

**MINUTES  
CITY OF LONSDALE  
PARK AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMISSION  
MAY 15, 2023**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Jeanette Utecht, Kevin Kodada, Maria Kowalski, Micki Ziskovsky and Laura Carpentier

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Community Development Planner Jamie Scheffer and Public Works Director Joe Dornfeld

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Kodada called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

**2. AGENDA**

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the agenda.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Utecht to approve the agenda as presented. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, Carpentier, Ziskovsky and Kowalski. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**3. MINUTES**

Kodada asked if there were any additions, deletions, or corrections to the Minutes.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Kowalski to approve the Minutes from the March 20, 2023 Regular Meeting. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, Carpentier, Ziskovsky and Kowalski. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**5. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

- a. Authorize Commissioner Laura Carpentier to Purchase and Plant the Downtown Hanging Flower Baskets and Welcome Sign Planting Areas with Flowers  
Scheffer explained that this is a yearly agenda item approving Commissioner Carpentier to select and plant hanging flower baskets and welcome sign planting areas. Carpentier said the baskets will be red and white this year and the sign areas will be multiple colors. Kodada asked if there were still plants that needed

removal around the sign areas and Dornfeld responded that the tree came down last fall. Dornfeld said new dirt and sifted compost would be brought to the sign area tomorrow. Carpentier and Dornfeld agreed to hold off on the planting for another week due to low overnight temperatures. The board discussed whether to replace trees at the sign area and Carpentier suggested commissioners should look at them and report back at the next meeting. Dornfeld mentioned the LED lights were not working well with snow and that he put them up on poles.

b. Consider Approval to Schedule the June Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting for Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm

Scheffer explained that the state is in the process of recognizing Juneteenth as a State Holiday and when this occurs, the City cannot conduct business on that day (June 19<sup>th</sup>). She said due to the regular Parks and Recreation Commission meeting being scheduled for that day the City would like to reschedule in advance in case this is implemented in 2023. She stated that the Planning Commission already rescheduled for June 12<sup>th</sup> but the Parks and Recreation Commission can schedule on a different date if it works better. Ziskovsky mentioned she will be out of town but the board can still meet without her if it works for everyone else.

A motion was made by Carpentier and seconded by Utecht to schedule the June Parks and Recreation Commission meeting for Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm.

Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, Carpentier, Ziskovsky and Kowalski. Against: None.  
Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

c. Trenda Memorial Park Renovations Concept and Concrete Work

Dornfeld provided the commissioners with work that is approved and underway by the City Council at Trenda Memorial Park. He stated that concrete work is scheduled to be completed by June 30<sup>th</sup> and then Public Works and Aces will finish remaining items before Fox 9 is in town on July 19<sup>th</sup> for their Town Ball Tour. Dornfeld said during construction, people will need to enter the park from the North. He also mentioned that the City is getting a \$4,500 deduct for doing the logo themselves. Scheffer updated the commissioners on the plans for the Town Ball Tour on July 19<sup>th</sup> including the inflatables and vendors that have been ordered and that the City is looking for volunteers. She stated the City Council approved up to \$2,000 from the Liquor Store fund for the event which is being used for a bounce house from Generations, two baseball inflatable games, and face painting. Kodada volunteered himself and his wife for the evening.

Carpentier mentioning she is still willing to volunteer as well. Scheffer said Erickson attended the Lions meeting and asked for volunteers. Scheffer mentioned that the Aces will be having live music and Fox 9 has an ice cream food truck. Scheffer said they are working with the Chamber to notify businesses of the event and offered to order signage through the Liquor Store vendor, but the Aces have the same sign vendor. Dornfeld brought up the kiosks throughout the parks and trails system. Carpentier said she has seen people looking at the kiosks. The commissioners agreed to update the maps. Dornfeld said they would be a good place for city event flyers or park amenities. Scheffer brought up the idea of

a QR code directing people to the website and the commissioners agreed it is a good idea. Dornfeld also brought up the Stone Arch Bridge in Minneapolis and how they have “find 5 ladybugs or 5 lizards” and thought that would be neat in Lonsdale. The commissioners agreed. Kodada asked if there were any other items related to Trendera Park. Scheffer said benches will be moved from Lions Park to Trendera Park, but the Lions will replace the benches in Lions Park. Dornfeld confirmed and stated that we can order plaques recognizing the donors- three for the Lions and two for the Cub Scouts.

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Kowalski to order plaques for the donated benches. Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, Carpentier, Ziskovsky and Kowalski. Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried.

d. Pickleball Courts Photos and Marketing/Events

Scheffer stated that the courts are striped, and the equipment is at the Park. Dornfeld proposed the nets would be put up Monday afternoon or Tuesday morning and take them down Friday sometime due to the Trcka Park being used for roller hockey reservations on the weekend. Dornfeld said the equipment includes two baskets of balls and 18 paddles. Dornfeld said there are four courts running north to south and that they wouldn't fit four in a row east and west and there are sun concerns as well. Dornfeld said they can put netting up to split the area in two, to stop balls from rolling so far from courts. He said they could also split the area into four with the netting if needed. Dornfeld also said we can put information about the Pickle Ball courts in the kiosks. The commissioners agreed a social media post would be good and Scheffer agreed to send information to Kowalski. Dornfeld confirmed the nets are moveable if anyone wants to rollerblade during the week. Commissioners asked about cameras and Dornfeld said the quality is very good. They also asked about equipment access and Dornfeld said they are locked in the building and the plan is to only put them out if requested/reserved. The Commissioners agreed not to advertise the equipment for now, but it could be used for events such as schools using it for a summer rec activity.

e. Skate Park Grand Opening & Marketing

Scheffer said the Skate Park project is starting June 5<sup>th</sup> and substantial completion will be around July 15<sup>th</sup>. She inquired if the Commission wants to do a grand opening. The Commissioners agreed it is a good idea and advertise the new amenity on social media and kiosks. Kodada stated he likes the QR code idea a lot and Ziskovsky asked how often it needs to be changed. Scheffer replied that the page on the website needs to remain the same with the same URL and we could do lonsdalemn.com/parks for example and make sure it is the same URL on the new City website coming next year. Ziskovsky asked if we could involve youth somehow with painting and Dornfeld said there aren't any activities like painting to do. The Commissioners directed staff to find a good date in the first or second week of August depending on when National Night Out is and if we want it to be a part of that event.

f. Preparation for the 2024 Budget- Review, Provide Comments, and Prioritize Park Related Items from the Public Works Department

Staff presented ideas for the 2024 budget and received the following direction and priorities from Commissioners.

Sticha Park Phase 2

- Make the demo lane permanent or put in a trail.
- Pave parking lot

Bastyr Park

- Research fence stability/ different options for layout and safety in park

Dog Park

- Sign
- Pole Light
- Pave entrance area and sidewalk to shelter to reduce mud issues.

Disc Golf

- Priority for 2024

Trenda Memorial Park Lighting

- A plan needs to be developed for lighting.

Ice Rink at Jaycee Park

- Keep ice rink but remove rotting wood and investigate other barriers.

**7. MISCELLANEOUS**

**8. ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Utecht and seconded by Ziskovsky to adjourn the meeting.

Vote for: Utecht, Kodada, Carpentier, Ziskovsky and Kowalski; Against: None. Vote 5-0. Motion carried. The meeting ended at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

*Jamie Scheffer*

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Jamie Scheffer, Secretary