

## **Lebanon Board of Park Commissioners**

### **Minutes**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2022**

#### **Call to Order**

President Laurie Gross called meeting to order.

#### **Roll Call**

All members present except Member John Lasley.

#### **Minutes**

President Gross requested motion to approve September's minutes. Vice President Diane Scott made a motion to approve; Member Shirley McClaine seconded; motion carried unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

Kevin Krulik is on the agenda, but he could not make it to the meeting due to a conference. He will be at the December meeting to present about Stone Eater bike park.

Deb Schmucker is finishing and submitting the five-year master plan. She is also working on the piers at the conservation pond and restrooms at the Big Four trailhead. Both approved projects using American rescue plan money. Additionally, Deb is working on creating a map for a disc golf course in Abner Longley Park.

Abner Longley playground pricing has been looked at. The next step will be asking for city council support for funding.

Big Four trail is complete near dog park. Waiting on a part to finish the light poles on the trail.

Reese Park lift station and water plant in Abner Longley both almost complete

All projects will hopefully be started or completed in 2023.

#### **New Business**

Damon Kries from Lebanon Youth Soccer Association presented. Showed new plans and ideas to transform the park. The parking situation is a big issue. Potential for the gravel being paved, a driveway lane, and additional parking lot. Would also like to propose a restroom building being built and potentially a concession stand. A new storage building needs to be addressed as well, but Youth Soccer could cover this. Damon Kries is not sure if the flood plan and water issues could be addressed, but he would like to investigate that to maximize field space. Fencing for child safety to keep the soccer balls and kids in a contained area. Dog waste stations need to be added to this park because people are not picking up after their dogs.

Vice President Diane Scott asked Director John Messenger if Reese Park is in the master plan. John Messenger said that it is not due to the limited abilities from the flood plain. The gravel area should be paved due to an ordinance but has not been due to funding. Due to the city growth, Youth Soccer could potentially outgrow this space. Looking for new properties might be a better option. The parking and water need to be addressed first.

## **Director's Report**

Director Messenger updates the Board on what's going on in each park, maintenance, and events.

October was another very active month with many different events. We experienced beautiful weather, which helped with great turnouts for events and enjoying our amenities.

We have winterized most of our facilities that are not heated. The restroom at Abner and the restroom at Memorial Park by the playground will be closed November 18<sup>th</sup> until Spring. Outhouses will be removed this week, except for the one by Dog Park.

All park grounds have had stumps removed, weed controlled sprayed, fertilizer spread, and aeration and seeding being completed. We have removed 5 trees and will be removing several more. We have planted 13 trees and installed 2 park benches.

We are continuing to work at the Conservation Pond by removing the fence, grading, etc.

The Big 4 Trail is complete, and we will be installing posts along S. East Street because we have been seeing vehicles use the trails. Lights will be turned on soon.

We started cutting back plant materials downtown in preparation for Christmas decorations installation. We are looking to get everything installed on or around the 15<sup>th</sup> of November.

I want to thank Burt Wisenand and John Elliot as they have started the installation of the tree identification tags in Memorial Park. Patrons will be able to go to the tags and identify the trees by using the QR code. The QR code will take you to a website with in-depth information about that specific tree. Burt has helped mainstream this project over the past year volunteering this time, as well as John. We are very appreciative of their many hours spent on this project.

We welcomed Nathan Johnson this week from LHS. Nathan is an intern from LHS and will be with us through the school year. He is familiar with our Park System because he has helped the last couple of summer with the ARC volunteer program. So, if you see him about and about, be sure to welcome him!

## **Programs and Events**

Our Fall Pickleball League is now over. The winners of the Co-Ed League tournament were Trey Hendrix and Veronica Tubbs. Thank you to all teams who have played, and we look forward to seeing you in the spring.

Rotary's Trick or Trot 5K will take place the morning of Pumpkins in the Park and they had a great turnout! The race route was in Memorial Park.

Our Pumpkins in the Park event had a huge turnout! The weather was perfect, and we saw around 300 people throughout the day. We'd like to give one more thank you to your donors/sponsors – John Lasley Outdoor Solutions, Becky's Market, Lebanon IGA, and the Farmer's Bank. We look forward to next year!

Mischief on Meridian had a good turnout this year as well! The streets were packed and lots of fun was had.

Pixie Playhouse hosted their Free Fall Party in Memorial Park and had an awesome turnout. The Parks Department provided a hayride, and we look forward to having them back next year!

The Boys & Girls Club will be hosting their L Gravy Race this year on Thanksgiving Day. The race will start and end downtown but will come through Memorial Park as well. We hope they have great weather for the race!

Christmas in the Cabin and the Christmas Parade will take place this year on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Christmas in the Cabin will run from 9:30am – 12:30pm and guests can visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus, enjoy hot chocolate and cookies (served by Countryside Christian Church) and make a craft. There will also be carriage rides. The carriage rides must be pre-registered for, by calling our parks office. Spots will fill up fast!

The Christmas Parade will start at 6pm in Memorial Park. The parade will make a loop around the park and then head downtown, where Santa will be dropped off to light up the big Christmas tree. The parade will then come back up East Street and end at the park. If you are interested in entering the parade this year, please contact us. You can also find the registration form on our website.

We are working with Mane Event Carriages to schedule evening carriage rides, so patrons can see the Christmas lights lit up. We will have more information on that soon!

### **Consideration of Claims**

President Gross requested motion to approve the claims; Member Karen Galvin made a motion to approve the claims; Member Jessica Lollar seconded; motion carried unanimously.

**Adjournment**

President Gross requested a motion to adjourn meeting Member Shirley McClaine made a motion to adjourn; Vice President Diane Scott seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Taylor Orr

Office Manager