

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

**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, Dave Perring, and Laura Duffer. Bob Thomas arrived at 6:15 PM. None were absent. Attending from the Park District were Becky Strait, Vern Haseley, Allison Baker, and Angie Coombs. Jennifer Prather was absent.

**MINUTES OF MEETING** – Minutes of the Mar 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022, meeting was presented. Don asked if there were any questions, comments, or suggested changes. Laura Duffer made the motion to approve the minutes as presented. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**VISITORS** – NONE

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

<b>GENERAL</b>	-	\$	<b>4,052.98</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	-	\$	<b>8,175.42</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMP.</b>	-	\$	<b>1,921.30</b>

Don inquired about the payment made to SJR Media, which Angie explained was for the Roof Project Bid advertising in the Lincoln Courier. Next, Don asked about the payment listed for Adam Charron. Vern explained the fee for Mr. Charron to use his drone to take photos of the property, and showed the Board the photos, which were later used to discuss other topics during the meeting.

Laura Duffer made the motion to approve Accounts Payable, which was seconded by Gary Nodine, and passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.

**CASH FLOW REPORT** – The following balances were reported as of March 31, 2022.

<b>GENERAL</b>	-	\$	<b>41,635.61</b>
<b>RECREATION</b>	-	\$	<b>see below</b>
<b>CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT</b>	-	\$	<b>1,192,140.61</b>
<b>AUDIT</b>	-	\$	<b>5,528.45</b>
<b>LIABILITY</b>	-	\$	<b>118,978.81</b>
<b>2014 DEBT CERT.</b>	-	\$	<b>20,036.57</b>

Angie stated that another PPRT check was received the day after the February meeting, and it was large enough not to require an interfund loan. A summary of this year’s PPRT funding was included in the Board packet, with the previous year’s data for comparison. Angie pointed out that another payment was received just the day before April’s meeting. The total of the 3 checks received so far is significantly higher than the same time in 2021. Angie informed the Board that she had some difficulties reconciling the Recreation Fund for March, due to the new software system and the differences in how the credit card receipts are now deposited. She will include the report in an email to the Board upon its completion.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR – BECKY STRAIT**

- A slideshow presentation was displayed as she spoke on a few topics:
- The open house event was held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> and had around 100-150 attendees.
  - A bounce house was purchased and is advertised as available to rent for events and birthday parties scheduled with LPD.
  - Community Partners attended:
    - Creekside
    - 4-H
    - Community Garden group
    - Lincoln Memorial Hospital
    - WLCN's radio program "Cheap Seats" came to do a live broadcast during the event.
  - The LPD focus was on summer programs and events.
  - Registration became available for the Open House, as well as online registration.
  - It has been decided to offer more options for private pool parties this summer, as well as a new option to be held during normal operating hours.
  - Themed birthday parties are now available for booking, which will have the option to include crafts for the attendees.
  - Summer camps will begin the registration process soon and were advertised.
- Earth Day's Event with Creekside will be April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- Bike Rodeo will be held at Lincoln College on May 1<sup>st</sup>.
- The Fundraising Dance, which was to be held on May 14<sup>th</sup>, has been rescheduled until the fall due to local graduation conflicts.
- The pool is scheduled to open May 30<sup>th</sup>.
- July 4<sup>th</sup>'s Firework show is scheduled for the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but the children's parade will still be held on the 4<sup>th</sup> to avoid Sunday church traffic.
- City Parks:
  - The Ordinance 123 is still being researched by LPD's legal counsel.
  - Abolishment of the Ordinance appears to possibly be more involved than first thought.
    - For example, the City is seeking to abolish the local Civil Service Commission, which is a normal practice for current government entities.
    - Dave asked if abolishing was possible and Don explained that Walt Landers, City Department Head, has a petition being circulated to put the matter on a ballot for a vote.
    - Dave queried if the Civil Service Commission was State Law or local government referendum.
    - Becky stated that she believes the process may be similar if the City chooses to move forward with abolishing/repeal Ordinance #123, since it was also passed by a referendum.
    - Per IAPD, there is no precedent on file regarding such an ordinance being repealed after initially passing via referendum.
    - The tax levy line items are also still being researched to try and understand what changes took place when Ordinance#123 originally passed in the 1960's.
    - Bob states that the City assumes that they gave LPD the authority to levy taxes, but Becky stated that the question is whether the City has the right to "get that tax back" if the Ordinance is successfully repealed or abolished.
      - Becky informed the Board that the City may now be leaning away from abolishment.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 13, 2022**

- Further research needs to be completed before another park committee meeting should be scheduled / held.
- Becky stated that LPD's legal counsel has been researching the tax line item#145 but can only find information back to the 1990's; they could still sort through old ballots.
- Bob asked if LPD should still be required to maintain the City's parks if the City is seeking to abolish the Ordinance, which Becky stated that LPD is required to.
- Bob questioned if the matter of control should be discussed again, which Don stated that the City Council has continuously expressed the desire to maintain control of their parks.
- Laura queried what the Ordinance #123 stated about control, which Angie verified that the verbiage dictates the City was to have relinquished control to LPD along with the right to levy taxes to maintain them.
- Bob states that the City should follow the terms of their own Ordinance, which relinquished their control of City owned parks.
- It was stated that Vern was asked for his input on the new pavilion to be installed within Postville Park, which is a positive, as the City had a pavilion installed a few years ago at Ray White Park with no request for input from the Park District.
- Becky stated that a few newer ordinances have passed in the last few years to clarify the details of the first ordinance.
- Bob stated that he has never seen an inter-governmental agreement that did not have an "out clause" included, and Becky pointed out that the Ordinance was more official than an inter-governmental agreement.
- Gary asked if there was a way to verify that the City lost a tax levy line item when the ordinance passed originally, which Becky stated that the LPD legal counsel was researching that side of the matter as well.
- Becky informed the Board that 3 companies submitted bids for the 2022 Roof Project.
  - A summary was included in the Board's packet.
  - Becky pointed out the 3 different prices and time frames for each bid submitted.
  - Becky asked Vern to explain the "alternate cost" listed, which he stated was to include removing and covering the holes from the old vent fans.
  - Don and Gary wanted to know why there was such a large difference in cost and scheduling.
    - Becky explained that Ryan Benson, of The Garland Company, believes the time frames listed helps that companies remain flexible and adds freedom to their schedule with other projects.
  - Dave inquired if the project included the solar project, and if there would be any holes created in the new roof by the solar installation. Both Bob and Vern stated that there should be no holes from the solar installation.
  - Dave Perring made the motion to award the 2022 Roof Project to Kreiling, as bid. Laura Duffer moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
- The solar project is moving forward.
  - Dan Maloney, from the solar company, has informed Becky that everything is ready to go.
  - The current step is waiting for The Garland Company to sign off their final approval on the clamping system.
    - Dave inquired about the delay in approval, which Becky stated that it is a lower priority for the Garland Company's engineers.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT**  
**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 13, 2022**

- Becky did reach out to Ryan Benson, and he apologized for misunderstanding the solar project's timetable, he thought it was scheduled for the fall of 2022.
- Dan was updated on the status and asked how LPD's project would be affected if there was a further delay causing it to possibly wait until next spring for installation.
- Dan provided the solar contract for review, and assured Becky that if the project's installation was delayed until spring 2023, that the 2022 rates would be honored.
- The partnership with the Lincoln Memorial Hospital to redevelop Lehn & Fink park has begun with some preliminary designs created by Design Perspectives.
  - The designs are to be included in the official grant application from the Hospital's Foundation, which has a meeting May 17<sup>th</sup> to decide on the projects.
  - The Hospital offered to split the cost of the design fees 50/50, which are \$11,000.00.
  - The proposed design presents a more inclusive playground, pump track/skate park.
  - Photos were provided to also show a possible small pond and restroom facilities.
  - Gary asked if the design team was given carte blanche or a specific budget and specs?
    - Becky stated that Hospital wants to help revamp the park to be a great asset for Lincoln.
    - Gary expressed his concern on upkeep and future repair costs to an expensive park.
    - Angie stated that the master plan was reviewed prior to designing.
  - Gary conveyed his desire to see this level of park installed closer to the downtown area.
  - Dave agreed with Gary's concerns about the location and price.
  - Becky shared her hope that this partnership will continue to grow in the future and possibly offer more development potential for the community parks.
  - Dave stated that his main concern is that future Foundation monetary assistance is not a guarantee, and Gary agreed, adding the upkeep cost would solely fall on LPD.
  - Becky then shared with the Board that the Roof project was originally estimated to cost around \$360,000, and the accepted bid was \$125,000 less than the original estimate.
    - Ryan did suggest retaining a contingency fund of around \$20,000.00.
    - Becky also spoke with LCHS regarding the diamond usage, but as their board decided to install turf on both the diamond and football field, there is no longer a need to discuss an extended use of LPD's diamonds.
      - Part of the discussion included the information that LCHS plans to resurface their tennis courts and adding 2 more.
      - Becky explained the OSLAD grant situation and LPD's plan to install pickle ball courts and sand volleyball.
      - The LCHS administrator stated that their plans could be amended to include pickle ball courts with their tennis courts as they had some unused space they were trying to fill.
      - Becky requested the Board's permission to withdraw the OSLAD grant application, continue the plans to add sand volleyball, but terminate plans to install pickle ball.
      - Becky cited the County's discussion about also installing pickle ball courts, and possibly a seasonal ice-skating rink, in Scully park.
      - Becky stated that with the County and LCHS using their COVID funds, there is no reason to duplicate that service to the community.
      - The money saved by not installing pickleball courts on LPD grounds, and the unused balance from the roof project, can be left in the Capital Improvement Fund and reallocated for the park project in the next fiscal year.
      - This fiscal year's budget allocated \$240,000 for the OSLAD grant project, of which the volleyball court was only budgeted for \$40,000.00 of that amount.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

- That leaves \$300,000 this year from the two (2) projects, which can be saved to fund next year's Lehn & Fink project cost, as \$100,000 has already been allocated for 2022.
- Becky explained that Tod reported the OSLAD award process has been delayed due to the high number of submissions this year.
- Gary Nodine made the motion to officially withdraw the Lincoln Park District's OSLAD Grant application for the 2022 Fiscal Year. Bob Thomas moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
- Laura Duffer moved to proceed with the OSLAD Grant project portion, which pertains to the installation of sand volleyball courts on LPD grounds. Gary Nodine moved to second the motion, which then passed after a unanimous, roll-call vote.
- Dave asked for clarification, and Angie stated that the balance of unused funds from those allocated for this year's projects will be saved in the Capital Improvement Fund, with the intention of using those funds in the next fiscal year.
- Laura inquired about the location of the planned sand volleyball courts, which Vern used the new aerial photos to discuss the location and potential alternatives.
- Becky informed the Board that Illinois American Water is available to excavate and remove the dirt when the project is ready to move forward.
- Becky then redirected the conversation to discuss possible features to be installed within the Lehn & Fink park upgrade project.
  - The walking track would offer a ¼ mile asphalt loop and the skate/pump track would be concrete.
  - Included in the plans is a pavilion and restroom facility, for which locking systems have been discussed for the basic amenities provided within.
  - Gary asked if the system would be part of the City sewer service, which Becky verified that it would be.
- As the Hospital starts their new fiscal year in September, the project can begin moving forward this year, with the hopes of not exceeding two (2) fiscal years.
- Creekside Nature Center will be greatly impacted by the closure of Lincoln College.
  - Bob and Dave inquired as to the location, which was explained by Don and Becky.
  - Becky listed the features included upon the property and shared that the Boy Scouts use it for programs, as well as LPD was planning a collaboration for the summer of 2022.
  - Gary inquired about the annual financial burden potentially taking on the property would add to the LPD annual expenditures, which Becky estimated around \$6,000 for maintenance and stated that Dr. Campbell would be willing to negotiate a salary.
  - Laura queried if it would be worth it to mow and if Dr. Campbell would possibly be willing to work as an independent contractor, which Becky said that it could be discussed.
  - The Board agreed that they would like to know more about the possibility of the land being donated to the Park District, or the LPD Foundation. Becky will keep the Board informed of the discussion as it progresses.
- A little good news from the unfortunate closing of Lincoln College is a new potential application for the Maintenance Apprentice.
  - Angie also stated that more patrons have inquired about the possibility of re-extending the complex hours until 10:00pm, as it was pre-COVID.
  - The Board agreed to rediscuss this topic in May.
- Dave inquired if signage regarding patron behavior had been posted, which Becky stated that they were in process.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

**OPERATIONS REPORT – VERN HASELEY**

- Vern stated that the grounds have been rolled and fertilized.
- The shop's gator has had some issues and is being serviced at John Deere.
- The front gravel parking lots had more rock added. The north side, next to the high school, will also be re-rocked and LCHS has offered to help pay for that cost.
- John has helped with the mowing.

**PROGRAM REPORT – ALLISON BAKER**

- The open house went very well, we had 13 registrations for baseball, 41 for swim lessons, 3 pool passes were sold and 3 pool parties were booked during those hours.
- Summer ball league registration has around 100 participants registered, and the online portion went well. The LCHS team helped with the skills assessment. I am working on making the schedules. The Tremont meeting went well. The Coaches should be contacting their team this week and some sponsors have already sent in their payments. The online calendar is working great for scheduling practices and games for our teams as well as the local traveling ones.

Upcoming programs include:

- Easter Basket delivery, which Becky's kids helped stuff eggs for that event. The numbers were down, but there were more Easter Egg hunts held this year than the last.
- Spring's Nerf War is scheduled for this Friday. So far, about 20 kids have registered for the event, but we hope for a few more. We are providing eye protection, the nerf darts, and obstacles for the war.
- There are approximately 10 programs planned for the summer, excluding the leagues, such as art camps, tumbling, cheer clinic, etc. Laura inquired about the Theater Camp, which Allison stated that she was in the process of confirming the dates.
- Women's & Coed Slow-pitch (not the 16" Chicago Style) registration opened today.
- Summer volleyball is being considered. Whether it is just open gym, or a more organized league has not yet been decided. The teams from the winter league thought they could have 10 teams play this summer.
- Adult Kickball will run from June to August.
- Concession workers have been hired and 3 of the 11 worked last year.
- The Health Department inspected the stands on Monday. Moriah is working to get the staff trained and stands stocked for the first tournament April 22<sup>nd</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>. Becky stated that the food selection has been expanded this year.

**FITNESS MANAGER'S REPORT – JENNIFER PRATHER ready by Becky**

- Group Fitness class attendance for March was 940, which is up 59% from last year.
- The first week of April was free for non-members to attend any group fitness class.
- Virtual Memberships had a Squat and Wellness Challenge in March.
- Spring into Action went well, and Amanda helped coach the participants.
- The Senior group had a picnic on the 18<sup>th</sup> and have planned another for June.
- The Health & Wellness event had 15 participants listening to the presentation given by Katie Davis. May will be the Physical Therapy department from the Hospital.
- The open house had about 12 people participate in the free class. A chance to win a free Personal Training session with Cody was a big draw.
- Rachel will be teaching Zumba for Kids this summer, and already has 4 registrations.
- The 5K race will be coordinated with the balloon weekend again and planning has already begun.

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

- Alex successfully completed his internship and felt that he had grown his knowledge and experience in the business side of personal training.
- Jennifer is finalizing the June/July schedule.

**AQUATIC CENTER – JENNIFER PRATHER read by Becky.**

- Lifeguards have been hired, a few more than last year.
- There will be a Jr. Lifeguard certification offered as well as the usual new and returning guard certification.
- Jennifer has begun cleaning out the guard room.

Don inquired about the Fourth of July Children's Parade, which Becky verified that she had planned on still holding the parade on the 4<sup>th</sup> to avoid the Sunday Church traffic. Don asked if she had asked the Fire Department to participate at the end as usual, to which Becky stated that she had planned to do so. Laura asked about the other planned activities for the July 4<sup>th</sup> Celebration, which are scheduled for July 3<sup>rd</sup>. Becky verified that the pool will be open from noon to 6:00pm, with games planned during that time, and a free popsicle for each patron. The events upon the grounds will start at 6:00pm, which will include a band and bounce houses so far. More activities will be scheduled.

Angie stated that Curtis Fox had stopped in the Administrative Office and inquired about the Foundation's next meeting. Gary and Don stated that a meeting needed to be scheduled. Becky informed the Board that she had recently been notified that the Foundation's legal counsel had passed, and that she was working with Clarence Barney to complete the required filings.

Becky announced to the Board that she did hear back from the Logan County Tourism Bureau regarding the grant that she had applied for. The Park District was awarded a \$500 grant. Vern stated that the road in Memorial Park needs to be added to the master plan. With the money saved by LCHS contributions to the cost of adding rock to the side lot, there may be some funds available to add some out at Memorial Park. The roads need to be replaced, and Vern was able to ask for a consultation from Mr. Cecil that worked on the Complex lot last year. Vern would like the Board to consider including road work in the budgeting process for next year.

**CORRESPONDENCE: NONE**

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- A. Capital Improvements:
  - 1. Complex / Aerobic Room HVAC System: Running normally.
  - 2. Roof / Solar Project: See Director's Report.
- B. Aquatic Center:
  - 1. Vern plans on beginning to fill it after the first of May.
  - 2. Bodine installed the motors, they are just waiting on a valve before testing it.
- C. Parks owned by the City of Lincoln: See Director's Report.
- D. COVID: No News.

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION: NONE**

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
APRIL 13, 2022**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Seeing no further business, Gary Nodine moved to adjourn the meeting.  
Bob Thomas moved to second the motion. The motion carried. Adjournment: 8:01 P.M.

**NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2022, at 6:00 P.M.