

TOWN OF LINCOLN
PARKS AND RECREATION MONTHLY MEETING

February 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:03 p.m. Commission members present were Chairman John Sharkey, Andy Bruscini, Frank Kelly, and Chris Cutler. Scott Winslow, Parks and Rec Director, was also present at the meeting.

A motion was made by member Andy Bruscini, and was seconded by member Chris Cutler to accept the minutes from the January 11th meeting.

Director's Report:

Scott reported that the winter programs are going strong. The kids basketball program ends mid to late March, and the Middle School league and Dos Amigos is starting later. Pre-K through 2nd grade has good participation.

Scott is getting prices for the Manville and Albion basketball courts. Scott looked into the last repair and it appears to have been a band aid fix at that point when Alan was here. The courts are over 20 years old. He had East Coast Sealing come out and look at the courts. The courts need to be completely ripped up and fixed and Scott is getting prices.

A company came out to look at the issue that we have at Sam Moore as well. There is so much infield mix. The company stated that they need to take out eight feet of material out and put down sod. We are getting quotes for the work. We can see where we are at with the quotes and see if we can get it done for April depending on how much it costs.

The enclosures of fence around the back field at Lime Acres around the benches, and the fencing on the front field were completed. The fencing is at least complete, and hopefully in the future we can put a roof on the enclosure.

Andy asks if the concerts are going to continue this summer? Scott said yes we will definitely be continuing the concert schedule in the summer. There are four scheduled and the post parade with concerts and food trucks.

Scott is aware that a lot of things need to be fixed in all of the parks but we also don't have unlimited money. The cameras do need to go up, but we have a limited number of guys working. He can't just take guys off of trash pickup. Stuff does come up that we can't control.

Commissioner's Report:

Saylesville- Chris Cutler – The park looks pretty good. The cross beams on the fence at Arnold Park need to be fixed in the Spring. Cracks in the basketball court. The batting cage pole needs to be repaired. The entire playground at Saylesville is flooded when it rains. Ponding occurs all

over and the playground becomes unusable. What has changed over there to make the water collect? Scott talked with Leslie the town engineer. Leslie told Scott that it might have to all be taken out and relevel it which is a bigger project than we were hoping for. The town tried a few fixes and they didn't work. Dogs are on the field. We need to get the signs up with the new ordinance. No graffiti. Scott stated that we ordered dog signs, but they came in the wrong size. The company is remaking them the right size and sending them to us and we are going to put them at the entry points to all of the parks. Scott is going to reach out to the school to see if they can help out with putting the protector's back on the top of the fence at Sullivan because the High School girls use that field. Chris stated that Sullivan is used by Lincoln Little League softball and the High School softball. If a league or the school fix something that would help keep the town guys on other projects that need to be done. More things on the list of things to do could get done if the leagues in youth sports or the school help. Parks and recreation doesn't use Sullivan. Frank Kelly agreed that Chris is 100 % right.

Lonsdale- Sean Gaughan – Sean was not at the meeting, but John reported that the leaves were never picked up around Hien field.

Albion- John Sharkey – The park is closed up and getting very little use. We need a park sign. In need of woodchips for the playground in the Spring. There are cracks in the basketball court.

Manville- Frank Morin – Frank was not able to attend the meeting, but did give me his park checklist. There is more litter on the ground than normal. No new graffiti. We need to replace the swings and add woodchips to the playground in the Spring. Overall clean and well maintained. There are cracks in the basketball court. Need a park sign. There were also geese on the new soccer field 15 of the last 30 days. Chris stated that the soccer association purchased two portable solar lights for Manville.

Fairlawn- Andy Bruscini – Andy reported that nothing will change. He said it's the most neglected park in town. Excuses not to fix it. The town should be embarrassed. Why do we do this each month because nothing gets done no matter what season. The leaves need to be picked up. The fence in the back needs to be fixed.

Limerock- Frank Kelly – The park is pretty good. The gate at the back of the tennis court is off again. We need dog signs especially in the back field. The soccer nets are flipped over on the front field. The front field is the only field that can be used for kids over 12, besides the high school field. The lighting is staying on all day under the canopy. The playground is unusable. Chris asked if we can get the soccer nets chained to a tree at Lime Acres?

Quinville- William Goho – Bill was not able to attend the meeting but gave me his park checklist. Everything looks ok except for leaf buildup around the edges. Windy conditions have caused a buildup of leaves around fencing. No graffiti.

- John Sharkey asked if there was a plan for us not to use the High School baseball field? Scott stated that the High School permits it out.

- Police presence has helped a lot, but the cameras do need to go up. We hope people see the cameras and think twice about vandalism. Scott did state that the cameras are only motion censored and we do not have wifi at the parks.
- Chris stated that it is supposed to be warm the next couple of weeks, do you think we can get the cameras up soon? We have been talking about this since June. John also stated he would like to see if we can actually get this done.
- John asked if we are short staffed for laborers in the parks and recreation department? He feels like back in the day there used to be a whole crew of guys!

Old Business:

- A) Identify available recreational space:** John Sharkey talked to administration about this. He doesn't think we will see anything this year. There are a lot of things coming up in this years budget. The Middle School land does have wetlands. Someone would have to go in and map it out and see what areas are not wet. John doesn't know what else is available in Lincoln unless we purchase something.
- B) Leaf pick up at the parks:** Two parks didn't have leaves picked up at all, Lonsdale and Fairlawn. Why is there no leaf pick up schedule? How do you forget about two parks? Some things don't get done unless we as commission members say something.
- C) Physical Education Center Update:** The siding is going up. The building is on schedule for the completion at the end of June.

New Business:

- A) Winter Sports:** The basketball program is running strong. The fitness classes are still going on. There is going to be a self-defense class for one day coming up. Lacrosse and field hockey are coming up. We do have limited gym space to work with. John asked how many Elementary schools are used for programs such as basketball? Scott stated that Northern is used for Woman's pick up league. Scott did state that the elementary schools have a cafeteria with hoops which could be a safety concern.
- B) Open Comments:** Steve Carvalho was also in attendance at the meeting. He stood up to speak about the physical education center. Steve stated that it is imperative that this commission and the Parks and Recreation Director submit a letter or request a meeting with the Athletic Director. Parks and Recreation should be able to use that space when it's completed. He really recommends making some sort of collaboration with them to make sure it can be also used by the recreation department as well as the school. The conversation needs to happen between the Athletic Director, the Superintendent, this commission and Scott Winslow. Steve wants to make sure to see recreation in that facility. It's imperative that we do this. If there is any pushback, you should speak directly to the school committee.

Andy Bruscini made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and member Frank Kelly seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:48 p.m.