

**LINCOLN PARK DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
JUNE 14, 2023**

CALL TO ORDER – At 5:00 PM, Don Peasley called to order the Lincoln Park District’s first meeting of the newly appointed Efficiency Committee.

ROLL CALL – Commissioners attending were Don Peasley, Gary Nodine, Dave Perring, and Laura Duffer. Bob Thomas was absent. Attending from the Park District were Becky Strait and Angie Coombs. Community Representatives Aimee Galvin and Sam White were present. None were absent.

VISITORS – NONE

INTRODUCTIONS:

After a brief introduction of all in attendance was done before a brief walk around the LPD property was conducted to familiarize and reacquaint everyone. Becky provided a synopsis of the facilities, giving a brief description of the 2 triplexes of diamonds, playground, range, and ended with a summary of the discussions pertaining to the landscaping for the rear parking lot. The group then split to tour the parks in 2 vehicles.

PARK TOUR:

Memorial Park

- Both main roads were driven, with a stop near the playground.
- Becky explained the importance of the trace, which Don pointed out the trees included in the historical landmark.
- As part of the County Parks Coalition, a sign was posted for the public’s reference, with a QR code to access more information about the historical significance.
- Don inquired about the sections left unmown, which Gary and Becky stated that there were some native trees thriving in those areas.
- Don mentioned the rarity of Black Oak trees, which grow in the park.
- Becky stated that confirmation was never received, but an IDNR representative was to be researching if a Chinkapin Oak tree in the park was a state record for its massive size.
- Dave commented on the amount of old forest and LPD’s attempts at growing native trees naturally.
- Sam shared his historical knowledge of a large, round pavilion and Chautauqua cabins that used to be in the park, which were removed years ago.

Exchange Club Park:

- Both vehicles did a quick drive by the park without getting out to discuss the few amenities including a playground, small basketball hoop, and green space.
- The drive-by was to verify for Aimee and Sam the location of the park for later discussion.

Lehn & Fink Park:

- Both vehicles did a quick drive by the park without getting out to discuss the few amenities including a playground, baseball diamond, and green space.
- The drive-by was to verify for Aimee and Sam the location of the park for later discussion.

**THE MEETING/DISCUSSION CONTINUED AT THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
LOCATED AT 1400 PRIMM ROAD upon arrival at 5:46 p.m.**

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Becky provided everyone with a handout summarizing the history of LPD, which was first established in 1961, in a building located behind the current Guzzardo's. The Park District currently maintains 95 acres, consisting of 7 parks (4 owned by the City) and the grounds of the Sports Complex.

Becky gave a brief overview of the staff, Community Partnerships/Event and/or program Sponsors, Sports Leagues, Programs, Fitness programming and classes available, Senior Health & Wellness, and Special Holiday Events. Becky continued to summarize the establishment of the Foundation and its efforts to help provide a family-oriented July 4th Celebration and support LPD in other endeavors. Sam inquired about the cost of the annual fireworks show, which Becky verified that 2023's show cost approximately \$17,000.00, of which, only a portion of that cost is covered by the tax levy. Aimee asked about the size of the Foundation Board, which Becky replied that it was a small board, and invited them to attend the next meeting.

Becky informed the Committee that the state organization, IAPD, was hosting a webinar on the Efficiency Committee on June 27th, which she would be attending. Hopefully, IAPD will provide more information on how to proceed with the requirements detailed in the legislature issued by the State. Aimee inquired if all tax districts were required to conduct the process of the Efficiency Committee. Becky explained that the State mandated the Committee for specific taxing bodies. Angie stated that the end report is to be filed with the local County office only, but believed the purpose of the report is to check for duplication of services provided by those taxing bodies. Becky said that it is an opportunity to review tax funds received and clarify where (and/or how) the monies were being spent.

Don suggested concluding the meeting, since it was just past 6:00 p.m., and inquired about scheduling the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 6:05 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 12, 2023.