

**MINUTES**  
**NORTH LEBANON TOWNSHIP**  
**PARKS & RECREATION BOARD**  
**April 6, 2021**

The meeting of the North Lebanon Township Parks & Recreation Board was called to order at 7:00 PM at the North Lebanon Township Municipal Building located at 725 Kimmerlings Road, North Lebanon Township. The pledge to the flag was recited.

The following members were present:

Dwayne Elder	Chair
Corey Hetrick	Vice-Chair
Kathy Sattazahn	Member
Ryan Schmidt	Member
Mark Grumbine	Member
Lori Books	Assistant Township Manager

Dave Strohm, Park and Rec Foreman, Tom Mulhern, and Virginia Witmer were also in attendance.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Matthew Kantner/basketball court request – Mr. Kantner has been in communication with Lori regarding the possibility of updating/renovating the basketball courts along Long Lane. Since Mr. Kantner has not shown up this evening, Lori will review what she knows. Matthew works with the AAU Basketball program. This organization spans between 4-5 different counties and has about 150 kids on 13 different teams. They have an agreement with NCCS to use their gymnasium. With nicer weather approaching, Matthew reached out to Lori indicating they would be interested in helping to restore the basketball court along Long Lane so they would be playable. Lori provided the board members with the chain of emails which gave additional information.

Ryan voiced that our local baseball, football, and soccer associations all pay a fee to use the facilities. This new group should be required to do so as well. Dwayne agreed and stated they should have to sign an agreement like the other sports associations do. The tournaments and summer camp/leagues should be treated like the Future Stars Baseball league.

This project would be a large undertaking. Approval would be needed from the Board of Supervisors before any such work would be permitted. This is something that may need to be budgeted for next year. A lot depends on how much work needs to be done, what it will cost, and who is going to pay for these improvements. Lori asked Dave what he thinks would all need repaired. Dave stated they would need all new fence posts and

fencing, new nets, and would need to paint new lines. He feels the pavement is fine and does not need resurfaced. Lori will forward these comments to Cheri and the Board of Supervisors.

Mr. Henning/night fishing – Mr. Henning submitted a request to the Township asking for an exception from the night fishing closure. He would like the Board to consider allowing night fishing at Lions Lake. Our parks have always been closed from dusk to dawn. Mr. Henning would like to go night fishing at the lake and indicated that the Fish and Boat Commission permits night fishing. After some research, it was learned that some Pennsylvania State Parks permit such activity. Any person who plans on fishing at night (only from the shoreline) must first contact the park office to determine which parks are open for this activity.

Dwayne questioned what kind of liability this would create for the Township? What if someone falls and hits their head on a rock? What if they drown? Kathy added that it may be confusing for neighbors who are told to call the police if vehicles/people are at the park after dark. The park already has issues with vandalism that occurs overnight while the park is closed.

The consensus of the board members was not to change our rules and not to allow night fishing. Allowing such activity would increase the possible dangers and liabilities as well as encourage more activity to occur in the parks in the evening, good or bad.

Chair Elder asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes or for a motion to approve the minutes from the March meeting.

**MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to approve the March minutes. Motion carried.**

## **ASSISTANT TOWNSHIP MANAGER REPORT – Lori Books**

### **Old Business – Updates**

At our last meeting, the Park & Rec Board made several recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. Lori provided the members with an update on those recommendations.

Community Park playground equipment – The BOS approved the purchase of 3 new pieces of equipment for the Community Park playground. This included a Double Rumble Seat Slide, a Revo Spinner, and a Spin Cup. The funds will come from FILO.

Wedding Ceremony – The BOS approved the wedding ceremony request for next summer provided they sign a liability agreement.

Opening the Park Restrooms – The BOS decided to open the park restrooms this year with the recommended signage due to COVID still being an issue.

Baseball Concession Stand – The BOS agreed to allow the baseball association to operate the concession stand for the season provided they follow all current CDC guidelines.

Keystone Novelties – The BOS approved the request from Keystone Novelties to place their firework tent at the Lions Lake dam breast.

Tom Mulhern stated he would like to discuss Lions Lake. Last year he had brought up the idea of a donation box before the Park & Rec Board as well as the Board of Supervisors. He was under the impression that the box had been purchased but has not been installed yet. He asked on the status of that installation. Lori explained that she was informed that the Board of Supervisors decided not to move forward with the donation box as they felt it would not be secure and may only encourage more vandalism. Lori also told Mr. Mulhern that she recalls Cheri Grumbine, the Township Manager, had spoken with him and explained to him the final decision and reasons why they were not moving forward with his request. Mr. Mulhern said he understood.

Virginia Witmer explained she attended the meeting to get an update on the pickleball court progress. Dave stated that they hope to start working on it by the end of this month. This will include recoating and sealing the court and painting new lines for both the tennis court and the two pickleball courts. The tennis lines will most likely be white, and the pickleball lines will be a different color. Virginia requested that the pickleball lines be made thicker.

### **New Business**

Event Application/Approval Forms – Due to various requests to hold special events at our parks, Lori created an Event Application and Approval Form. This would allow for each special event to be reviewed by the Park & Rec Board. The P&R Board would then make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors as well as recommend the fee for use of the facility. The BOS would have final approval on all special events and determine the necessary fee. The necessary paperwork and agreements would then need to be executed between the party wishing to hold a special event and the Township.

Disc Golf Tournament – In further discussion, it was discovered that the group requesting to hold a disc golf tournament was the same group that helped create the disc golf course at Lenni Lenape. In the past, the Township has allowed them to hold their annual tournament and only charged the pavilion rental fee. They will be renting the pavilion again for this event, so Lori is treating this as a pavilion rental instead of a special event as this is our local disc golf organization.

## PARK & REC ACTIVITIES

All restrooms are ready for the upcoming season. Signs have been posted informing residents they are cleaned once a day, Monday - Friday.

Pre-emergent has been spread on all trees.

Lion's Lake – The Quarterly Dam Inspection has been completed. New “park closed” signs have been installed informing residents that the park is closed from dusk to dawn. The rental pavilions are ready for the season. Border Patrol (goose regulation) has begun and will go through the end of October. The restroom floor was repaired as there were cracks. Two stumps were dug out.

Long Lane – Signs for the concession stand were posted relating to following CDC guidelines due to COVID. The football equipment is still in the storage building. Football was given plenty of time to remove the remaining items. This will be boxed up and the locks will be rekeyed in preparation for baseball. The Baseball Association will be paying to have the storage building rekeyed. The Lebanon Area Evangelical Free Church youth group cleaned up the area and edged one of the ballfields.

Community Park – A dying/dead cherry tree was removed. The tennis net has been put back up. The sun/wind screen for the tennis/pickleball court has been received. Dave hopes to have it installed next week.

Lenni Lenape – The restrooms had some leaks that were repaired. The new pavilion construction has begun.

Tom Mulhern stated that he attended the “First Day of Trout” opening day for fishing. He said it was great! There were many pleased families with their catches of the day. He did want to report a few complaints regarding the boat dock and the poor condition that it is in. Many struggled to gain access with their boats to the lake. Lori explained that they are aware, and a new boat dock is ready to be installed. The Township is required to get a permit from the state before they can perform any work to remove the old dock and install the new one. After a long, two-year process, the permit was recently received but only allows the project to commence in the fall.

Tom then asked if the leaves and debris could possibly be moved out of the way for a clearer path. Lori and Dave both explained that they cannot do any type of work until the fall. They must wait and follow the instructions given by the state permit.

Tom brought along three (3) signs from the park that were torn down to return to Dave.

**MOTION: Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion carried.**

With there being no more business brought before the Parks and Recreation Board the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Molly Lum  
Recording Secretary