

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 11, 2018**

**CALL TO ORDER** – At 6:00 PM Jayne Weaver called to order the Lincoln Park District Board of Commissioners’ monthly business meeting.

**ROLL CALL** – Commissioners attending were Jayne Weaver, Laura Duffer, Don Peasley, Dave Perring, and Gary Nodine. Attending from the Park District were John Andrews, Vern Haseley, Abby Neece, Angie Coombs, and Jennifer Prather. Absent was Jacki Pavlik.

**MINUTES OF MEETING** – Minutes of the June 13, 2018 were presented to the board for review. Jayne requested that the minutes be amended in two places to clarify her statements regarding the new City Park. Jayne then asked if there were any questions, comments or other suggested changes. Laura Duffer motioned to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by Dave Perring, and approved after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**RECOGNITION OF VISITORS:** Doug Ebelherr – Memorial Park

After passing out handouts, Doug presented to the Board a plan for natural restoration of Memorial Park. The handouts showed aerial views of the park; designating areas with suggested goals for each section, which would reduce the cost of mowing and maintaining the park. Doug explained that he had conferred with a Natural Resource Officer of the State and took into consideration his recommendations, but assured the Board that they could adjust plans to accommodate the needs of the community. John thanked Doug for coming to the meeting and asked the Board if there were any comments or suggestions before a press release was published. Dave, Gary and Jayne all stated that they had recently visited Memorial Park to see the status of the areas left natural. John verified that some complaints had been received already, which others stated that they had as well. Dave expressed concerns about how many weeds were growing, unattended, and inquired about applying products that would allow natural growth while inhibiting weeds. Also, Dave expressed concern about leaving fallen limbs where they lie, as they create a hazard, which Gary agreed with. Dave then expressed concern with prairie grass being a part of the natural areas, as it requires ‘controlled burns’ to maintain, which also creates another hazard to the surrounding areas. Dave suggested scaling back the schedule to identify invasive species so that they could be addressed at the beginning, not mid-phase. Doug assured the Board that the plan and timeline could be adapted, including planning out the where and when of steps to be taken. Gary agreed stating that it was easier to expand slowly, than to proceed too quickly and try and fix an issue that could have been avoided had it been dealt with earlier. Jayne suggested that the Board all visit the Park to review the area before further discussion; perhaps consider dedicating a small area to try different methods and plan for the rest of the area. John thanked Doug for his work thus far and stated that it was a good place for the Board to start considering the options presented. Doug stated that he did have some sapplings that could be transplanted in September, if the Board approved. Also, Doug stated that the State’s Natural Resource Officer would be returning to measure a tree, as he believes it may be a contender for a state record. The Board thanked Doug for his time and information. The Board will contact him for assistance with the Press Release and let him know what they decide about the suggested plans for Memorial Park.

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**ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** – The operating expenses were submitted for approval in the following funds:

<b>GENERAL</b>	-	\$	<b>10,134.32</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	-	\$	<b>11,196.02</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMP.</b>	-	\$	<b>4,825.08</b>

Jayne asked if there were any questions. Dave Perring made the motion to approve the amended Accounts Payable, which was seconded by Laura Duffer. The motion passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**CASH FLOW REPORT** – The following balances were reported as of June 30, 2018.

<b>RECREATION</b>	-	\$	<b>-33,868.23</b>
<b>GENERAL</b>	-	\$	<b>42,178.94</b>
<b>CAPITAL</b>	-	\$	<b>1,379,032.79</b>
<b>AUDIT</b>	-	\$	<b>3,335.78</b>
<b>LIABILITY</b>	-	\$	<b>24,575.46</b>
<b>2014 DEBT CERT &amp; INT.</b>	-	\$	<b>24.04</b>

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT – JOHN ANDREWS**

- Entec has about 1 week left, but still have to train the staff. We will need to cover the new controls. Entec did fix the issue with the guard's office, which Vern reported Entec said that it was a data issue on their end.
- The pools' attendance has been steady and there have only been a few minor issues.
- Summer help will reduce in August as the kids go back to school, but Kocka will stay on a bit longer in the fall as usual.
- Abby and I met with the leaders of Lincoln Chill. They asked to rent our diamonds for their next season, which will consist of around 40 games. Dave inquired how much we rent our diamonds for, which John verified was \$30.00 per game next year. The cost mostly covers the ground crew's hours to prep the fields. It was stated that we do have one of the best parks around and that we should consider holding a tournament. In order to do so, we do need to consider moving the outfield fences in on 2 fields. I did request a bid from Goodman's and they submitted one for around \$11,000.00 for both fences. Jayne asked if there were more companies to request bids from, Vern verified that he knew of a few more and stated that he would contact them for bid proposals. Gary stated that the current 300ft is too far for young kids. Dave asked why they were installed so far out in the first place, and then suggested verifying the requirements for tournaments before we move them. Gary agreed that the facility would be able to host a tournament, but pointed out that other cities such as Bloomington, Pekin and Springfield would be competition as hosts. John stated that regardless of hosting tournaments, moving the fields would help Abby with scheduling as well as benefiting our own leagues. Jayne suggested that since we have time, we request more bids before scheduling the work. The Board reached a general consensus to wait to make a final decision.
- I have invited a few companies to come in view our facility in order to prepare bids to replace the roofs.

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-A gentleman has proposed that we contract with them to place monitors in high-traffic areas, and we would have control over the advertising content. They receive payment from their advertisers, and there is no cost for us. He suggested placing a few in the Fit Zone and Spin room for optimum viewing. The Board requested that John politely decline the offer.

-I met with Froebe and Workman, the Coordinators of the John Welsh Memorial Basketball Tournament, they proposed an agreement/contract with the Park District. The proposal included LPD hosting the tourney on three courts for the next 10 year at \$500 each year. Also, LPD would receive a 3'x3' advertising spot on the Jr. High's new scoreboard for 25 years. However, part of the proposal included switching the backboards on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> courts, or installing new backboards on just the 4<sup>th</sup> court; which they might be willing to contribute to the associated cost. John contacted the company that installed the scoreboards to inquire about cost; which was quoted at \$1,650 to just replace the 3<sup>rd</sup> court or switching for \$2,800. Jayne inquired how much they would be willing to contribute. Gary queried if extra security was needed for the tournament. Laura stated that security was justified. Then, Laura asked about the annual fee being lowered to \$500 per year, but they would use an extra court. John stated that the advertising was to offset the cost. Jayne suggested that John counter with a request for copayment of the backboard cost and possibly security; and pointed out that it is good advertising for us, as the visiting teams/families all love our facility.

-I was contemplating LPD hosting a Draw-Down fundraiser for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Fireworks fund. We would have to schedule it at a time that no one else is hosting another fundraiser. If we sold 200 tickets at \$100 each and organized cash prizes and a decent meal for up to half we could add around \$10,000.00 to the fund. Don stated that the KCs had organized a draw-down in the past. Jayne stated that it would require everyone to participate in selling tickets. Gary asked if LPD could pursue event sponsors like Atlanta does to raise funds. Dave inquired if it would be worth revisiting the ordinance with the City regarding funds for the event. Jayne asked the Board if they would prefer to proceed with funding via a draw-down or sponsors. The majority stated that they would prefer to try sponsors before holding a fundraiser. John stated that Karen, of the Lincoln Daily News, might be willing to help find sponsors. Dave asked if we might be able to use the old baseball advertising signs; start with those companies first. John stated that he would look into that.

**OPERATIONS REPORT – VERN HASELEY**

-Vern stated that he would present his report in conjunction with Unfinished and New Business.

**PROGRAM REPORT – ABBY NEECE**

-The Baseball/Softball season is done. Teeball ends Thursday, July 12<sup>th</sup>. We hosted a successful tournament for the 12U boys league. However, we didn't take into consideration that the umpire fees are higher for that age group, as well as the added cost of trophies. The end of season pool party for the ball leagues is scheduled for Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm. Everyone attending will get a hot dog, chips and water. The concession stand will be open, should they choose to purchase more food or snacks. Diamond concessions will close; Breezy on the 12<sup>th</sup> and Allen after Legion finishes on the 20<sup>th</sup>. We saw no profit keeping it open last fall for softball.

-The llama painting had 18 participants, and the Harry Potter one has had 7 sign up so far.

-Other camp registrations: Art (2), Garden (3), Putting on a Play (7), Dance (13), Cheer (14). Jayne stated that she was glad to see such a variety offered for reasonable prices.

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-The July 4<sup>th</sup> parade was small, probably due to skipping a year and the heat. I would like to try it one more year before we consider doing away with it completely. Jennifer suggested inviting Cub Scouts to walk in the parade. Don stated that he overlooked notifying the Shriners, but he would make sure he did next year. Gary suggested inviting Veterans to participate as well as maybe creating a planning committee to help. Laura agreed and suggested extending it to also include Purple Heart recipients as well as acknowledging those deployed. Gary asked if there would be any interest in hosting softball/baseball games between the firemen, like previous years. Abby will ask the Board for committee volunteers next year.

-Family Fun Days at the Pool (the second Friday of each month) was very well attended in July.

-I have already advertised registration opening for 16" Co-Ed, Chicago Style Softball, and 4 teams have already picked up their packet. The season will be longer this year, since last year was a short trial season, so the cost has increased.

-Upcoming fall programs include:

- Pitching clinic – Jason O'Brien
- Music Lessons - Lincoln College's Jazz program
- Host site – Girls on the Run (10 weeks; 5K on November 10<sup>th</sup>)
  - For girls in 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> grade whose schools do not participate.
  - Laura stated that her daughter participated last year and enjoyed herself.
  - Abby may coach and Jayne volunteered to be an assistant coach.

-Kristi agreed to extend her assistance with Advertising and Web Design for another month. She contributed 3 hours the first month, but was not doing all of the advertising at that point.

-John stated that he would like to look into signing up an intern next spring/summer to assist Abby during her busiest season. Abby stated that she did have some connections within ISU to inquire about available internship programs.

-Jennifer inquired about opening the concession stands for when Carroll Catholic rents the diamonds for games. Gary stated that Carroll uses our stands, but provides their own inventory and staff.

**FITNESS DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Jennifer Prather, Fitness Manager**

-The 5K numbers were about the same as the previous year, but with fewer registrations on the day of the race. Next year, Michelle Ryan and Jennifer will be in charge of organizing the event.

- The staff is scheduled to recertify or get certified for CPR this month.

-The attendance for water aerobics is up and the public have expressed their appreciation for adding a few more classes this summer.

-ALMH has offered training sessions for the new fitness course on 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Jayne asked if ALMH is encouraging LPD staff to take people there or hold classes there, to which Jennifer verified that they are. Abby stated that there is a phone app available to download and complete challenges when using the course.

-July 28<sup>th</sup> is the Openhouse, which coincides with the R.I.P.P.E.D master class.

-Mini-Triathlon is scheduled for August 11<sup>th</sup>, and has limited availability.

-August 14<sup>th</sup> will be the "Back to School Bootcamp"

-We continue to work with the back desk staff to get organized.

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Jayne stated that she has been hearing a lot of praise lately for the facility and various programs offered, as well as the staff.

**CORRESPONDENCE: NONE.**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

A. Capital Improvements:

- I. Heating/Air Conditioning Units: See Director's Report.
- II. Outfield fences in Fields A & B: See Director's Report.
- III. Aquatic Center: See Director's Report.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Vern's Report:

- I. Chimney, which hasn't been used in years, needs removed on roof. Preferably, before we repair the rest of the roof, and possibly have issues if the chimney remains.
  - a. Gary inquired if this was included in the bid proposals.
  - b. Vern stated that it is not too late to request that it be added.
  - c. Vern stated that we are in the end of the roof replacing season, but we can proceed with getting bids to be ready to start the next season.
- II. Other brick areas need to be tuck-pointed to prevent further damage.
  - a. Don asked if a local company was qualified to do the tuck-pointing separately.
  - b. Vern stated that there were a few.
  - c. Don suggested contacting local companies for bids.
- III. Parking needs to be addressed after the roofs are replaced.
  - a. Both drives and the lots need improvement.
  - b. Proposed for consideration using part of the Driving range for a new parking area.
  - c. Can repave and possibly extend the rear lot, into the grass area behind Bronco.
  - d. Gary suggested removing the old golf shed to extend parking area in that direction.
    1. Keep driving range as an option for extended tournament parking only.
    2. Vern stated that the Gas line company does not allow pavement over the line.
  - e. Jayne stated that Parking is on the list and that it is a top complaint from the public.
    1. Vern suggested getting an engineer to map out/design a new parking area.
    2. Gary inquired where the gas line runs through the property.
- IV. John added that since the Board is considering moving in Field A's outfield fence, then maybe they can consider possibly adding a sand volleyball pit in that area.
- V. Jayne – Memorial Park:
  - a. Inquired if the Board needed to schedule a meeting out at Memorial Park to review.
  - b. Dave stated that it needed sprayed for weeds, to which Gary countered mowing then spraying and perhaps starting over.
  - c. Jayne agreed with Dave's earlier comment that prairie grass was a bad idea due to the required burn and proximity to residential areas.
  - d. Gary suggested marking a few trees, as Doug suggested, and mowing around them for now, as well as continuing to clean up fallen limbs and trees.
  - e. Jayne requested a decision about meeting at Memorial Park, so that public notice could be given, as the law requires.

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- f. Don stated that the Board's consensus was to currently mow and discuss the issue in the future.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The Board saw no need to proceed with an executive session.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Seeing no further business, Laura Duffer moved to adjourn the meeting. Dave Perring seconded the motion. The motion carried. Adjournment: 8:20 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting date will be Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 6:00 P.M.