

TOWN OF LINCOLN

PARKS AND RECREATION MONTHLY MEETING

May 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Commission members present were Chairman John Sharkey, Frank Kelly, William Goho, and Chris Cutler. Scott Winslow and Grace Gervais were also in attendance. A motion was made by member Frank Kelly, and was seconded by member Chris Cutler to accept the minutes from the April 13th meeting. The minutes were accepted.

Director's Report:

Scott reported that the programs are going great. They have received a ton of compliments on the RAD fitness and kickboxing programs. People want the programs to run for more sessions. Dos Amigos and the Colours league is still going. We are doing a field hockey clinic this summer on Sunday's from 1-4 with the coach from the Middle School.

Grace is putting together the summer calendar for the parks programs. The program should start on July 5th. The program typically runs six weeks. They have received quite a lot of applications and they will be starting the interviewing process.

The fencing went out to bid. We received two bids and both of them came in over budget. Scott will sit down with Leslie, the town engineer, and discuss how we move forward. We need to see what is the most we can do with what we have for budgeted money. See what our best options are. There is inflation with everything. The bleachers are all in and we are putting them together. Scott spoke to Russ in DPW and was told that there is a lot of pieces to put together but that they are working on it. It's a full team project of put together and then they have to be transported to all of the parks after. In process for sure.

Commissioner's Report:

Saylesville- Chris Cutler – The Park is in great shape. No litter. The barrels were empty. There was minor graffiti with the No dog sign spray painted. Chalk drawings are back on the building. The wood chips are washed away and need more. The fence in the back of Homeplate is lifted off of the ground. The basketball court has some cracks but is being used a ton. The tree in centerfield needs to be trimmed. With the wind, the tree is a safety issue. Scott stated that he will talk with the DPW Director and let him know that there is a safety concern and an urgency to getting the tree trimmed. Arnold Park is being used a ton. People have been hanging out, having picnics, using frisbees, and using the playground. We do need to stay on top of the wooden split rail fence for repairs. Still need a sign at Arnold Park. John asked if there were any thoughts on how to improve the space at Arnold Park since so many people use it? Scott had stated that as far as trying to add anything else to Arnold Park, there just isn't that much room there. People really seem to like the good playground with the great grassy space. It's good for a lot of activities to enjoy the open space. Chris stated that maybe we could add a couple of picnic tables or benches to Arnold Park? Scott said we can definitely look into another bench. It's a nice little park. Small but a lot of activities.

Lonsdale- Sean Gaughan –

Albion- John Sharkey – The field is in great shape. Playground is also in great shape. The basketball court had at least 15 people using it today in full use. There are some cracks in the basketball court. Fencing repairs still needed. The infield has some low spots between first and second base. When it rains, it puddles up. We need to put a level on it. The park is very clean.

Manville- Frank Morin – Frank wasn't able to attend the meeting, but did drop off his report. The bathrooms have been open during travel and Manville Farm league games. No litter issues. The town is painting over new graffiti as it happens. The fields look great. Two swings are down and being repaired on the playground. For three weeks kids were caught doing graffiti. They wrote their names on the ground. The town is working on a new park sign. The vandalism has cut down over the last two weeks. We need to fix the leak on the sink in the concession stand. The entire pavilion floor was painted a dark gray by the town and it looks great! Overall, Manville Park is in good shape!

Fairlawn- Andy Bruscini – Andy wasn't able to attend the meeting, but sent me his report. The night before, there was roughly 10 to 15 kids that were playing basketball that were loud and swearing. Andy asked them two times to stop swearing, because there was also a baseball practice going on. When he was walking to his car, the kids started right back up again so he called the police and they came down. There is graffiti on the field house on the pole. On the back pickle ball court, a rim is missing from the backboard. On the front court, the net is all torn up. Nothing has been done with the damage on the field house in the two years he has been reporting it. The baseball field looks in good shape. The foul lines need to be redone. The fence along the third base line needs to be fixed. Andy has a call into Scott to discuss what happened last night at the park.

Limerock- Frank Kelly – Overall the park is pretty good. A bunch of kids from the school have been congregating over there. A big group of them near the building during baseball games. They must be going there right after Middle School and hanging out there. The gate at the tennis court is laying there. Under the gazebo, the water line is still active where someone had smashed the water fountain. The basketball court and fields look good. Need a park sign. Need a new updated playground. Chris reported that is the family bathroom, there is water all over the floor. Scott will check with John Good and see if it is fixed.

Quinville- William Goho – The merry-go-round is in pretty good shape now, and he is so glad to see it done. More and more families are going to the park with young children. Once the park benches are finished, it will

make it even better. The park is being well maintained. People definitely go to the park to have lunch. Maintenance has been started. One of the benches was painted. Scott said we are going to sand down the other bench and paint it. A tree did fall over part of the fence. Scott stated that we put up a sign with keep your dogs on a leash. A couple of people were concerned with their kids on the playground with loose dogs.

Old Business:

A) Identify available recreational space: John thought that us as a commission could search for available spaces & identify areas for new sports fields & maybe we could visit the spaces. Come up with some spaces to visit for the next meeting. John wants to look at the space behind the Middle School field.

B) Fencing & Bleacher update: The fencing bid came in over budget, so now they need to decide what to do. The bleachers are all in and being put together by DPW and then will be brought to the parks.

C) Proposed new Physical Education Center: All dog Construction was awarded the bid. We might have some real details about where it will be and what it will have in it by the next meeting. The building committee has to decide what they want.

D) Maintenance for Spring sports: Scott reported that Paul Welch is doing a great job. We have added over 30 tons of infield mix, and edged most of the fields. We did catch two kids doing graffiti at the Manville pavilion. It seems to have gone down. It seemed like everyday there was vandalism. Police presence has been there too, and the camera placement has also helped. RAD still has the last decision on when Manville field can be used. Chris asked if there was any timeline on the field opening for use, just so soccer can start thinking about space for skills clinics. Scott replied with the fact that he hasn't gotten a specific timeline from them yet. He will check with RAD and get an estimated timeline. A lot of people really want to use the walking track.

John did add that most of the irrigation at the different fields is not on yet. We haven't received a ton of rain in the last couple of weeks. Is the irrigation on at Manville? Scott said that RAD is controlling the irrigation at Manville to make sure field is in best shape possible.

New Business:

A) Summer program for kids: Grace is making the summer calendar.

B) Spring sports report: Soccer and baseball is going on. It is tough for parks and rec to run a lot of programs when so many kids are involved in AAU and other traveling sports. There also is not a lot of gym space and the schools use the gym too.

C) Summer concerts: Each month of the summer there is a planned concert. Food trucks and concerts at Chase Farm. Usually 13-18 food trucks through PVD food trucks. Great events. A flyer will go out in the next week or so.

Chris Cutler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and member Frank Kelly seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m.