

TOWN OF LINCOLN
PARKS AND RECREATION MONTHLY MEETING

Minutes

May 8, 2024

Commissioners in attendance: Frank Kelly, John Sharkey, William Goho, Frank Morin, Andrew
Bruscini

Commissioners absent: Sean Gaughan & Chris Cutler

The meeting was called to order at: 5:01PM

Motion by John Sharkey to accept the minutes. The motion was accepted by Frank Kelly & seconded by Andrew Bruscini

Director's Report: Scott Winslow

This past month has been a very productive month for the parks and recreation department as we have been able to tackle a ton of projects. Our main priority this past month was to get our playing fields prepped and ready for use. Eight fields were worked on and made ready in time for usage. The school department did assist in helping prepare Sullivan field and both fields at Lime Acres, which helped in the process of getting all fields ready. The water at the parks did take longer than expected due to unforeseen maintenance issues, but the water is now on at all parks and bathrooms all are open. Facility bathrooms are on a cleaning schedule, with all bathrooms being cleaned on Monday, Wednesday, & Fridays. The LPR department did its part in opening day for Lincoln Little League, as we prepped for the parade and ceremony at Lonsdale Park. This included prep of the fields and adding extra tables/barrels for the day of the event. We currently have a mowing schedule for each week; however, this can change depending on the weather.

We also have begun tackling minor repairs/ needs at each specific park. At Fairlawn Park, we have fertilized and added new basketball pads to the basketball court. We also have painted over the doors at the facility. Last week, we were also notified that we were awarded the \$100,000 dollar grant for pickleball parts at Fairlawn's old skate park through the Gov. open space grant. The next step in this process will occur at the towns FTM where residents will vote to approve additional funds for the pickleball courts. I have been made aware that there have been times where inappropriate language/music is occurring by those using the park. I have made the police aware of this issue, however it's important that those who witness this do the same thing as Andy and call the police.

At Saylesville Park, we have fertilized the park and replaced any missing/broken fence guard around the softball field. Chris has mentioned that usage of the park, specifically the basketball court, has increased in the past few weeks. We have added a few more trash barrels with the hope that those using it will refrain from throwing bottles/trash on the ground. The new Arnold Park sign was installed. This was the last claim from the Trust that has been completed. Still awaiting the new ADA swings. Ended up ordering two new ones, as soon as they are delivered, they will be up.

Albion / Lonsdale are in good shape and getting a lot of usage. Nothing new to report, except the basketball court has been paved. It needs to sit for 3 weeks and then it will be painted/lined.

At Manville Park, the courts are in the same condition. Courts need to wait 3 weeks and then be painted/lined. We added boards to the bottom of the shed where Frank mentioned there was an opening. We also have fixed the fence on the 3rd base side dug out. The doors behind the concession stand have been painted. R.A.D continues to do work on the soccer field, including a deep aeration treatment. The soccer field is in great shape and continues to get a ton of usage.

At Quinville Park, the branch has been removed from the basketball court area. We also painted the benches and did some cleaning around/on the basketball court.

We have replaced two gates at Chase Farm and the road leading up the hill area has been fixed.

This past month we had the Bingo Fundraiser for the Memorial Day parade. Very successful event and has received some great feedback. We have begun preparation for the parade, putting up American flags along the parade route.

Programs continue to thrive. Recently had a field hockey program that just ended and went very well. Our pickleball program continues to get a ton of participation. We are beginning to prepare for summer camp and have started interviews for counselors this week.

Commissioners Reports:

Fairlawn: Andrew Bruscini

Foul Language issues continue at the basketball courts. The police are aware of the situation. The police encourage people to call as it is happening. There were 10-15 mopeds at the park one evening. This needs to get under control before the investment is made in the pickleball court. The back parking lot is awful. The baseball parents are complaining about the bad language. There is litter all over the park. There are more than enough barrels, but they aren't being used. The outfield of the baseball field needs to be cut, otherwise the field looks good. The trash did get picked up, that was at the old skate park. There is a boat parked on Cecile Street across from the baseball field. When cars are parked on the opposite side from the boat, fire & rescue would never be able to get through or make the turn.

Quinville Park: Bill Goho

The basketball court is being used a lot. The playground area needs a touch up. More picnic tables are needed. The grass needs to be cleaned up. The branch was removed that was in the basketball court area. Also, the leaves have been picked up. The cushion on the basketball court poles appears to be missing a strap.

Albion Park: John Sharkey

The park looks great. The basketball court is paved. The replacement of the baseball infield hopefully will get approved at the Financial Town Meeting. Some fencing repairs need to be done on the baseball field fence. The bottom rail is out of the coupling along the fence in the right corner of the field.

Saylesville & Arnold Parks: Read by John Sharkey

Besides the softball field, Saylesville looks worn. The field outside of the softball field has very little grass, especially in the areas where football was in the Fall.

The bathroom building is covered on 3 sides by chalk drawings that need to be power washed.

Although the equipment is in good shape, the ground cover in the playground area looks terrible and is virtually nonexistent.

The basketball court has seen a large increase in use, especially on warm days. Most of the people using the court are older and drive to the park. They are parking along the road on both sides, where there are no parking signs, making it difficult for two-way traffic to get through. Last night there was a group there well after dusk and left trash all over the ground. The barrels are empty and there are plenty of barrels there.

My hope is some of this be addressed prior to the Memorial Day parade since people park there and use the park and it is not a great look. Arnold Park looks great, and a replacement

sign has been installed. Thank you to Scott and crew for prioritizing this. A quick thank you to Grace who coordinated with the maintenance crew to address vulgar language that was etched into the doors at Manville yesterday.

I would like to continue to urge the local leagues to continue to pitch in where it is possible to free up the Parks and Rec crew to address priority issues. I respectfully request that Scott reach out to organizations with things that can be done on the fields and that those organizations try to get volunteers to assist.

Lime Acres: Frank Kelly

Lime Acres Park is very busy. The back softball field needs to be cleaned up. The 8th grade baseball & softball teams had their celebrations. Baseball cleaned everything up. The rear field where softball is played, the cups and balloons were left on the fences. Eventually that will all end up on the ground. The rest of the park looks great.

Lonsdale Park:

John spoke about the fact that the outside lighting on the buildings is still in need of repair. This invites vandalism.

Old Business:

Vandalism/ park security: Vandalism continues to be a concern. Cameras for the parks are included in the new budget. The activity in the parks will increase, with the nice weather and so will the vandalism.

Concerts in the Parks: Four concerts are scheduled for June 15th Timeless, July 6th Steve Anthony & The Persuasion, August 3rd Dynamite Rhythm and September 14th Those Guys. A concert is also scheduled during the post parade festivities at Chase Farm.

Condition of Playing Fields in the Parks: Field maintenance by the town has been great.

New Business:

Employment for Summer help is starting on July 1st

A lot of recreational projects are on the agenda at the Financial Town Meeting.

A playground grant was awarded for Lime Acres for \$100,000.00. Much of the prep work will be done by Public Works such as removal of trees, bringing in needed material.

Public Comment:

Dave Hart spoke and suggested that the new playground at Lime Acres be placed closer to the road so that you can see the kids.

Motion to Adjourn by Andy Bruscini

Seconded by Frank Kelly

Time: 5:45PM