

TOWN OF LINCOLN
PARKS AND RECREATION MONTHLY MEETING
February 11, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm. Commission members present were Chairman John Sharkey, Andy Bruscini, Frank Morin, and William Goho. Scott Winslow, Parks and Recreation Director, was also in attendance.

A motion was made by Frank Kelly and was seconded by member Sean Gaughan to accept the minutes of the January 14th meeting. The minutes were accepted.

Director's Report: The weather conditions have limited all activity at the parks. We fixed the bench at Quinville. We added barrels to new locations. We have plowed and sanded to allow for safe access. Many adult and youth programs are going on right now. Mahjong filled up so fast that they added another session. Woman's pickup basketball, youth basketball, co-ed kickball starts tonight, Adult Dos Amigos, pound fitness, and yoga are just some of the programs running. We are also starting a theater workshop and a week long STEM program. The new gyms and the Middle School have given us a new opportunity for some new programs all while freeing up other facilities. We are excited to be able to expand programs in town. We would love feedback from others about any new programs you would like to see.

We have no update on the Manville grant until we know if we will be granted it probably not until the end of April. Sports Turf specialties was awarded the project at Sullivan Field and will need approximately two weeks of April which shouldn't really impact practices and games too much! Greg will send the Spring schedule for the spring sports to conduct a meeting with the other program leaders.

Commissioner's Report:

Saylesville- Chris Cutler – The park is the same as all of the other parks right now, snow covered. We just need to keep it on the radar that we will need some sort of a fence to separate the parking lot from the field/space. We also will need to put up the new sign once the weather breaks. Chris noticed that the lot at Arnold Park maybe needs to be dragged out and flattened in the Spring. John asked if there is a plan to put an AED at Sullivan field? Scott will check with the Chief and said that he is sure he can put one there. John asked if that is the last park that needs one? Scott said yes and Arnold Park.

Lonsdale- Sean Gaughan –

Albion- John Sharkey – The park looked good but was snow covered. There are a couple of fencing issues. John asked if the AED is still out? Scott said no, that is just the protective part. There is a skating group on the pond. We don't promote it, but it is also not deep. This winter has been very cold.

Manville- Frank Morin – Waiting on Spring to paint over the benches and fix the graffiti. Does the town have an issue with people parking there overnight while the snow is there? Scott stated that was one of the places the town had recommended as a place to park in the snow storms for people that are really stuck for parking. Frank said there is still a couple of cars left there.

Fairlawn- Andy Bruscini – A lot of snow with nothing much to report. The Lincoln High School boys senior night for hockey is this Sunday. They have asked the younger kids to be part of the stick ceremony. Andy hopes we can continue doing this!

Limerock- Frank Kelly –

Quinville- William Goho – Bill wasn't able to be at the meeting but gave me his report. The entire park is snow covered. No graffiti to report.

Old Business:

- A) **LHS Field Plan:** John spoke with the athletic director and we are very concerned about the Middle School playing fields for the Spring (both the front and the back fields). John also spoke to Leslie Quish and she plans to get some engineers in there at least for a temporary fix. Scott stated that we all want to do that field over, but the way it works with the budget board and the Financial Town Meeting makes it tough. There are issues with the front field, but the back field is worse. We are hoping the back field can get redone at some point. Chris stated that this Fall went really well with Tony from the school department and all of the programs for scheduling space. The goal is to get soccer completely off of Lime Acres. Scott said Lime Acres was completely overused. When the snow clears, we can seed it and we have irrigation now.
- B) **Status of Manville Park Grant:** We won't know anything about whether we were awarded the grant until the end of April.
- C) **Status of new school gyms:** John asked if all 4 gyms are complete and up and running? Scott answered that yes they are all done and we are using all of them. At the moment, LYBA is using Northern and Lonsdale, and Parks and Rec is using Central and Saylesville. Some of the gyms will also start having volleyball. And we are also looking to see what other communities offer. Maybe ultimate frisbee and other things not necessarily geared towards athletics. Theatre camps, mahjong, and STEM. We are branching out to different activities now that we have the space. John stated that he did go to the new Lonsdale gym and that it is a really nice facility. He did have one person complain to him that there isn't enough room for spectators. Scott stated that there is seating, but not much. Makes much more sense to have games at the Middle School with more seating. Chris also stated that LYSA uses Saylesville on Friday nights for futsal. John asked if there is any restrictions on what you can wear on the floor? Scott

stated that we have a staff member at every event. These gyms are brand new and great and we want to preserve them, as well as respect this new space.

New Business:

- A) **Review of Recreation Basketball programs:** Scott stated that we lost one week because of the weather. The youth program is pushed back to 3/14. John is looking to have the Little League tryouts on 3/7 and wants to make sure kids will be available from the basketball program. Scott said there is actually less games scheduled for that weekend so it should work out.
- B) **Election of Officers:** Andy made a motion to postpone the officers elections until next month's meeting with more people. Chris seconded the motion. All were in favor.

No public comment.

Andy Bruscini made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and member Chris Cutler seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.