

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JULY 20, 2020 ~ TOUR OF LPD PARKS**

CALL TO ORDER – At 7:00 PM, Don Peasley called to order the Lincoln Park District Board of Commissioners' monthly business meeting.

ROLL CALL – Commissioners attending were Don Peasley, Laura Duffer, Dave Perring, and Gary Nodine. Bob Thomas was absent. Attending from the Park District were Abby O'Brien, Vern Haseley, and Angie Coombs. Jennifer Prather and Jaylee Swinford were absent.

TOUR OF LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT'S PARKS:

A. Lehn & Fink Park:

1. Abby stated that it has been a few years since ball games were scheduled here.
 - a. Some teams have chosen to practice here.
 - b. The past few years, the YMCA has used the field for their ball games.
2. Tod's recommendations:
 - a. Improve the sidewalks.
 - b. Improve the dugouts; concrete amphitheater seating area behind them.
3. Laura asked if it would be a reasonable location for a dog park.
 - a. Bob stated that Brainard Landings tried to have one and it did not go well.
 - b. The new, interim mayor may push that on the agenda.
4. Abby pointed out that it is the only public park with a baseball diamond.
5. Laura suggested adding an area for basketball or a pavilion.
6. Dave inquired about the neighborhood input towards developing the playground or field.
 - a. Abby stated that including the immediate neighborhood would be ideal.
 - 1) Gary pondered aloud the best method to contact the neighbors.
 - 2) Angie suggested the nearby school would serve the impacted area.
 - b. Angie suggested making the playground more ADA accessible since Washington-Monroe has a special needs swing.
 - 1) Don asked which park the public had requested a Wheelchair accessible swing to be installed in.
 - 2) Abby verified that the petition was for Postville park, which the City owns.
7. At 7:15 p.m. the Board left for the next park.

B. Exchange Club Park:

1. Tod's recommendations:
 - a. Pavilion, possibly above current concrete pad.
 - b. Repair/improve existing basketball court.
 - c. Improve existing pathway, including extending it to other amenities.
 - d. Upgrade playground equipment and surrounding area.
2. Dave inquired if asphalt would be a good option to install over the concrete pad.
3. Vern stated that the playground equipment was the worst of all the parks.
 - a. Not only was it the oldest, and the first installed back in 2005, but it is the one most frequently vandalized.
 - b. Don queried the price of the initial installation & equipment, which Vern estimated to be around \$18,000.
 - c. The mulch is a special mulch but needs replaced annually.
 - d. There are newer and better options available; playground and surface material.

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4. Don asked if a splash pad would be considered for this park, which Vern stated that there is no water service nor electric.
 5. Bob inquired as to where the pavilion was suggested, which was pointed out towards the small existing concrete pad.
 6. Abby stated that Tod' recommendations were estimated on the high end at around \$150,000.00, which included upgrading the pathways and playground to be more ADA accessible and adding a shelter.
 7. Gary suggested the possibility of adding a few cornhole pits in the off section that extends behind the houses, which is shaded by some trees.
 8. At 7:45 p.m. the Board left for Memorial Park.
- C. At Memorial Park, the Board first met at the playground area, which is located just behind the Elk's tennis courts, near Edward's trail.
1. Don queried as to how much Tod's recommendations totaled for Memorial Park, which Abby verified that it was the largest at around \$1,000,000.00.
 2. Laura asked if road improvement was included, which Abby verified that it is.
 - a. Bob inquired if the plan proposed the oil & chip process or asphalt.
 - b. Dave queried if the plan included extending the road to completely loop through the park.
 - c. Abby stated that those details were estimated on the high scale but can be decided when it comes time to begin that project.
 - d. There is a slight issue with the people driving their golf carts around the park, which there have been a few complaints about dangerous cart activities.
 3. Vern pointed out the Lion's Club pavilion site, which currently has no pavilion, but the concrete slab is still there.
 4. The Farm Bureau pavilion site is the location that the Board approved to have the concrete removed and limestone installed.
 5. The playground is not in terrible condition, but the conditions of the park cause the mulch to deteriorate.
 - a. There tends to be standing water in the mulch area after a good rain.
 - b. The mulch becomes sponge-like, and needs replaced annually.
 6. Gary asked about a possible walking path that could wind through the park, which could either be a mown area or pea gravel could be laid.
 7. Vern stated that there used to be a very nice octagon pavilion towards the back of the park, which the Board then proceeded to venture to that area.
 - a. The old pavilion was just off the turn around area.
 - b. Vern suggested building a similar pavilion.
 - c. Dave agreed that there needs to be another nice pavilion in the park.
 8. The continued past the turn around to the Rotary Club's pavilion.
 - a. Vern pointed out that the roof needs to be replaced, as it was visibly sagging.
 - b. Some posts have been gnawed on by animals.
 - c. Vern directed the board to a nearby large tree that is dead inside but could potentially fall on the pavilion.
 9. Laura asked about installing grills near the pavilions for public use.
 10. Next, the Board continued over between the two diamonds.
 - a. Bob and Gary asked about removing the diamonds, since they are rarely used.
 - b. Vern stated that there used to be concrete bathrooms and snack shed for the diamonds, but they have long been removed.

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- c. Abby stated that she would like the Board to consider using the existing fencing to create a dog park area.
- 11. Dave inquired about the Pheasants Forever pollination plots.
 - a. Vern pointed out the areas along the road behind a diamond and a few within the park that had been planted.
 - b. Doug has been working on transplanting trees and marking those that are growing naturally within the park.
 - c. Dave inquired about focusing on cultivating more of the black oaks that are established in the park, to replace lost trees.
- 12. Laura inquired as to suggestions provided by Tod/Design Perspectives.
 - a. Abby verified that the plan includes road improvement in the \$1,000,000 cost, but also lists upgraded playground, pavilions/new pavilion, dog park, and walking trail.
 - b. Gary and Laura stated that they do not believe that Memorial Park would be a good location for a splash pad.
- D. Abby pointed out that Lehn & Fink, Exchange Club and Memorial were the only 3 parks on the agenda since they are the only 3 owned by the Park District.
 - 1. Dave inquired about the status of the discussion with the City.
 - 2. Abby stated that it has been delayed due to the title issue and COVID-19.
- E. Abby will speak to Tod, of Design Perspectives, about the suggested changes.
 - 1. Laura requested that the City's parks be moved behind the Park District's parks within the Master Plan.
 - 2. Abby agreed that they should not necessarily be featured, but perhaps kept for reference should the land be deeded to the Park District.

ADJOURNMENT: Seeing no further business, Gary Nodine moved to adjourn the meeting, Dave Perring seconded the motion. The motion carried. Adjournment: 8:30 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting date will be Wednesday, August 12, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.