

Lebanon Board of Park Commissioners

Minutes

March 2nd, 2021

Call to Order

President Laurie Gross called meeting to order.

Roll Call

All members present.

Minutes

President Gross requested motion to approve January's minutes. Member John Lasley made a motion to approve; Member Jessica Lollar seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Old Business

Kevin Krulik updates the board on the Stone Eater Bike Park.

It's been a year since I last reported, a lot has happened but also very little has happened in terms of changes or development. We now have the approval of the county and we now have been working design and pushing for the plans of construction.

Kevin presented the plans and cost estimates of the Bike Park to the board.

Director John Messenger updates the board on our park projects.

The playground project is going smoothly. They have the outside concrete poured and the underdrainage tiles placed and tied in. The equipment that we ordered back in June of 2021 should be shipped by March 16th. We are looking for a May completion date.

The lighting project is also moving right along. We just had a progress meeting last week and they are 50% complete. They are working on finishing up the boring and getting the hex screws in. All the transformers are in. We may have dark park for a few days while they get the lights up and going. We do have some problems with some bases that we are currently looking into. This could potentially hold up the project. They are looking to be done by July 4th.

Our five-year Master Plan is still a work in progress. We've had our stakeholder meetings with many members of our community attending. We also had an open public meeting last week. We had a decent turnout of 35 people. We've had great discussions and feedback from all these meetings. Over 300 people have completed our online survey.

We have plans to start upgrading some of our security cameras. We encumbered money for last year for this project specifically. We have plans to put up cameras at the conservation pond. Now that the pond's fence will be down, we will need security out there.

He had a kickoff meeting with HWC and Spear Corporation for our pool expansion. We had over 400 people complete the survey monkey for the pool expansion and what they'd like to see. We did this survey last summer. We will be discussing later this year how we'd like the pool to expand.

The tree clearing at the conservation pond is approximately 70% completed. They ran into some bad weather, so they are waiting for some things to dry up.

The construction of the water treatment plant at Abner has now started. They have run into some drainage issues and are trying to work through those as quickly as possible.

The Big 4 Trail construction is about to start at Abner as well. They are going to stage their equipment at the property off Noble Street. They will be starting a Hendricks Drive and move towards the conservation park and the go down southeast street. Completion for this section of the trail is set to be finished November of 2022.

Lastly, the work on the lift station at Reese Park has started. This should be finished early summer.

New Business

Heidi Susong presented to the park board about how she's like to honor her father at the Memorial Park Baseball Field.

My father, Ron Ebert, has volunteered his time to the Lebanon baseball program for 45 years. He unfortunately had to retire from volunteering due to some health issues. Why we are here tonight is because we think something needs to be done in honor of our dad. We think that the baseball field should be named after him.

President Gross thanked Heidi for coming and acknowledged all the hard work Ron put into the program. She stated that there have been many people who have helped with the baseball program like her father. The program wouldn't be what it is now if it wasn't for all the volunteers throughout the years. President Gross does believe that we need to recognize the volunteers, but she thinks it needs to be in a better way. Years ago, someone asked to name the field after Wittmore, and the park board did not approve it.

Member Lasley made a motion to table the request and discuss it more to try to come up with a solution or resolution for this matter; Member Karen Galvin seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Pascal Fettig discussed with the board about the possibility of canoeing at the conservation pond.

We run a summer camp and the B.A.S.E. program for Boone County. We have really been trying to elevate our services to the youth and make it as positive as we can. We are looking to expand into learning in nature and make it fun. Canoeing came up as an opportunity and I'd love to be able to do that at the conservation pond this summer. I'm already in the process of purchasing 6 canoes. I'd love to share these with the park so they could use them whenever they needed to.

President Gross suggested that a small committee get together to further discuss this situation. Member Lasley and Member Lollar will meet to discuss.

President Gross requested motion to table it and discuss it at next month's meeting. Member Lasley made a motion to table it; Vice President Diane Scott seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report

We held open interviews for Seashore Waterpark on January 29th and February 12th. We got a great turnout for both our lifeguard and concession positions. We are currently in the process of notifying everyone.

We hired a company to service our motor pumps that operate our pools. This should be done every 3 to 5 years and will help keep our facility operating efficiently. New signage also in the process of being fabricated and will be installed before the season. We do have some concrete patching to do on the pool vessels and a couple of block walls to repair by the drinking fountain.

Logan Banks passed his CPO class and will take on a new role with maintaining the waterpark and splashpad. Cole Henry has done a fantastic job and will be helping Logan with the learning the facility. Cole will be taking over other duties in the park system.

We have removed 4 trees on the east side of the Hot Pond, close to the surrounding houses. Kurt Freshour helped us with this work. Also, some trees at Abner and Memorial Park have been removed for safety and our lighting project.

Our maintenance crews have removed some of the fencing at the Conservation Pond for the removal of trees and to prepare for the Big 4 Trail installation. Potholes in the parks have been repaired thanks to Triangle Asphalt for donating the materials.

Maintenance did a great job of taking care of the snow and ice episodes we had the past couple of months in our parks, trails, downtown and the Gene Haus building. We have sued approximately 14 tons of ice melt through these storms.

Our office staff has been very busy preparing for our spring and summer season. Thomas is now fully trained and has completed transferring over all our dog park members into our in-house system. He is also working on creating a spring break fitness challenge and working with Lori on all the new hire information and packets. Allyson has met with the pickleball board to prep for the upcoming leagues and tournaments. She has also been working on all of our social media outlets and updating our website for the 2022 year. Taylor has been working on closing out the encumbrances along with handling the budget for the projects going on in our park system.

Programs and Events

Thank you to everyone who participated in our 2022 Snowman Building Contest! Congrats to our two winners - The Schenkel Family and the Wilson Family!

Later in March we will be starting a Fitness Challenge in the park that will end on April 8th. Everyone that completes the challenge should stop by the Park Office to receive a prize. More details will be posted on the Parks social media.

We will be posting about our Spring Pickleball League this week. We will be offering six different divisions: Men's Doubles, Woman's Doubles, Co-Ed Doubles, Men's Doubles 55+, Woman's Doubles 55+, and Co-Ed Doubles 55+. Registration will close on March 31st.

We recently posted details about our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 16th! The first hunt will start at 10:30 and age groups are 2-4, 5-7, and 8-10. We hope to see you there!

Consideration of Claims

President Gross requested motion to approve the claims; Vice President Scott made a motion to approve the claims; Member Galvin seconded; motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Taylor Orr

Office Manager