

# ***Recreation Advisory Board***

## ***Agenda***

**Monday, May 22, 2023  
Recreation Center  
900 West Via Appia  
6:30 PM**

*Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely; however, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.*

- *You can call in to 1-719-359-4580 or 1-833-548-0276(Toll Free)  
Webinar ID #886 7577 1709*
- *You can log in via your computer. Please visit the City's website here to link to the meeting: [www.louisvilleco.gov/rab](http://www.louisvilleco.gov/rab)*

*The Board will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Board prior to the meeting at [KathyM@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:KathyM@LouisvilleCO.gov).*

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
5. Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
6. Staff Updates
  - Aquatics Update-Paul
  - Golf Update-David B and David D
  - Tennis Court Updates-Abby

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Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303 335-4536 or [MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov). A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

7. Board Updates
  - Outdoor Rec Amenities
8. Discussion of items for next meeting
9. Adjourn

# ***Recreation Advisory Board***

## ***Meeting Minutes***

**April 24, 2023  
Recreation Center  
900 West Via Appia  
6:30 PM**

**Call to Order** – Chairperson Norgard called the meeting to order at 6:30.

**Roll Call** was taken and the following members were present:

Board Members Present: Angie Layton, Gene Kutscher, Lisa Norgard, Mary O'Brien, Michele Van Pelt

Board Members Absent: Dick Friedson

Staff Members Present: Adam Blackmore, Kathy Martin

City Council Member Present:

Public Members Present: Jackson Cook, Alexandra Randle, Ava Maliawco, Violet Baber, Shawn Uhlenhake

**Approval of Agenda** – The agenda was approved by all members.

Motion: Lisa Norgard  
Second: Gene Kutscher

**Approval of Meeting Minutes** – The minutes from the March 27 meeting were approved as written.

Motion: Lisa Norgard  
Second: Michele Van Pelt

**Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda** – None

Shawn Uhlenhake introduced himself as the President of Monarch Little League. The league currently serves about 335 kids in the 80027 area, from age 4 to 13/14. This league and Louisville Youth Softball and Baseball Association use the ball fields in town. Shawn came to the meeting to express some concerns about the fields.

- After the City replaced fences at one of the fields, the Monarch Little League parents worked to replace the backstops. They would like to replace backstops on additional fields, but are asking the City to repair the fences before a possible backstop replacement.
- Miner's field is adjacent to Highway 42, which is a busy road. Shawn is concerned that a foul ball could hit a car. The addition of foul ball netting is a safety issue. In addition, players and spectators experience significant noise from the road. Some type of noise abatement would be nice.
- At Enrietto East and West, the dirt needs to be replaced. There are currently a lot of rocks on the field.
- For future planning, Louisville Little League organizers would like the City to consider a redesign of Enrietto and Cleo, so that the fields are the correct size.

RAB members support the goal of a maintenance schedule with an adequate budget, so that City rec facilities and amenities are repaired and kept in good condition.

## **Staff Updates**

Director Updates from Adam Blackmore:

- In mid-May contractors will fill the cracks on the east tennis courts at Centennial Park and the courts at Pirate Park. The courts at the Rec Center will also be repaired.
- Adam is waiting for bids to resurface the east courts at Centennial Park and to rebuild the court at Mission Green. There is probably not enough money for both projects, so this will probably mean choosing one project or the other. The Mission Green court is probably too close to houses to be used for pickleball, due to noise ordinances.
- City Council set up a task force to determine the ballot language for the renewal of the sales tax that provides 75% of the funding for the open space and parks budget. This will be on the fall ballot.
- Top Tracer will be installed at the golf course next week. Initial engineering is underway for a cold storage building. Staff will be presenting a proposed design for a cart path on 13.
- Several parks are on the schedule to be redesigned. City staff will be asking for public input.

Kathy reported updates from the Rec Center.

- Roof replacement is underway to repair damage from the Marshall Fire.
- A new cell tower will be on the building. The fiber line will run along Via Appia, so that may cause some disruption to parking lots.
- Summer hiring is generally going well, although a couple of programs had to be canceled. The lifeguard situation is looking good.

- City Council is focused on sustainability and aims for the City to be carbon free by 2030. The City hired a company to evaluate the Rec Center, the Library, and the Police Department to see what they would need to change to become carbon free. The information will be presented in June. It will be very expensive to switch the Rec Center from gas to electric.
- City Council is asking for feedback from the boards and commissions related to plans to reconsider and restructure boards. Kathy will report our responses back to the City Clerk

RAB members expressed disappointment that City Council did not choose to review the aging golf clubhouse when considering the carbon free goal. The clubhouse falls short of sustainability in many ways, as was documented in the report by consultants last year.

## **Board Updates**

### Outdoor Rec Amenities

The subcommittee is on hold. The Parks and Public Landscaping Board (PPLAB) has not appointed a new member. With the City Council reexamining boards, there is a possibility that the two boards might be combined.

### City Council Feedback regarding boards:

1. What do you consider to be the purpose and role of your body? Do you have suggestions on changing that role in the future?

We have well-established purposes and goals.

- i. To assist the City staff and Council in determining the community's needs and desires for recreation and golf facilities;
- ii. To advise the City staff and Council on maintenance, development, and redevelopment of recreation and golf facilities;
- iii. To advise the City staff and Council on the capital and operating budget as it relates to recreation and golf;
- iv. To advise the City staff and Council on financial policies related to cost recovery for recreation program areas;
- v. To advise the City staff and Council on medium and long-range planning for recreation and golf facilities;

2. What have been your greatest successes? What about your greatest failures?

Successes:

- Keeping a focus on maintenance of our current facilities is a success, even if repairs and maintenance have not yet been achieved.
- The Rec Center, the Senior Center, and the Golf Course are doing well, and we support and applaud their efforts.

Challenges:

- We advocate for projects such as a new pickleball courts and a new Golf Clubhouse. We don't see progress towards achieving these goals. Even with a consultant review of the clubhouse that shows that the building is inadequate and does not meet sustainability goals, there is no movement forward.
- It has been a challenge to create momentum for projects after recovering from a pandemic and a catastrophic fire, and with multiple changes in staff.
- We miss having good communication with City Council. We greatly appreciate the fact that Deb Fahey often volunteers to attend our meetings.

3. How is your process to develop your annual work plan? How does it align with Council's work plan?

- We establish a work plan at the beginning of each year with a calendar that shows what we will work on throughout the year.
- As requested by City Council, the Rec Advisory Board submitted work plan items in the fall. Although we received no acknowledgment or feedback from City Council, we learned that none of our items made it on the Council list.

4. If Council will be considering changes, what changes would you recommend?

- RAB members would appreciate better communication with City Council. Study sessions worked well in the past.
- If our Board is not combined with another board, we have requested that the size of the board be decreased to seven members.
- The RAB and the PPLAB might be combined. We have some overlapping responsibilities, such as outdoor rec amenities in the parks. Both boards should be involved in decisions related to tennis courts, athletic field maintenance, and outdoor pickleball courts. However, if the boards combine, they would be responsible for many

components: public landscaping, the parks and their amenities, the Rec Center, the Senior Center, and the Golf Course.

- Council could interview potential board members. It is important to have engaged board members.

5. Do you feel that your body has been effective or ineffective? Why?

- We have been effective in creating ideas and suggestions. We have been ineffective in having City Council listen to our ideas.
- There is no procedure for communication between the boards and City Council. Several RAB members had experience with study sessions, and they believe that they worked well.

6. City Council has an informal policy of managing meeting time and canceling or reducing meeting times when agendas are light. What are the practices of your body in regards to agenda development, meeting duration, and meeting tempo?

Our agenda development is collaborative, and the meeting tempo is well run. Some meetings are longer and others are shorter; we take as long as we need.

### **Discussion Items for Next Meeting**

Staff Updates

Aquatics Update

Outdoor Rec Subcommittee Update

Golf Course Update

Board Updates

Tennis Courts Update – Abby McNeal

**Adjourn** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:14.

Motion: Mary O'Brien

Second: Lisa Norgard