

Wednesday, April 8, 2026  
6:30 pm  
Bob Crane Community Center Board Room

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting was called to order by Chair Lindsey Smith at 6:30 pm.

**Members Present:**

|               |                |             |                    |
|---------------|----------------|-------------|--------------------|
| <u>  </u> Abs | Sean Cain      | <u>  </u> x | Caroline O'Donnell |
| <u>  </u> x   | Lindsey Christ | <u>  </u> x | Craig Smith        |
| <u>  </u> x   | Ivana Lucas    | <u>  </u> x | Allison Thomas     |
| <u>  </u> x   | Brian Noble    |             |                    |

**Staff Present:**

|             |                                                   |
|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| <u>  </u> x | Parks & Recreation Director Debbie McLaughlin     |
| <u>  </u> x | Parks & Recreation Deputy Director, Jeff Anderson |
| <u>  </u> x | Community Services Coordinator                    |
| <u>  </u> x | Special Projects Coordinator                      |

**APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**

Motion to approve minutes of the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board from Feb 11, 2026.

**Motioned:** Noble

**Seconded:** Lucas

**Board Discussion:** none

**Voting Aye:** Christ, Lucas, Noble, O'Donnell, Smith, Thomas

**Abstain:** no

**Motion Passed:** Yes

**New Employee Introduction**

New Staff were introduced to PRAB Advisory Board

- Lea Reihs - Aquatic Manager
- Colton Plageman -Community Center Coordinator
- Gina Kolp – Recreation Supervisor, Day Camp Supervisor
- Kristyn Anderson – Special Projects Coordinator

The new Turf Specialist will start in two weeks, and staff is still in the selection process for the Parks Project Coordinator

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- ONGOING BUSINESS**

### **Mater Plan Process**

Director McLaughlin provided an overview of the plan process (Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A). The Steering Committee consists of four sub-committees: Land Use, Housing and Economic Development; Parks & Recreation; Mobility; and Emerging Technology, Resilience and Disruption. The Parks and Recreation Sub-Committee members are Don Brown (Committee Co-Chair), Lindsey Christ (PRAB Chair), Caroline O'Donnell (PRAB Vice Chair), John Preloger, Michel Strafford, Ryan Wallace, and Judy Yesso. The project website is [upperarlingtonmasterplan.com](http://upperarlingtonmasterplan.com). The Committee held its first meeting in March. The project website includes a tentative schedule of public engagement opportunities in which the remaining Board members could participate.

### **Bob Crane Community Center**

The Bob Crane Community Center celebrated its one-year anniversary on April 6. Director McLaughlin provided an update on the center (Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A) including data. Data included 12,842 members, far exceeding projections of 3,500 with a high-end target of 6,600. Average daily attendance is 1,222 which does not include program participants, rental attendees and OSUWMC patients. There were 603 paid rentals, including 150 in the Event Center. We have 235 staff to work various shifts at the facility. A few interesting facts: the busiest day of the year was January 2, the busiest day of the week is Tuesdays, and the facility operated 5,428 hours in its first year.

The team is gathering information for a Council presentation on April 20 and will email to the Board once finalized.

## **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS- NEW BUSINESS**

### **Cultural Arts**

Deputy Director Anderson provided an overview of the City's Permanent Collection as part of the Cultural Arts Division (Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A). The collection includes Arts in Workspaces for indoor art pieces and Arts in Community Spaces for exterior art. The Cultural Arts Division and Cultural Arts Commission are working on recommendations from the 2019 Arts & Cultural Master Plan which provides direction for the permanent collection and cultural arts education and events. Key initiatives include updating the Art Acquisition Policy and creating policies for maintenance and management of our collection.

The 2025 temporary art "Weaving Between the Branches" by artist Marcia Armstrong was the first opportunity to put these new policies in place. The Division is now reviewing submissions for a permanent sculpture to be placed in the lobby of Bob Crane Community Center (BCCC).

### **Recreation Services**

Deputy Director Anderson provided a review (Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A) of 2025 recreation programs.

- Programs increased 64% between 2024 and 2025 with the opening of the BCCC with 732 in 2024 and 1,198 in 2025
- Registration for programs increased 43% serving 13,460 registrants

- The state-of-the-art BCCC provides spaces that enable new program offerings and increase community interest and awareness.

### **American with Disabilities Act (ADA) Assessment**

Deputy Director Anderson updated the Board on two components in place to assess our ADA Compliance (Attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference as Exhibit A). The City has contracted with a firm to assist with our self-evaluation and developing a transition plan. These include city facilities, right-of-way, and city programs, services and activities; this also includes our website and employment.

### **UPDATES & REPORTS**

Director McLaughlin provided the following updates:

- Seasonal hiring is going well; the current focus is for lifeguards, swim lesson instructors, and pool office workers
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) update – Program titles have been updated, we seek to have our staff compliment, and training on providing a welcoming community for all is a key element in our UA Way customer service program.
- Play UA updates – since we are updating BCCC data for its first year, we will have updated PLAY UA information at our next meeting

### **BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/SETTING FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- Storm Water Assessment – Parks are involved with assessment and on potential solutions if there is an issue.
- Friends of UA Parks: Smith Nature Park 4/18 from 9a-12pm, plans are to plant 300 trees
- June meeting has been cancelled, and next meeting will be on August 12 at 6:30pm

Motion to cancel the June meeting and meet next on August 12

**Motioned:** Smith

**Seconded:** Noble

**Voting Aye:** Christ, Lucas, Noble, O'Donnell, Smith, Thomas

**Abstain:** no

**Motion Passed:** Yes

### **ADJOURNMENT**

**Motioned:** Thomas

**Seconded:** Noble

**Voting Aye:** Christ, Lucas, Noble, O'Donnell, Smith, Thomas

**Abstain:** no

**Motion Passed:** Yes

**Meeting was adjourned at 730 pm**

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**Chairperson**

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_