

TOWN OF LINCOLN
PARKS AND RECREATION MONTHLY MEETING

March 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. Commission members present were Chairman John Sharkey, Andy Bruscini, Sean Gaughan, Frank Kelly, Frank Morin, William Goho, and Chris Cutler.

Scott Winslow, Parks & Rec Director, was also in attendance.

A motion was made by member Andy Bruscini, and was seconded by member Frank Kelly to accept the minutes from the February 8th meeting.

Director's Report:

Scott reported that we will be repaving the Lime Acres parking lot in June. We want to get it done before camp starts in July. While they are repaving, cars will not be allowed to drive in for 2 to 3 weeks.

Scott did put something in the budget for signs. He got a sign quoted of around \$2000 per sign to make them similar to the one at Lonsdale. We need signs at all of the parks. Also, he put in for the court at Manville and Albion to be completely replaced. Those courts are so old, and we can't put another band aid on them. This would need to be passed at the FTM. John asked if we have done any courts over since Scott has been here? Scott replied that in 2020 he worked on the courts with Alan. Manville and Lime Acres were repaired but not replaced. Scott got a quote of \$90,000 to fix Manville and Albion. The mold at the Youth Center is not a cheap fix. It is a health and safety concern.

The basketball program is ending 3/11/23 for the pre k through 2nd grade. 3rd through 5th grade basketball is going into playoffs. The Colours league and Dos Amigos are starting next week.

There have been tons of requests coming in for permits for fields and parks. Based on the schedules we have been given, Scott doesn't see any room for AAU leagues. The fields are getting a ton of usage. Scott talked to Mike and they agreed the fields need to breathe a bit. We can see what we have left for space.

We have 4 or 5 concert events with food trucks planned for the summer.

We need infield mix and woodchips at all fields and parks for the Spring. No one can use the fields before April 1st. April 15th the water will be turned on. Chris asked if we can get permission to place porta johns delivered between the 1st and the 15th.

Commissioner's Report:

Saylesville- Chris Cutler – There has been an increase in dog poop bags in the trash and that makes it tough to keep up with it. We need the dog sign at the park. The chalk drawings are back on two sides of the pavilion. The leaves were picked up, and they picked up and fixed the protectors on the softball field fence. Not sure if the protectors are attached, but we need zip-ties to attach them. Chris will do a count to see how many there are. One cross-beam at Arnold Park was replaced, but there is one on the far side that is busted. The basketball court has cracks, but not as bad as Manville. The batting cage pole close to the building is bent. Need a park sign at Arnold Park. The playground drainage is an issue at Saylesville.

Lonsdale- Sean Gaughan – Overall the park is in good shape, and there is not a ton of leaves. The playground chain is off. There is also a problem with geese on Hien and Sam Moore. When you are pulling into Lonsdale for parent pickup, there is a hole and the gravel needs to be compacted. Easy clean up stuff needs to be done. You see green bags of dog poop sitting there instead of it in a barrel. Dogs have been unleashed. The picket fence has vandalism. Sam Moore is very high and needs to be fixed.

Albion- John Sharkey- There is no park sign. The park is clean. There are big cracks in the basketball court. The playground is in good shape but just needs woodchips. The baseball field needs infield work as far as trimming, but overall the park is in good shape.

Manville- Frank Kelly – The litter hasn't been as bad as last month. The barrels were emptied. Nothing new with graffiti. The fields are in excellent shape. Someone cleaned the dugouts really well. One adult swing is missing. The basketball court has deep cracks all the way approximately two inches deep. We need a park sign. Last month there were 15 days with geese on the field, and this month there were about 10 days. The geese have gone down a little. LYSA purchased solar lights that need no gas or a generator. They are completely solar powered. They plan to get the lights stationary, and they are not going to be positioned towards the houses. John asked for the approximate cost for each light? Chris wasn't positive on the cost, but thinks they are like 6 or 7 thousand each.

Fairlawn- Andy Bruscini – He did notice that the leaves were picked up. There was a guy on the field with a dog, and Andy asked him to leave the field, and he refused. There are still no signs saying dogs can't be on the field. Still the same damage. Administration told John that a camera would go up soon.

Limerock- Frank Kelly – Overall the park is in good shape. On the front side of the tennis court, there is a bar hanging. The gate in the back on the tennis court is broken. The padding needs to be replaced at the basketball court. Soccer nets are still out. We need new playground equipment and a park sign.

Quinnville- William Goho – The park is litter free at this point. People have been respectful. The leave situation is limited and the branches have been picked up. There is no damage besides the back fence which needs an end cap to hold the fence. One bench still needs to be

refinished in the playground area. People have been visiting the park, but are using the trash barrels. Park in very good shape.

- John reported that there was a recent discussion about who will use the Physical Education Center? What will the hours be? He thinks it's a good idea to discuss at the next meeting to make sure that Parks and Rec programs will be able to use the PEC. We will put this on the agenda for the next month.
- Chris asked if there is a way to find out what other towns charge AAU teams to use their fields? The town of Lincoln only charges \$50, but that seems cheap. Soccer pays \$250 at Wide World of Indoor Sports. \$50 wouldn't even cover the labor cost, never mind the materials. Scott is trying to get a universal price between all of the towns, but has been having problems doing so. We don't have enough field space sometimes for our home teams, never mind AAU teams.

Old Business:

- A) **Identify available recreational space:** John and Chris attended a meeting with other organizations and administration. There is no plan as of right now to purchase any land. The Little league is talking about adding some lights to fields, but they don't want the residents to complain. Albion & Fairlawn would be tough with the houses right there.
- B) **Leaf pick up at the parks:** Leaf pickup has been completed at all parks.
- C) **Cameras in the parks:** This is an ongoing theme. We will be adding more cameras eventually. Lime Acres has had some vandalism in the back and dumping of leaves. The cameras worked well at Manville.

New Business:

- A) **Plans for Middle School Field renovation:** Administration is putting in to redo the Middle School back field. Hopefully it gets passed at the FTM. RIDE will be involved. LYSA, the school, and football uses it. It is a school project, not a parks and recreation project. Scott doesn't have plans. They will probably put in sod like Manville. John asked who would be responsible for overseeing it? Scott said a private company would come out and be in conjunction with the school and the town engineer. John stated that when it was first done, it was a school project, and it was never done right. Will the town inspect it? He doesn't want to see the same problem happen again! Sean stated that's a tough spot. It was built on a swamp. Chris says there is no drainage at all.
- B) **Plan for field light replacement (Sullivan):**
 - Sean asked what they are going to do about the parking situation at the PEC? You can barely park over there now and it's not even done. It will be a nightmare. They seriously need to think about parking! John reported that the people on the PEC board believe there is enough parking.

Elections of Commissioners: John would like to entertain a motion for commissioner and Assistant/(Vice) Commissioner. Sean Gaughan nominated John Sharkey to be the commissioner and Frank Kelly seconded. All in favor. Sean Gaughan nominated Andy Bruscini to be the Vice Commissioner, and Frank Kelly seconded. All in favor.

Andy Bruscini made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and member Sean Gaughan seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:54 p.m.