

TOWN OF LINCOLN

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING

December 13, 2017

The meeting was called to order at 6:59 p.m. Commission members present were Chairman John Sharkey, Steve Reynolds, Andy Bruscini, Sean Gaughan, Lee Ann Lamothe, William Goho, and Christopher Behlke.

A motion was made by Andy Bruscini and was seconded by Sean Gaughan to accept the minutes from the November 8th meeting. The minutes were accepted.

Director's Report:

Alan showed everyone around the newly renovated Youth Center where we held this month's meeting.

Basketball is starting up. Alan reached out to Cumberland, Smithfield and North Smithfield to see about gathering girls for a league on Saturday's because we are still struggling to get numbers. Every week and Saturday's there is some form of basketball going on from preschool through sixth grade, Colours league 7th and 8th grade. The parents and kids are learning about skill development and how important it is, and you get so much more out of it that way.

Flag football is wrapping up.

Alan wants the Youth Center to be Town organizations only, not to be rented out like a KFC hall. For instance, if the Lincoln Little League wants to hold a meeting there, that would be fine.

Alan talked about the metal detector friend. He had a conversation with him and let him know that he can't do that, as well as let him

know that whoever told him it was okay to rip up the fields was probably in the wrong. The guy was nice. Alan made sure he knew that meant any Town property.

Alan discussed the thought of cameras in the parks again. Alan had talked to the Chief of police about a community policing policy where they would have the cops getting out of their cars at all of the parks. Steve brought up that the High School football field has cameras. Alan said he would talk to Greg, the athletic director, to see who reviews the cameras.

Commissioner's Report:

Saylesville- Christopher Behlke – The Park looks good and clean. The only snow left at the Park is on Sullivan Field. What is the concrete slab next to the flag pole? Alan said it is an eagle scout's project that will be a headstone with a plaque to name Sullivan Field. There are two more stick forts in the woods, which is not an issue until it becomes an issue. The trash cans were empty. They will be putting up a new flag pole. At Arnold Park, the fence is a total eye sore. Alan found a bunch of extra fence, and will have a crew install in the order of importance across the Town. It will be replaced. They are on it, and it will definitely be taken care of by spring.

Lonsdale- Sean Gaughan – They cleaned up the fallen tree and it looks good. No geese yet. Looks in good shape. The nets are down and it is all winterized. The Town cut the brush back near the pond. John Sharkey mentioned that there is a rotted tree behind the first base dugout that he is not sure who it belongs to.

Albion- John Sharkey – There is a lot of growth in the infield, and it

hasn't been taken care of. There were still leaves there, but he thinks it was a timing issue from when he checked it out, because they are now done. What are we going to do with the warning path? Alan said to let it grow, but John said that the sprinklers don't cover the warning path.

Manville- Lee Ann Lamothe – Lee was happy that she saw someone doing something with what she has been reporting about for five years. The Park was covered in snow with no one there. The soccer nets are still out at Manville, which Alan said someone cut.

Fairlawn- Andy Bruscini – The leaves were picked up. Andy has shown people the sign that says no dogs. The fence is still broken. Andy stated that on behalf of Lincoln Hockey, thanks for letting them use the Youth Center for events and their pasta dinner. It worked out great! Alan reported that he is applying for a large state grant of approximately \$400,000 to overhaul the Park. Alan thinks we have a good chance, but not a slam dunk. This would include everything as a neighborhood Park with no parking. Fairlawn does have a nice summer program where they would expand the pavilion and add a concession stand. There would also be an opening fence coming from the new Cumberland Farms which they are on board with as well.

Limerock- Steve Reynolds – The screen in the front field is laying flat down. Alan thinks it is the school's screens. Alan said it needs to be put inside a dugout, or in the equipment shed. Steve reported that the cages are down, but the tennis nets are still up. Alan said the tennis nets were left out on purpose because they were still getting

use, but will be put away. Steve asked if there is any update on the expanding of the parking and the playground equipment. Alan is looking into it, but it is not a top priority.

Quinville- William Goho – Still looking good. Periodically, someone isn't emptying the trash can. One side of the Park always has cups, water bottles and sandwich bags. It is very sporadic, but maybe we could put up a sign.

John Sharkey also reported that he sent a letter to Louanne, the Animal Control officer, and another one to the police department about the dogs in the parks!

Old Business:

A) Update on the conditions of all fields:

B) Update on Chase Farm: Chase Farm project should be done. It is close to done, but we are waiting. It is behind schedule. We definitely want to take advantage of using it for concerts or sleigh rides, or other activities to be determined. We applied for a small grant for an addition to the parking lot.

C) Review leave pick up of all Parks: All of the leaves were picked up at all of the Parks.

D) Discuss the condition of the Manville soccer field: Chris reported that Lincoln Youth soccer doesn't play at the Manville field anymore. They shut us down from playing there because there was drought conditions, but then the field never recovered. They now play at the Middle School field, but they are running out of a place to play in Town because now that field is getting bad. In the fall, where will the

kids play? John Sharkey asked what we need to do to get the Manville field back to being playable? The field is not level and has big ruts, as well as needing irrigation. This is not doable for spring. We have two soccer fields in town that are lousy and need to be redone. There are a lot of kids in the soccer program in town with no field appropriate to play on. It's a growing program! Do we start cutting kids? We would rather not do that.

New Business:

A) Discuss the repair at Chet Nicholas: Lights- Alan has no update. The school is wrapping that into the overhaul at Chet Nichols. If the fence moves up 3 to 4 feet or more in left field, it can be maintained the right way.

B) Discuss any plans for further upgrade of fields in 2018: John asked Alan if there are any plans to refurbish any fields this year? Alan reported yes. Probably the Lime Acres field front and back, but not sure yet. Alan will talk to the school with the new athletic director and see if maybe we can do a joint situation. John proposed that maybe we refocus and concentrate on the two soccer fields instead so that we can have a nice soccer field to play on. Maybe redo it so it would make sense for soccer and baseball. Sean mentioned maybe the Pit, but Alan said the problem there is accessing the field. We would need a parking lot at the bottom of the hill but this would be a big huge project. Alan said we should see how many fields we can fit at Lime Acres.

C) Discuss basketball program for the upcoming season:

A motion was made by Steve Reynolds, and was seconded by Sean Gaughan to hold all Parks and Recreation Commission meeting at the Youth Center going forward. John Sharkey is going to check the legalities of it.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by commission member Steve Reynolds, and the motion was seconded by commission member Sean Gaughan.

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.