

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 09, 2021**

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

ROLL CALL – Commissioners attending were Don Peasley, Gary Nodine, Laura Duffer, Dave Perring and Bob Thomas. None were absent. Attending from the Park District were Becky Strait, Vern Haseley, Jennifer Prather, Jaylee Swinford, and Angie Coombs. None were absent.

VISITORS – NONE

MINUTES OF MEETING – Minutes of the May 12, 2021 meeting were presented. Don asked if there were any questions, comments, or suggested changes. There were none. Laura Duffer made the motion to approve the minutes as presented, Dave Perring moved to second it, which passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

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

GENERAL	-	\$	3,733.10
RECREATION	-	\$	7,821.31
LIABILITY	-	\$	3,961.00
CAPITAL IMP.	-	\$	8,485.65

Don asked if anyone had any questions about the listed Accounts Payable. Laura Duffer made the motion to approve Accounts Payable, which was seconded by Gary Nodine. The motion passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

CASH FLOW REPORT – The following balances were reported as of May 31, 2021.

GENERAL	-	\$	112,262.62
RECREATION	-	\$	(86,460.95)
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT	-	\$	939,015.87
AUDIT	-	\$	5,081.31
LIABILITY	-	\$	94,231.97
2014 DEBT CERT.	-	\$	22,046.37

Angie stated that income is still down since programs have been pushed back a month due to COVID-19. Income is starting to increase as people start registering for programs and buying pool passes. Angie requested permission from the Board to approve an inter-fund loan from Capital Improvement to General in the amount of \$20,000.00. Dave Perring made the motion to approve an inter-fund loan from Capital Improvement to General in the amount of \$20,000.00. Laura Duffer moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BECKY STRAIT

- A slideshow presentation was displayed as she spoke on a few topics:
 - o City of Lincoln's Third Friday:
 - Friday, May 21st was the first night.
 - The streets of the City square were filled with a variety of booths and games/activities.
 - Jaylee and Becky were at the LPD booth where they distributed fliers regarding summer programs, fitness info and memberships available.
 - While visiting with the public, a community survey was distributed.
 - Becky designed the survey to have a QR code to use one's phone to link to the page.
 - A random winner will be selected, should the participants wish to leave their phone number at the end of the survey to register for the drawing.
 - Mr. Froebe, of District 27, helped distribute our survey.
 - 187 surveys were completed, and slides were presented to show some of the graphics.
 - Questions included asked to rate individual's:
 - o Experience with LPD.
 - o Usage of LPD facility and parks.
 - o Member or non-member status.
 - o Brief explanation as to ability / inability to utilize / not utilize LPD facility and programs.
 - o Activities that the individual is willing to travel for (i.e. splash pad, water parks, etc.)
 - o Satisfaction with local parks/facility.
 - o Input on desired improvements.
 - o Input on ownership of parks being transfer to LPD with expected upgrades
(137 yes 48 maybe 3 no)
 - Jen stated that roller skating was also mentioned in the survey responses, which Becky verified, and there was a brief discussion on how popular it is at schools & other cities.
 - It helps to have something interactive and not just handing out information to the public.
 - In May, the LPD booth had a volleyball net, child scooters, an axe throwing game, sidewalk chalk and Rachael came out to do some Zumba.
 - June's activities will also include mini golf to help promote our driving range and the new range membership offered.
 - Giant bowling, jump rope, and axe throwing will also be there with the possibility of a tumbling demonstration to promote that new program.
 - o Becky then spoke about a recent LincolnDailyNews.com article discussing the City parks.
 - The article was mainly detailing conflict of choice in Mayor Pro Tem, Kevin Bateman.
 - A portion of the article discussed the parks; City, County and LPD owned.
 - Wanda Rohlfs, Ward 3 Alderman, mentioned the conflict.
 - The County has the funds and plans to make improvements to both Latham and Scully.
 - Tracy Welch was quoted regarding the public's confusion of park ownership.
 - Becky spoke with Tracy at a 3rd Friday meeting, and he stated that he was open to having a conversation with her about the City Park topic.
 - The suggestion of a dog park was mentioned again, but the Board informed Becky that a previous consensus had been met that LPD had no interest in a dog park.
 - Vern stated that he would like a clearer definition of what "maintain" means in the existing ordinance with the City.
 - Dave offered to sit in with Becky in meetings with the City to discuss the matter at hand.
 - Dave expressed his confusion as to why the City would be interested in obtaining the County's parks when the City does not currently maintain their own parks, LPD does that.

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- Gary agreed with Dave's confusion and the Board agreed that the city residents need to advocate their opinions to their respective alderman.
- Becky stated that if the City transfers the ownership of the parks to LPD, then the City can focus on city infrastructure such as repairing the roads and sidewalks; LPD can then continue to focus on improving the parks.
- Laura suggested tabling the discussion until after Becky has met with Tracy, the Board agreed.
- The Board expressed their concern about the public's perception.
- The pool and concession stand opening is in progress.
 - There have been a few IT issues with CivicRec.
 - The credit card readers have been updated.
- The Veteran's Assistance Commission's memorial 9/11 run has had its route approved.
- Our new Mud Run will have a "hometown heroes" theme.
- July 4th Celebration:
 - Fundraising has reached \$5,000.00 so far.
 - We have 3 food vendors confirmed as well as selling from our concession stands.
 - Jaylee is helping to map out where the games and inflatables will be located.
 - Becky has booked a band from Springfield to play live music.
- The pool and concession staff have all been trained.
- Freezer space in the concessions is limited, an additional freezer has been order.
- Allen Concession stand has a broken Pepsi cooler scheduled for repair; DARE has been contacted to inquire about using their big trough with ice in the meantime.
- Becky still has not heard back from the Illinois State Police regarding the background check process required by law.
 - Don inquired about any costs associated with the program.
 - Becky stated that she expects to learn those details later in the application process.
- Becky and Jaylee visited WLCN to update the LPD radio advertisements.
- The State of Illinois recently approved \$28 million for OSLAD grants and extended the term.
 - A bill was recently passed that would allow park districts to be eligible for economic and tourist grants available to other municipalities.
 - Becky researched if the City would be eligible to apply for OSLAD grants for their parks, and they are able to apply.
- With the State's progress to Phase 5, basketball and volleyball has resumed at LPD.
- Adult Kickball will be starting soon, and some teams have inquired about alcohol consumption since it is an adult league.
 - Becky did research LPD's liability coverage with IPARKS as well as speaking with other park districts in the areas to learn about their policies and experiences with the issue:
 - If approved; LPD should delegate rules and require waivers for all participants.
 - Recommended "BYOB", prohibited on the field, but allowed in stands/dugouts.
 - Umpires/Referees would have authority to make the call to cite any offenders.
 - Don asked for a discussion by the Board on the matter:
 - Laura and Bob agreed that alcohol will possibly be snuck in anyways.
 - Bob suggested a trial period with kickball, which is less dangerous than the other adult softball leagues, to which Laura agreed.
 - Bob Thomas made the motion to allow alcohol consumption, on a trial basis, during the initial Adult Kickball League season, with the rules assigned by the Executive Director, which will be reviewed at the end of the League's term. Laura Duffer moved to second the motion, which then passed after a Yes-3 & No-2, roll-call vote.

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- Gary expressed concern that allowing alcohol consumption for one event may conflict with public participation of the July 4th celebration.
- Becky stated that she would like to make it clear to the Kickball participants that it is restricted to that adult league and that the LPD is a family facility.
- COVID-19 Phase 5 will begin with a few caveats:
 - A “full opening” is scheduled to begin 6/11/2021 without facility capacity restrictions, but there are some recommendations listed.
 - LPD will be able to move the Spin® bikes back to the room.
 - The pool will not have to be closely monitored to track attendance.
- Programs are going well, and Jaylee has been working well to add some new options and continues to improve relationships with the instructors.
- The Denzler Family has contacted LPD about donating in memory of Scott Brown.
 - Becky spoke with Andy, Scott’s son about equipment, and a dead lift platform was chosen.
 - A logo with a Scott Brown saying was also discussed as well as extra kettle bells.
 - Gary inquired about the deadlift platform being used for Olympic Lifting, which Becky stated that the new bumper plates will help with that type of lifting.

OPERATIONS REPORT – VERN HASELEY

- Vern informed the Board that Ryan, of Garland Roofing, will be coming to perform a final review after a corner leak was fixed recently.
- Entec has installed multiple sensors around the Aerobics room to study the humidity issue, and to check the effectiveness of the fall demand RT Unit installation.
- Mayfair Park has had multiple complaints from the public about the flower bed areas, which the City had put in by Master Gardeners, that are now overgrown.
 - Master Gardeners have since disbanded and no longer maintain the flower beds.
 - Consensus of the Board was to suggest the complainants contact the City.
- Area Disposal has not picked up some of the LPD dumpsters in 3 weeks.
 - Garbage is an issue after a busy day at the pool and tournaments at the diamonds.
 - It was suggested asking tournament coordinators to schedule some volunteers to help clean up the facility at the end of the event.
 - Gary asked if ordering an additional dumpster for tournaments could be adding a fee to the diamond rental.
 - Jaylee stated that she has planned to speak with John to discuss diamond fees to cover costs of lining fields with and without the usage of lights.
 - Vern stated that having crew on site to line fields between games has always been an issue in the past.
 - Becky also mentioned that the maintenance crew had informed her about a parking issue in the Fit Zone lot.
 - According to Area, one island creates limited mobility for the new trucks and if a car parks badly in one spot, the truck cannot access the dumpster.
 - The Board approves of marking out the problem parking space(s).

PROGRAM REPORT – JAYLEE SWINFORD

- So far 2 range memberships have been sold and those patrons use it frequently.
 - Dave asked if new pads had been installed out at the range.
 - There have not been improvements to the range recently, other than new baskets.

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- The Summer Programs are going well with much positive feedback about the new ones.
 - o Nature Camp will be coordinated with Creekside, and another session has been added since the first one filled up quickly.
 - o Art Camp had 2 age groups, which were both relatively full, and all the kids loved it.
- Women's Softball only has 4 teams, but they love playing.
- Kid's ball leagues have all had their rain dates rescheduled, tournaments have all been scheduled, and there has been a lot of positive feedback.
- Adult Kickball League has 8 teams and will be starting soon.
- Becky and I updated LPD advertisements with WLCN.
- Last fall, I had a Build a Scarecrow program, which was requested for this year.
- As Becky said, the 3rd Friday event went well and was well attended.
- Jaylee is working on creating a tumbling program with a new, local instructor.
- There were a few complaints that there are not more programs for kids to sign up for.
- Jaylee is in the process of creating an end-of-season coach/parent survey for the kid's ball leagues, which should help next spring.
- The Alphabet Scavenger Hunt has been a success.
 - o Took place within the LPD facility and the LPD parks.
 - o Participants have the chance to win a family pool pass.
 - o Laura inquired about the program's duration, which Jaylee verified was through June.
- Jaylee and Becky have been working on planning the July 4th Celebration events.
- There is a new Astronomy Program in the works.
 - o Carl, a retired ISU Professor with 40 years of experience, contacted Jaylee about the possibility of creating a local program.
 - o Carl is willing to bring a telescope and deliver a presentation on the driving range.
 - o It would be a free event, as Carl would be donating his time.

FITNESS MANAGER'S REPORT – JENNIFER PRATHER

- Group Fitness class attendance for May was 798; even with holidays and graduations.
- Kid's Zumba was well attended and is going well.
- The Spin® Certification was rescheduled to the fall.
- Active Agers will soon begin their annual Stride and Seek program.
- The Members Only Face Book page still offers 3 virtual classes per week.
 - o Added back Barre Above classes.
 - o May special was 1 minute Cardio workout per day.
- Class times will be adjusted in the fall.

POOL MANAGER'S REPORT – JENNIFER PRATHER

- Session 1 of Swim Lessons has 40 kids and is going well.
- There have been incidents with vaping in the locker rooms and excessive PDA, with both adults and youth as the offenders.
 - o We have instituted routine locker room checks to curtail indoor vaping.
 - o Guards will be having an in-service training, with Officer Butterfield as the guest speaker, to go over situations and protocol.
- The first Family Night swim was cold and not well attended, but hopefully will be more popular with warmer weather.
- The first teen night was not well attended but will be promoted a little bit more.
- Almost all the available dates for pool parties have been reserved, with 14 booked.
- A Summer Olympic event is in the works, which will cost \$5 per person to participate.

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- Lifeguards receive incentive coins, which are earned by attending training, asking questions, doing good work, and can be exchanged for prizes such as merch and food.
- Friday, June 11th is the first family fun day, which is free to the public with a donation to the food pantry.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Everything received was regarding an incident at the pool, which will be discussed during Executive Session to protect the identity of the individual(s) involved.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Capital Improvements:

1. Exterior Water Main:

- a. Preparing the boring points, areas will be dug up.
- b. Connection exchange will be scheduled for the early morning in a few weeks.
- c. Becky is checking with the Health Department about possible facility closure requirement due to the water being shut off during the work.

2. Rotary Wheelchair Swing installation:

- a. Rotary has requested the swing to be displayed at the next 3rd Friday event.
- b. Surveys did support adding more inclusive features to existing playgrounds.
- c. Another donation has been received.
- d. Dave asked if there would be a publicized photo to commemorate the collaboration of community groups to provide this new feature, which Becky and Don said yes.

3. Exchange Club Park playground installation:

- a. Equipment has been removed and the new features have been installed.
- b. The remaining work has been on hold due to the rain and crew workload.

B. Aquatic Center:

1. A motor died and had to be replaced with the spare.

- a. Dave inquired as to the new motor's horsepower, which Vern verified was 15.
- b. Vern stated that part of the problem was the pressure issue, that has still not been resolved, which is part of the state requirements for public pools.

2. It was suggested while conferring about the issue with pool professionals, that a variable speed motor might help control the pressure issue.

- a. The splash pad does not have pressure issues, so only the plunge and lap pool motors would need to be changed to the variable speed option.
- b. The pressure issue is causing the motors to run hot and killing the motor.
- c. Vern estimates that the cost to replace 2 motors would be around \$1,000.00.
- d. Gary asked if the motors can be fixed, which Vern stated that Bodine should be able to do that work.
- e. Gary then inquired if the other 2 motors need to be replaced to go to VRF, but Vern stated that they were already compatible.
- f. Bob stated that this adjustment may save some money on utilities and Gary agreed that it should save some on wear and tear.

C. COVID: See Becky's report.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Vern brought to the Board's attention that the 1993 Ford F350 is getting old and the newer summer crews do not know how to drive a manual.

- 1. Parts are getting harder to find for repairs.
- 2. Vern asked the Board's permission to start searching for an upcoming replacement.

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B. Ordinance#343: Prevailing Wage Act – 2021:

1. Angie reminded the Board that State Statute requires the annual adopting of this Ordinance for all municipalities.
2. Bob Thomas made the motion to approve Ordinance#343: 2021 Prevailing Wage Act. Laura Duffer moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Laura Duffer made the motion to enter Executive Session at 7:44 pm to discuss employee related matters. The motion was seconded by Bob Thomas and passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote. The Board exited Executive Session at 8:47pm. The discussion did not require any action.

ADJOURNMENT: Seeing no further business, Laura Duffer made the motion to adjourn the meeting, Gary Nodine seconded, and the motion carried. Adjournment: 8:48 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting date will be Wednesday, July 14, 2021 at 6:00 P.M.