

Town of Lodi

Park Commission Meeting

MEETING DATE & TIME: Wednesday, May 12, 2021 at 5:00 PM

MEETING LOCATION: The Park Commission meeting will be held at Lodi Town Hall W10919 CTH V and via Zoom. Click the link below or call via the telephone numbers listed below and follow instructions on phone.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE, the Town of Lodi Parks Commission will hold its monthly meeting at the date, time and meeting location stated above. No action will be taken on anything other than items specifically referred to in this notice.

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER by Chad Wolter, chairperson, at 5:02 pm

2. ROLL CALL present: Chad Wolter, Nancy Mitchell, Mike Linak, Terri Jozwiak Peg Ford, Brian Ecklor (public works director)

Citizens: Allison Seaton, Aly Padley, Pamela Ryan, Angie Olson, Chris Goodwin, Laura Kruck

3. CITIZEN INPUT *

Seaton – Talked about the geological history of the area, that Pine Bluff, Cave Bluff & Gibraltar were islands on the equator and this was an ocean. This is a geological rich area and Parfrey Glen is one of the 10 best geological areas which is right across the river from Bay Drive Park. She invited the Park Commission (PC) to get a geologist speaker to a meeting.

Seaton also said that the area is labeled “an Oak Opening” and maybe we should use that as a new direction in the parks.

Olson – Spoke about putting a basketball court on Arbor Valley Park. The kids are getting older and need an outlet that does not involve a playset. Optimist would help fund it. This was not on the agenda.

Olson also wanted to know why there were no Harmony Grove baseball teams this year.

Wolter said the basketball court was not on the agenda because at the last meeting Brooks said there was no money for one.

Jozwiak said Olson needed to contact the Optimist to ask about the baseball.

4. SECRETARY A. MEETING MINUTES: 1. Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 5:00 PM

Minutes approved: Mitchell moved, & Wolter second, all in favor: ayes, no nays
(Zoom people said it was hard to hear)

5. FINANCIAL REPORT:

A. Budget Status, B. Review Park Account Balances, C. Review Payment(s) of Bills

Current bills were reviewed with no outstanding problems.

6. BAY DRIVE PARK A. Landscaping

Ecklor said that there have been many ideas for the Bay Drive Park. The parking pad in place will stay. The gravel stays. The dirt needs to be smoothed, tapered down so moved down to the level of the trees. He intends to bring dirt out and level it to the picnic table. He will leave the left side of the park and then grass seed all. He could see the left side planted with wild plants and bring the trail to the water. He has rented equipment for tomorrow (Thurs. May 13) to work on this and bring in one load of dirt and blend it into the park. Then plant grass seed. After that the PC would need more money before proceeding further.

Goodwin: What is the timeline to plant the new trees? She doesn't want the town to get into trouble for exceeding the limit to plant them.

Ecklor: We still have to figure out the trees or other vegetation to plant.

Wolter: There shouldn't be any fine for putting the trees later from the county, if anything they might send a nasty letter.

Padley: What about the dead trees in the park? Shouldn't they be taken out first?

Ecklor & Wolter: They will have to have a conversation with James Brooks about the trees.

Jozwiak: There are 7 poplars that need to be removed, 2-3 are dead and the rest don't have much life left.

Wolter: The grass comes first and we can wait till winter about the trees.

Mitchell: Wait till winter

Ryan: We consistently trying to put a band aid on a problem. The PC seems to proceed without a plan and without a budget on this park.

Jozwiak: She has submitted 3 different plans to the PC and complimented for her work but no plan for this park has been agreed upon at the PC meetings.

Wolter: There is a plan. It is what Ecklor has discussed. Wolter has met with Ecklor at the park and this is what was discussed.

Jozwiak: There has been no plan discussed and agreed upon at a PC meeting. This plan that Ecklor will start tomorrow was discussed between only Ecklor and Wolter, not agreed upon as a board.

Wolter: The parking pad was voted on at the Town Board meeting and it will stay.

Seaton: The Capstone plan for Bay Drive was made in 2016. It called for natural borders on both sides of the park, need to address the shoreline erosion, maintenance free plants, woodland wildflowers (to be aware that deer use this area), some bushes, area for picnic table, maintain the natural beauty & accessibility for wildlife, path defined in a way where people know where they should/should not be, kept secluded and peaceful, private shoreline. What is NOT wanted included in the design: parking, grill, shelter, bathrooms, pier, playground. Plantings should be native. What has been done so far was not with a plan. Address the plan first.

Mitchell: The Capstone project was done by a University student. She did Bay & Wildenburg parks at only the cost of her own transportation. It was not done because of expense. We need to do the dirt & seed. Get the part done that was agreed upon, seed and dirt.

Ryan: Plan? Your plan was never shared with us. Now we need to backtrack and tear it up and waste money.

Ford: That was our plan. We should do it.

Ryan: There was no plan.

Seaton: (Chad) Wolter & (Brian) Ecklor had nothing to do with the plan.

Padley: Is there a plan in writing?

Wolter: Seed & dirt

Linak: The plan & budget hasn't allowed us to get things done, just do, when the budget allows for more we can do more.

Seaton: Every city has to have a plan & a budget

Kruck: Has attended almost every meeting for the past 6 years and there has never been a plan. The shoreline was done even though it was never discussed as a plan. Roger Henn & Brooks met with the County in the winter (when there were no PC meetings) and proceeded without discussion or vote by the PC with removing vegetation from the shoreline. They came back 3 months later and put in the rock wall again without input by the PC. She knows this because she attended all the PC meetings and took her own notes.

Wolter: Grass and dirt is our plan.

Ecklor: Bobcat & 1 truck of black dirt. He will spread the dirt but not take out the rocks. We can do this then get a budget and make a plan.

Ford: This has gotten out of control. There should be no more citizen input.

7. LEWIS BYRNS PARK

A. Ball Diamond Repairs

Ecklor:

Option 1 Joe Daniels Construction

Total cost \$16,240 fencing and soil work

- a) Add more fence posts between existing posts and reattach fence on the first base/right field side. Also add more fill to the field side for level surface and fill as needed to the exterior. Seed and mulch filled areas \$7,862
- b) Add more support posts to the fence/netting area of the right/center outfield fence and straighten existing post. Also add fill for better mowing condition. Seed and mulch outside the fence. \$8,344.
- c) Add new 2-0' wide compact gravel base to road shoulder on park side of road \$892.
- d) This is a total of \$17,098. If Daniels Construction does the above project the total will be \$16,240.

Option 2 Dane Fencing/Madison Fencing (one paperwork said Dane & the other said Madison)

Total cost: \$24,600-37,290 fence work only

- a) Replace 12' back stop fabric with 6 gauge elephant wire \$1,990
- b) Remove and replace outfield fence 430' with all 12' fence \$24,600 {8' high fence \$18,500} {half & half \$21,760}
- c) Side line fencing: Replace in complete 227' with new 8' fencing \$10,700 {Replace fabric only on 189' \$4,110}

Option 3 Bob's Digging & Landscaping

Total Cost: \$6,450.27 soil work only

- a) Put down topsoil inside fence to level off and fill holes. Put topsoil down outside fence to get a level area about 4' wide and slope off so easy to mow. Seed & straw matting everything we tear up.

Option 4 Qual Line Fence

Total Cost: \$17,630 fence work only

- a) Right sideling remove 86' of 8' high fence and replace it with new after grading work is done.
- b) Outfield 16' high fence – add a 3" post with a 6' deep footing between each of the existing tall posts, add a cable to the bottom, straighten or replace chain link wire. A + B = \$15,640
- c) At the same time to replace 110' of 8' high chain link with heavy industrial wire on the north side - \$1,990
- d) Straighten the north side gate post & replace the pipe fitting & straighten flag pole and add new rope, no charge.

Ecklor: For the Joe Daniels bid, they would take off the 1st base side probably work Mon-Fri.

Mitchell: Joe Daniels would only add 6 new posts, they would pull all fence, & repost everything, string fence, outfield, all labor. Do we have the money for this?

Wolter: Brooks said we have \$50,000 to spend toward parks this year, maybe \$47,600. Parks budget says over \$7,000 is left in budget. Should we table this?

Ecklor: Look at the whole field for now, clip fences, throw a bit of dirt

Goodwin: What about the issue of safety, the ball fields are used NOW.

Ecklor: There may be safety issue if kids slide to get a ball and run into fences

Mitchell: We need time to get a funds notice from April.

Wolter: What about having a special meeting on Thursday, May 20th at Lewis Byrnes Park. We could have a better picture of finances and see the job first hand.

Ryan: Consider safety first, do it right the first time.

Wolter: We will meet at 5 pm at the ball diamond on 20th.

Mitchell motioned, Ford second to have a special meeting May 20th at Lewis Byrnes Park 5 pm. Ayes all, nays none

B. Banner Rental On Ball Diamond Fence

Ecklor: We could put up banners on the fences in the ball park (Lewis Byrnes) to earn money. Companies would provide the banners, they get the advertising. They fill out a form with size requirements. For a price, for instance \$400, they would get their banner up for 1 year.

Mitchell: City of Lodi does it. She has the forms.

Wolter: A concern, does the money go to Lewis Byrnes Park?

Mitchell: It goes into the parks regular budget with highlight Byrnes park

Wolter: It should go to all parks.

Ford: We should be specific to where the money goes.

Kruck: Will it effect what we get from the Town of Lodi?

Wolter: "It wouldn't effect my vote."

Wolter: Motion to put this on the meeting on May 20. Ford second, ayes all, nays none

Jozwiak: Would like to be sure the paperwork was right before presenting it to public

C. Park Shelter Repair

Ecklor: The Park shelter ceiling needs repair, the damage to the ceiling has not been fixed, tiles peeling, camera stolen, tiles sagging. The floor needs work but that is for aesthetics.

Ford: We should look at it on May 20.

Ford: Maybe contact Lions Club for labor?

Wolter: Will check with Brooks

D. Surveillance System

Ecklor: no money has been collected, it has been sent to court for restitution. The equipment we currently use for surveillance is old and in order to replace one camera we would have to replace the whole system. A quote has been received from Fearing's Audio, Video, Security. \$5,580.93 to replace entire system with Watchdog IP surveillance system. Including 6 cameras, recorder, cables, battery backup, installation of 5 cameras (the 6th is backup), quotes over 30 days old subject to price increases.

Ecklor: Cameras are still working, just 1 is missing. Ecklor can get more quotes if desired.

Wolter: Table this till next month

Linak Motion to table surveillance system discussion till next month. Mitchell second, ayes all, nays none

ESCHER PARK A. Update

Wolter: Mistake on the agenda. There is no Escher Park. The agenda should have said Escher bench and tree.

Mitchell: Tim Escher would like to donate a bench for his dad. Brooks approved the spot. There was talk about 2-3 tables. No action was taken.

9. MADELINE SUMMERS PARK A. Overlook Deck and Benches

Jozwiak: Attention need to be made at Madeline Summers wooden overlook. The wooden structure is covered with lichen and stuff, need to be power washed. Also there is a repair that needs to be made in the structure. It is not wheelchair accessible anymore because of a gap from the ramp to the deck. It also needs a sign to invite visitors to the lookout.

Ecklor: It is on the list. Maybe do a community outreach for that park? Pressure wash the wood overlook & benches, check the safety of the benches re-stain the overlook, look at woods between the park and water and pull out stuff that shouldn't be there.

Goodwin: Maybe talk to the Boy Scouts to do some work. She will get the contact information for the Boy Scouts to Ecklor.

Seaton: Where is the Little Library that was at this park?

Ecklor: "I have it," it is ready to go back in. When we rent the hole digger we could do this also.

10. WILDENBERG PARK A. Tree Removal

Ecklor: 1 tree fell and the neighbors cut it off. Another tree fell on a neighbors fence, I looked at it and it doesn't need our attention. When it is January, we could get a cost to get it out.

B. Information Signs

Jozwiak: The informational signs that have words & pictures about the birds or cactus or poison ivy should be replaced. They look like they have been there for 10 years. And one plexiglass needs to be replaced.

Mitchell: they might be about 10 years old

Ecklor: Would like to get updated signs and labels for some of the plants so it is more of an educational walk through there. Maybe the boy scouts would help?

11. GENERAL PARK UPDATES A. Sign Installation

Ecklor: The park signs need to be installed, want some guidance to what size poles to use. Hopefully in the next month depending on my schedule.

Mitchell: We had talked about double posts DNR brown. Rent equipment to dig holes.

Ecklor: Do you want to use the same size post as street sign thickness?

Mitchell: We want to use 4x4s

Ecklor: will evaluate if they current location for signs needs updating. Will let PC know. He will take care of getting ground marked and renting equipment.

12. CHAIRMAN REPORT

Linak: It is confirmed that the 2 trees in the conservancy are dead. They will have to be removed.

Wolter: He is looking into grants.

13. OTHER QUESTIONS FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS **

Jozwiak: Questions the safety of the cement slab in the corner of Lewis Byrnes Park

Ecklor: He tried to get this out and is working on this.

Jozwiak: Who puts up the soccer net and tennis net at Michael's Park?

Ecklor: The soccer net is shredded, no plans to replace. The tennis net is on the list.

Jozwiak: where is the official parking for Michael's Park

Mitchell: describe the area for parking

Jozwiak: suggested a parking sign

Jozwiak: Is there a cost to rent Lewis Byrns Shelter, baseball field, Okee Schoolhouse?

Goodwin: Yes shelter, Yes to schoolhouse. Only the optimists and Royals

Ecklor: Only the Royals and Optimist use the baseball fields. The have suggested projects to do to pay in labor.

Jozwiak: Put on the website that all the parks have picnic tables

Wolter: wrote this down.

Jozwiak: Kalscheur Park something needs to be done with the entrance to announce there is a park down the sidewalk.

Ecklor: Agree, it is on the list.

Jozwiak: Is the path at Webster Bluff Park, up the hill part of the park?

Ecklor: Yes

Jozwiak: Needs a sign "Scenic overlook" or such

Jozwiak: Linda Circle is not mention on the website, error? It has a shuffleboard?

Mitchell: There is no shuffleboard.

Ecklor: There is a shuffleboard but it needs to be painted. There is no equipment to use. Maybe ask the Lions Club to paint?

Jozwiak: Can the swings be lowered at Madeline Summers?

Ecklor: Lower the swings or redo or add more under the swings? It is on the list.

Jozwiak: Do you want the parks on Google Maps? It will invite others to area.

Mitchell: Is there a cost?

Jozwiak: Will look into it.

14. NEXT MEETING DATE Next meeting date Wednesday, June 9. 5 pm at Town Hall

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Ecklor: There are some updates to suggest

We need a larger Dog Waste container at Conservancy Park

At Lake Park we could use a side-by-side garbage cans to make more space for garbage

Seaton: We should test the well at Lake Park or put up signs about the water

Seaton: Are there Mission Statements for the Parks?

Mitchell: Yes

Ford: Will look for them.

16. ADJOURN

Jozwiak motioned to adjourn, Mitchell 2nd ayes yes, nays none

Submitted by Terri Jozwiak