a claim or threat of litigation to or by the public body;
- (b) Discussion regarding deployment of security personnel or devices;
- (c) Investigative proceedings regarding allegations of criminal misconduct;
- (d) Evaluation of the job performance of a person when necessary to prevent needless injury to the reputation of a person and if such person has not requested a public meeting;
- (e) For the Community Trust created under section 81-1801.02, discussion regarding the amounts to be paid to individuals who have suffered from a tragedy of violence or natural disaster; or
- (f) For public hospitals, governing board peer review activities, professional review activities, review and discussion of medical staff investigations or disciplinary actions, and any strategy session concerning transactional negotiations with any referral source that is required by federal law to be conducted at arms length.

Nothing in this section shall permit a closed meeting for discussion of the appointment or election of a new member to any public body.

(2) The vote to hold a closed session shall be taken in open session. The entire motion, the vote of each member on the question of holding a closed session, and the time when the closed session commenced and concluded shall be recorded in the minutes. If the motion to close passes, then the presiding officer immediately prior to the closed session shall restate on the record the limitation of the subject matter of the closed session. The public body holding such a closed session shall restrict its consideration of matters during the closed portions to only those purposes set forth in the motion to close as the reason for the closed session. The meeting shall be reconvened in open session before any formal action may be taken. For purposes of this section, formal action shall mean a collective decision or a collective commitment or promise to make a decision on any question, motion, proposal, resolution, order, or ordinance or formation of a position or policy but shall not include negotiating guidance given by members of the public body to legal counsel or other negotiators in closed sessions authorized under subdivision (1)(a) of this section.

(3) Any member of any public body shall have the right to challenge the continuation of a closed session if the member determines that the session has exceeded the reason stated in the original motion to hold a closed session or if the member contends that the closed session is neither clearly necessary for (a) the protection of the public interest or (b) the prevention of needless injury to the reputation of an individual. Such challenge shall be overruled only by a majority vote of the members of the public body. Such challenge and its disposition shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that any meeting be closed to the public. No person or public body shall fail to invite a portion of its members to a meeting, and no public body shall designate itself a subcommittee of the whole body for the purpose of circumventing the Open

Meetings Act. No closed session, informal meeting, chance meeting, social gathering, email, fax, or other electronic communication shall be used for the purpose of circumventing the requirements of the act.

(5) The act does not apply to chance meetings or to attendance at or travel to conventions or workshops of members of a public body at which there is no meeting of the body then intentionally convened, if there is no vote or other action taken regarding any matter over which the public body has supervision, control, jurisdiction, or advisory power.

84-1411. MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODY; NOTICE; METHOD; CONTENTS; WHEN AVAILABLE; RIGHT TO MODIFY; DUTIES CONCERNING NOTICE; VIDEOCONFERENCING OR TELEPHONE CONFERENCING AUTHORIZED; EMERGENCY MEETING WITHOUT NOTICE; APPEARANCE BEFORE PUBLIC BODY.

(1)(a) Each public body shall give reasonable advance publicized notice of the time and place of each meeting as provided in this subsection. Such notice shall be transmitted to all members of the public body and to the public.

(b)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (1)(b)(ii) of this section, in the case of a public body described in subdivision (1)(a)(i) of section 84-1409 or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site.

(ii) In the case of the governing body of a city of the second class or village or such body's advisory committee, such notice shall be published by:

(A) Publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the public body's jurisdiction and, if available, on such newspaper's web site; or

(B) Posting written notice in three conspicuous public places in such city or village. Such notice shall be posted in the same three places for each meeting.

(iii) In the case of a public body not described in subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice shall be given by a method designated by the public body.

(c) In addition to a method of notice required by subdivision (1)(b)(i) or (ii) of this section, such notice may also be provided by any other appropriate method designated by such public body or such advisory committee.

(d) Each public body shall record the methods and dates of such notice in its minutes.

(e) Such notice shall contain an agenda of subjects known at the time of the publicized notice or a statement that the agenda, which shall be kept continually current, shall be readily available for public inspection at the principal office of the public body during normal business hours. Agenda items shall be sufficiently descriptive to give the public reasonable notice of the matters to be considered at the meeting. Except for items of an emergency nature, the agenda shall not be altered later than (i) twenty-four hours before the scheduled commencement of the meeting or (ii) forty-eight hours before the scheduled commencement of a meeting of a city council or village board scheduled outside the corporate limits of the municipality. The public body shall have the right to modify the agenda to include items of an emergency nature only at such public meeting.

(2) A meeting of a state agency, state board, state commission, state coun-

cil, or state committee, of an advisory committee of any such state entity, of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a public power district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district having a chartered territory of more than one county in this state, of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, or of a community college board of governors may be held by means of videoconferencing or, in the case of the Judicial Resources Commission in those cases specified in section 24-1204, by telephone conference, if:

(a) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section;

(b) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recordation by audio or visual recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if videoconferencing or telephone conferencing was not used;

(c) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference;

(d) At least one member of the state entity, advisory committee, board, council, or governing body is present at each site of the videoconference or telephone conference, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site; and

(e)(i) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(e)(ii) of this section, no more than one-half of the state entity's, advisory committee's, board's, council's, or governing body's meetings in a calendar year are held by videoconference or telephone conference; or

(ii) In the case of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, such organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conferencing.

Videoconferencing, telephone conferencing, or conferencing by other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(3) A meeting of a board of an educational service unit, of the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, of the governing body of an entity formed under the Interlocal Cooperation Act, the Joint Public Agency Act, or the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, of the governing body of a risk management pool or its advisory committees organized in accordance with the Intergovernmental Risk Management Act, of a community college board of governors, of the governing body of a public power district, of the governing body of a public power and irrigation district, or of the Nebraska Brand Committee may be held by telephone conference call if:

(a) The territory represented by the educational service unit, member educational service units, community college board of governors, public

power district, public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or member public agencies of the entity or pool covers more than one county;

(b) Reasonable advance publicized notice is given as provided in subsection (1) of this section which identifies each telephone conference location at which there will be present: (i) A member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of a public power district, governing body of a public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity's or pool's governing body; or (ii) A nonvoting designee designated under subdivision (3)(f) of this section;

(c) All telephone conference meeting sites identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or entity or pool or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;

(d) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including seating, recordation by audio recording devices, and a reasonable opportunity for input such as public comment or questions to at least the same extent as would be provided if a telephone conference call was not used;

(e) At least one copy of all documents being considered is available to the public at each site of the telephone conference call;

(f) At least one member of the educational service unit board, council, community college board of governors, governing body of the public power district, governing body of the public power and irrigation district, Nebraska Brand Committee, or governing body of the entity or pool is present at each site of the telephone conference call identified in the public notice, except that a member of an organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis, an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act, or a governing body of a risk management pool or an advisory committee of such organization or pool may designate a nonvoting designee, who shall not be included as part of the quorum, to be present at any site;

(g) The telephone conference call lasts no more than five hours; and

(h) No more than one-half of the board's, council's, governing body's, committee's, entity's, or pool's meetings in a calendar year are held by telephone conference call, except that:

(i) The governing body of a risk management pool that meets at least quarterly and the advisory committees of the governing body may each hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the governing body's quarterly meetings are not held by telephone conference call or videoconferencing; and

(ii) An organization created under the Interlocal Cooperation Act that sells electricity or natural gas at wholesale on a multistate basis or an organization created under the Municipal Cooperative Financing Act may hold more than one-half of its meetings by telephone conference call if the organization holds at least one meeting each calendar year that is not by videoconferencing or telephone conference call.

Nothing in this subsection shall prevent the participation of consultants, members of the press, and other nonmembers of the governing body at sites not identified in the public notice. Telephone conference calls, emails, faxes, or other electronic communication shall not be used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act.

(4) The secretary or other designee of each public body shall maintain a list of the news media requesting notification of meetings and shall make reasonable efforts to provide advance notification to them of the time and place of each meeting and the subjects to be discussed at that meeting.

(5) When it is necessary to hold an emergency meeting without reasonable advance public notice, the nature of the emergency shall be stated in the minutes and any formal action taken in such meeting shall pertain only to the emergency. Such emergency meetings may be held by means of electronic or telecommunication equipment. The provisions of subsection (4) of this section shall be complied with in conducting emergency meetings. Complete minutes of such emergency meetings specifying the nature of the emergency and any formal action taken at the meeting shall be made available to the public by no later than the end of the next regular business day.

(6) A public body may allow a member of the public or any other witness other than a member of the public body to appear before the public body by means of video or telecommunications equipment.

84-1412. MEETINGS OF PUBLIC BODY; RIGHTS OF PUBLIC; PUBLIC BODY; POWERS AND DUTIES.

(1) Subject to the Open Meetings Act, the public has the right to attend and the right to speak at meetings of public bodies, and all or any part of a meeting of a public body, except for closed sessions called pursuant to section 84-1410, may be videotaped, televised, photographed, broadcast, or recorded by any person in attendance by means of a tape recorder, camera, video equipment, or any other means of pictorial or sonic reproduction or in writing.

(2) It shall not be a violation of subsection (1) of this section for any public body to make and enforce reasonable rules and regulations regarding the conduct of persons attending, speaking at, videotaping, televising, photographing, broadcasting, or recording its meetings. A body may not be required to allow citizens to speak at each meeting, but it may not forbid public participation at all meetings.

(3) No public body shall require members of the public to identify themselves as a condition for admission to the meeting nor shall such body require that the name of any member of the public be placed on the agenda prior to such meeting in order to speak about items on the agenda. The body may require any member of the public desiring to address the body to identify himself or herself.

(4) No public body shall, for the purpose of circumventing the Open Meetings Act, hold a meeting in a place known by the body to be too small to accommodate the anticipated audience.

(5) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds its meeting in its traditional meeting place which is located in this state.

(6) No public body shall be deemed in violation of this section if it holds a meeting outside of this state if, but only if:

- (a) A member entity of the public body is located outside of this state and the meeting is in that member's jurisdiction;
- (b) All out-of-state locations identified in the notice are located within public buildings used by members of the entity or at a place which will accommodate the anticipated audience;
- (c) Reasonable arrangements are made to accommodate the public's right to attend, hear, and speak at the meeting, including making a telephone conference call available at an instate location to members, the public, or the press, if requested twenty-four hours in advance;
- (d) No more than twenty-five percent of the public body's meetings in a calendar year are held out-of-state;
- (e) Out-of-state meetings are not used to circumvent any of the public government purposes established in the Open Meetings Act;
- (f) Reasonable arrangements are made to provide viewing at other instate locations for a videoconference meeting if requested fourteen days in advance and if economically and reasonably available in the area; and
- (g) The public body publishes notice of the out-of-state meeting at least twenty-one days before the date of the meeting in a legal newspaper of statewide circulation.

(7) The public body shall, upon request, make a reasonable effort to accommodate the public's right to hear the discussion and testimony presented at the meeting.

(8) Public bodies shall make available at the meeting or the instate location for a telephone conference call or videoconference, for examination and copying by members of the public, at least one copy of all reproducible written material to be discussed at an open meeting. Public bodies shall make available at least one current copy of the Open Meetings Act posted in the meeting room at a location accessible to members of the public. At the beginning of the meeting, the public shall be informed about the location of the posted information.

84-1413. MEETINGS; MINUTES; ROLL CALL VOTE; SECRET BALLOT; WHEN.

(1) Each public body shall keep minutes of all meetings showing the time, place, members present and absent, and the substance of all matters discussed.

(2) Any action taken on any question or motion duly moved and seconded shall be by roll call vote of the public body in open session, and the record shall state how each member voted or if the member was absent or not voting. The requirements of a roll call or viva voce vote shall be satisfied by a public body which utilizes an electronic voting device which allows the yeas and nays of each member of such public body to be readily seen by the public.

(3) The vote to elect leadership within a public body may be taken by secret ballot, but the total number of votes for each candidate shall be recorded in the minutes.

(4) The minutes of all meetings and evidence and documentation received or disclosed in open session shall be public records and open to public inspection during normal business hours.

(5) Minutes shall be written, except as provided in subsection (6) of this section, and available for inspection within ten working days or prior to the next convened meeting, whichever occurs earlier, except that cities of the second class and villages may have an additional ten working days if the employee responsible for writing the minutes is absent due to a serious illness or emergency.

(6) Minutes of the meetings of the board of a school district or educational service unit may be kept as an electronic record.

**84-1414. UNLAWFUL ACTION BY PUBLIC BODY;
DECLARED VOID OR VOIDABLE BY DISTRICT COURT;
WHEN; DUTY TO ENFORCE OPEN MEETING LAWS;
CITIZEN'S SUIT; PROCEDURE;
VIOLATIONS; PENALTIES.**

(1) Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be declared void by the district court if the suit is commenced within one hundred twenty days of the meeting of the public body at which the alleged violation occurred. Any motion, resolution, rule, regulation, ordinance, or formal action of a public body made or taken in substantial violation of the Open Meetings Act shall be voidable by the district court if the suit is commenced more than one hundred twenty days after but within one year of the meeting of the public body in which the alleged violation occurred. A suit to void any final action shall be commenced within one year of the action.

(2) The Attorney General and the county attorney of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets shall enforce the Open Meetings Act.

(3) Any citizen of this state may commence a suit in the district court of the county in which the public body ordinarily meets or in which the plaintiff resides for the purpose of requiring compliance with or preventing violations of the Open Meetings Act, for the purpose of declaring an action of a public body void, or for the purpose of determining the applicability of the act to discussions or decisions of the public body. It shall not be a defense that the citizen attended the meeting and failed to object at such time. The court may order payment of reasonable attorney's fees and court costs to a successful plaintiff in a suit brought under this section.

(4) Any member of a public body who knowingly violates or conspires to violate or who attends or remains at a meeting knowing that the public body is in violation of any provision of the Open Meetings Act shall be guilty of a Class IV misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class III misdemeanor for a second or subsequent offense.

EFFECTIVE DATE – NOVEMBER 14, 2020

**DISTRIBUTED BY THE
LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA MUNICIPALITIES AND THE
LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF RISK MANAGEMENT.**



**LEAGUE OF NEBRASKA
MUNICIPALITIES
WWW.LONM.ORG**

**1335 L STREET
LINCOLN, NE 68508**



**LEAGUE ASSOCIATION OF
RISK MANAGEMENT
WWW.LARMPPOOL.COM**

2. Minutes of March 2, 2021, meeting.

BOARD OF PARKS COMMISSIONERS
MARCH 2, 2021

A regular meeting of the Board of Parks Commissioners of the City of Columbus, Nebraska, was convened in open and public session on March 2, 2021, at 12:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 1369 25 Avenue, Columbus, Nebraska.

Notice of this meeting was given in advance thereof by publication in the Columbus Telegram, with a copy of the proof of publication being on file in the office of the City Clerk. Availability of the agenda was communicated in the advance notice to the members of the Board of Parks Commissioners. All proceedings hereafter shown were taken while the convened meeting was open to the public.

1. **STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN MEETINGS ACT AND ROLL CALL.** Chair Hansen announced that a copy of the Open Meetings Act is posted in the meeting room. Present were Members Robbin Cutsor, Chuck Fleeman, Jack Gutierrez, Brad Hansen, Sandra Jochens, Nick Larson, Gary Puetz, and Bruce Schmidt. Member John Shadle was absent and excused. City staff members included Park Superintendent Ron Dush, Park and Recreation Coordinator Betsy Eckhardt, Aquatics Manager Brook Tomka, Golf Course Crew Leader Shawn Riedmiller, and Account Clerk II/Records Clerk II Linda Nickeson. Also present was Mayor James Bulkley and Golf Pro Doug Dunbar.
2. **MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2021, MEETING.** The minutes were approved as presented with a motion by Gutierrez and a second by Puetz. Cutsor, Fleeman, Gutierrez, Hansen, Jochens, Larson, Puetz, and Schmidt voted "Aye" and none voted "Nay". Shadle was absent.
3. **ANNUAL REPORT FROM COLUMBUS MARINERS BASEBALL LEAGUE.** Cory Reeder reviewed the 2020 season and explained that cancelled tournaments and a shortened season due to COVID-19 resulted in a net loss for the organization; however, they are anticipating a normal season this year with the number of participants expected to remain the same.
4. **ANNUAL REPORT FROM COLUMBUS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION.** Chuck Fleeman reviewed the 2020 season and noted that with participation down by 10-12 teams due to COVID-19, the season was reduced to eight weeks with no tournaments being held. He indicated that the organization is requesting assistance from the city in addressing drainage issues surrounding the fields and fan areas at Gerrard Park.
5. **REQUEST FROM COLUMBUS SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION FOR CANNED BEER PERMIT AT GERRARD PARK.** Chuck Fleeman stated there were no issues with last year's beer permit. The request for a canned beer only permit for CSA sponsored events at Gerrard Park during the 2021 season was approved with a motion by Larson and a second by Cutsor. Cutsor, Fleeman, Gutierrez, Hansen,

Jochens, Larson, Puetz, and Schmidt voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Shadle was absent.

6. **PROPOSED FEES FOR USE OF ATHLETIC FIELDS.** Eckhardt stated that the proposed fees for use of athletic fields were established after she was approached by organizations not having agreements with the city inquiring about renting softball fields for practices and games. She mentioned that these fees were figured by comparing those used by other communities similar to Columbus and that groups using the facilities would only have access to the fields, restrooms, chalk, and bases. She confirmed that the organizations already holding agreements with the city will have priority use of the facilities and that the city having access to their practice and game schedules will prevent interference with their seasons. Eckhardt explained there is no intention of allowing use of the soccer fields at this time; however, staff would like to establish the fees for future use. Kay Arlt expressed concerns regarding the possibility of groups using the soccer fields already prepared for scheduled events and questioned whether the city could deny access once the fees were officially established. Discussion was held regarding removal of the soccer fees until the issues regarding public use of the fields is fully addressed. The motion to recommend to the mayor and city council to amend the proposed fees for use of athletic fields by removing all fees for use of soccer fields was approved with a motion by Cutsor and second by Gutierrez. Cutsor, Fleeman, Gutierrez, Hansen, Jochens, Larson, Puetz, and Schmidt voted “Aye” and none voted “Nay”. Shadle was absent.
7. **PAWNEE PARK BASEBALL FIELD TURF.** Ron Schilling explained the need for infield turf at Pawnee Park baseball field and confirmed that upgraded lighting at the facility is a priority over this project; however, he would like to see them happen simultaneously. He noted that a \$350,000 estimate was received from two separate companies and that financing would be obtained through grant funding, utilizing assistance of local banks, and city funding. He confirmed that the field turf would eliminate multiple cancellations of practices and games.

Gutierrez left the meeting at 12:47 p.m.

8. **REPORT OF PUBLIC PROPERTY DIRECTOR.**
 - 8.A. **Park Department.** Dush reviewed activity in the parks.
 - 8.B. **Park and Recreation.** Eckhardt reported that all agreements for use of city facilities will remain the same as last year with the exception of Columbus Softball Association and that the Cornhusker State Games swim meet will be held at the Aquatic Center July 17 & 18, 2021, bringing 500 to 2000 people to Columbus. She noted that Platte County Ag Society has agreed to the use of their parking lot and event center for participants and spectators throughout the weekend as the event

will be live streamed to accommodate COVID protocols.

- 8.C. Aquatics Department.** Tomka mentioned that staffing shortages continue to be an issue.
- 8.D. Golf Department.** Dunbar confirmed that Quail Run repairs are scheduled to begin April 1 and that the golf course is expected to open this week.
- 9. ADJOURNMENT.** The meeting adjourned at 12:58 p.m.

OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK

: Linda Nickeson

3. Park Department fees.



CITY OF COLUMBUS PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

ATHLETIC FIELD PRICING

With the addition of the Parks and Recreation Coordinator position with the City of Columbus we have the opportunity to offer programs through the Parks and Recreation department. Below is a proposed list of programs and pricing. Please note that we were careful to not overlap with activities already established in the community. All pricing is set up to be comparable to other parks and recreation departments in the state as well as locally.

***Note-this is for staff, internal, pricing only. This is not the pricing for if an organization were to rent a space to run a league/clinic on our fields or in our parks. ***

Proposed Program	Pricing
High School Coed Sand Volleyball League	\$75/Team
High School Girls 4 on 4 Sand Volleyball League	\$50/Team
Junior High Girls 6 on 6 Sand Volleyball League	\$75/Team
Coed Pickleball League	\$40/Team
Women's Pickleball Doubles League	\$40/Team
Fitness Bootcamp in Pawnee Park	\$90/Participant (9 classes essentially \$10/Class. Each participant must register for the full Bootcamp)
Family Fitness in Pawnee Park	\$10/Family/Day
Fundamental Tennis Clinic (4 Day Clinic)	\$60/Participant
Fall High School Coed Slow Pitch Softball Rec League	\$120/Team
Men's Pickleball Tournament	\$15/Individual

4. Prioritization of requests for city funding for the 2021-2022 Budget.

**2021-22 Park Dept.
Capital Projects**

__ Paving Pawnee Park Road (south of Ramada)	175,000
__ Fence repairs at ballfields	40,000
__ Armor coat parking lots (Gerrard, Centennial, Bradshaw)	80,000
__ Repair tennis courts (Gerrard, Glur, Hanover, Centennial)	500,000
__ Splash Pad at Centennial	250,000
__ Bleacher shades at Centennial	50,000
__ Drainage and concrete at Gerrard Park	150,000
__ Wilderness Park Storage building expansion	65,000
__ Restroom/Concession Stand Centennial Park	450,000
__ High Jump/Pole Vault replacement at Memorial Stadium	50,000
__ New field lights at Pawnee Park baseball field	500,000
__ Baseball fields at Columbus High	1,000,000
__ Indoor tennis facility	2,000,000
__ Remote Control cars racetrack	50,000
__ Covered horseshoe courts (Frontier Park)	400,000
__ Water/Sewer lines at Sunset Park (Lions Club drinking fountain)	30,000
__ New Press Box and renovations at Memorial Stadium	2,000,000
__ Paving East Pawnee Park roads	750,000

5. Report of Public Property Director.



The City of **Columbus**

PUBLIC PROPERTY DEPARTMENT

Director (402) 562-4240

Fax (402) 562-4265

April 2021

Monthly report

Park Department

- Hauled sand to sand volleyball courts
- Completed Pawnee Park baseball field light repairs
- Spring High School sports have begun
- All restrooms have been turned on
- Starting to turn on irrigation systems
- All tennis outdoor lighting checked and clocks adjusted for spring
- Repairing and painting some benches in Frankfort Square that have been chipped
- New playground equipment at Sunset Park is complete
- New bleacher shades at Bradshaw Park have been completed
- Seeding worn areas throughout the park system
- Met with Lions Club to discuss donating a drinking fountain in Sunset Park to celebrate Lions Club 100-year anniversary of having a club in Columbus
- Met with Engineering and Public Works to discuss how to get water to the fountain
- Have inspected all playground equipment and made any needed repairs
- Hauling and spreading wood chips around playgrounds
- Installed two benches donated by Rotary Club near new playground at Sunset Park
- Checking field lights at ballfields for spring and summer seasons
- Accepted bid from Foreman Lumber for Pawnee Park baseball concession stand roof repair
- Have viewed proposal for Pawnee Park baseball field light replacement
- Vandalism on Memorial Stadium fence next to ambulance entrance, Swett Fencing has completed repairs
- Installed new backstop at Pawnee Park baseball field
- Council has approved purchase of a new pickup, should arrive in couple of months
- Receiving complaints about non-authorized use of Pawnee Park tennis courts, football field and baseball field, Police have been notified.
- Grinding tree stumps and filling with dirt and seeding.

Park and Recreation

- Actively scheduling fields and facilities
- Advertising and updating through <https://www.columbusne.us/571/Parks-Recreation>
- And the Parks and Rec social medias
- Continuing to learn and work with CivicRec
- Working with several committees on upcoming summer events: Cornhusker State Games, Cattlemen's Ball, Columbus Days, DBA, Frankfort Square.
- Developing local programming.

Aquatics report

- Have started lifeguard training, doing as many classes as possible
- Have hired approximately half the staff for the Pawnee Plunge (still recruiting)
- Outdoor lighting improvements at Pawnee Plunge complete
- Starting Pawnee Plunge preparations for summer opening
- Aquatic Center has been selected as the host for the swimming portion of the Cornhusker States Games in July
- Maintenance staff position has been filled with applicant starting the end of April

Golf report

- Both courses open for play
- Started turning on irrigation systems
- Documenting any secondary work for FEMA
- Landscapes Unlimited is on site and has started staking areas and placing silt fencing, heavy equipment arriving
- Have received quotes for work at Van Berg pro shop
- An asbestos check has been completed at Van Berg pro shop – negative for asbestos
- Sent a plan of corrections draft to State Fire Marshall for Van Berg pro shop
- Hiring seasonal staff
- Working on fee recommendations for next year

- 5.A. Park Department.
- 5.B. Park and Recreation.
- 5.C. Aquatics Department.

Run On 04/01/2021 08:12 AM

Run By Brook Tomka

From 03/01/2021 12:00 AM

To 03/31/2021 11:59 PM

Check-In Type Membership, Admission

Park Board Admissions Report

Membership

Item	Total Check-Ins
1. Annual Memberships Aquatic Center Individual	40
2. Annual Memberships Aquatic Center Group	1039
3. Program Admittance Memberships 50 Admissions	202
4. Monthly Memberships Aquatic Center Individual	11
5. Program Admittance Memberships 25 Admissions	27
6. Program Admittance Memberships 10 Admissions	5
7. Program Admittance Memberships 5 Admissions	1
8. Annual Memberships Combo (AC & PP) Group	30
9. Annual Memberships Combo (AC & PP) Individual	2
	1357

Admission

Item	Total Check-Ins
1. Aquatic Center Item Rentals - Goggles, Noodles, Tubes	87
2. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Youth (4+)	204
3. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Adult Admission (16+)	108
4. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Senior Admission (55+)	6
5. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Swim Lesson	110
6. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Staff	31
7. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Care Giver	9
8. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - Prerequisite Practice	29
9. Aquatic Center Item Rentals - Balls, Toys, Rings	15
10. Aquatic Center Admission Fees - 3&U	14
	613

Totals for *Park Board Admissions Report*

1869 - 1970

Run 04/01/2021 08:13 AM
On

Run Brook Tomka
By

From 03/01/2021 12:00 AM

To 03/31/2021 11:59 PM

GL 100-152-44717, 100-152-44720, 100-152-44721, 100-152-44724, 100-152-44725, 100-152-44727, 100-152-44729, 100-152-45310, 100-152-45320, 100-152-48000, 100-152-55910

Park Board Revenue Report

GL Desc	Total
1. Passes	\$1,185.00
2. Admissions	\$1,268.00
3. Swimming Lessons	\$1,050.00
4. Uniforms	\$47.00
5. Programs	\$175.00
6. Merch/Misc Sales	\$20.00
7. Equipment Rentals	\$145.50
	\$3,890.50
Totals for *Park Board Revenue Report*	\$3,890.50

5.D. Golf Department.

2021 MARCH Golf ACTIVITY Report

ROUNDS	2021 QR	QR (2020)	2021 VB	2020 VB	2021 VB pass	2020 VB pass	FootGolf 2020	
Jan	0	0	35	21	61	33	Players	Rentals
Feb	0	210	4	48	7	47	9 / 82	7 / 75
March	1204	693	183	45	277	71	103.75 / 976.70	
April		1671		299		352		
May		2313		685		807		
June		2844		1095		963	FootGolf 2021	
July		2891		1296		989	Players	Rentals
Aug		2909		1544		1094	0/0	0/0
Sept		2184		582		376	0/0	
Oct		1050		192		117		
Nov		748		83		71		
Dec		297		54		67		
	1204	17810	222	5944	345	4987		

By Comparison				* WEATHER	GOLF COURSE REVENUE					FootGolf 2017		FootGolf 2021		
	QR	VB	Total Rds	DAYS	Total Rev	QR	VB	Passes/Punch		Players	Rentals	Players	Rentals	
2006	14,145	3,636	17,781	33	380,114.13	250,815.13	51,345.00	77,954.00	Jan-Dec 2006	185	57	0/0	0/0	
2007	13,856	3,921	17,777	37	374,656.70	247,502.95	52,484.75	74,669.00	Jan-Dec 2007	\$1,829.20			0/0	
2008	16,490	3,322	19,812	29	392,168.16	269,130.62	45,071.64	77,965.90	Jan - Dec 2008	FootGolf 2018				
2009	24,044	5,805	29,849	30	440,517.65	296,032.27	54,070.01	90,415.37	Jan-Dec 2009	Players	Rentals			
2010	20,100	4,708	24,808	39	430,316.66	282,355.79	44,678.10	103,282.77	Jan-Dec-2010	300	217			
2011	17,231	4,255	21,486	51	403,737.50	256,447.20	44,311.40	102,978.90	Jan-Dec 2011	FootGolf 2019				
2012	20,763	5,554	26,317	36	453,582.16	281,325.80	42,449.43	129,806.93	Jan-Dec 2012	10/180	2/66			
2013	17,780	6,833	24,613	32	435,869.17	242,846.89	58,229.51	134,792.77	Jan-Dec 2013	99.10 / 1625.66				
2014	19,116	6,493	25,609	34	456,925.82	267,817.90	52,747.99	136,359.93	Jan-Dec 2014	FootGolf 2020				
2015	21,206	7,014	28,220	47	466,655.67	267,674.40	58,490.34	140,490.93	Jan-Dec 2015	9 / 82	7 / 75			
Closed 8 days	2016	24,008	7,029	31,037	35 + 8	473,738.90	286,042.87	52,593.92	135,102.11	Jan-Dec 2016	103.75 / 976.70			
	2017	21,905	6,230	28,135	43	478,110.61	275,744.95	54,269.26	148,096.40	Jan-DEC 2017	9 HOLES CLOSED AT QUAIL			
	2018	21,434	6,224	27,658	49	474,776.79	269,995.46	59,190.46	145,590.87	Jan-DEC 2018	9 HOLES CLOSED AT QUAIL			
Opened In May	2019	10,083	8,001	18,084	x	278,628.11	113,332.47	84,097.59	81,198.05	Jan-DEC 2019	FootGolf 2020			
	2020	17,810	10,898	28,708	x	347,698.60	147,879.17	117,728.87	82,090.56	Jan-DEC 2020	Players	Rentals		
Jan-March	2020	903	265	1,168		71,746.17	19,036.29	1,065.90	51,643.98	Jan-March 2020	9 / 82	7 / 75		
Jan-March	2021	1204	567	1,771		104,377.70	28356.5	3,227.84	72,793.36	Jan-March 2021	103.75 / 976.70			

* Weather affected days are recorded from April 1 thru September *

Outings	2006	2009	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
20-39	16	21	16	17	15	16	19	20	24	27	7	9
40-59	3	3	8	5	6	8	9	8	7	8	3	4
60-79	2	8	9	11	14	12	13	14	14	14	3	3
80-99	1	2	2	5	4	5	5	4	3	4	0	
100+	2	4	3	5	2	3	3	3	3	2	1	1
200+	0	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	2	0	
	24	39	39	44	42	45	51	50	52	57	14	17

6. Adjournment.