

Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2025

**Attendance:** Annetta Macedonia (Chair), Sue Smith, Mary Schumacher, Mitzie Chrisman, Samantha Torres, Parks Aide

**Absent:** Jeff Hamilton

**Call to Order:** 6:35pm by Chair Annetta Macedonia

**Meeting Minutes:** Approval of meeting minutes will be held off until March.

**Correspondence:** Annetta contacted the Eagles to ask for an additional donation. She also talked to Toby about mulch and border for the playset.

**Call to Public:** None.

**Unfinished Business –**

**Mulch and Border for New Playset:** Annetta asked PlaySet Direct to resubmit an estimate for mulch and border for new playset at around \$11,000. Rubbery mulch material. Ten-year life span on that material. We can explore other material. The liner is down at the moment to control weeds. Regular mulch needs replaced every few years. \$16,500 is set aside for repairs and maintenance in the budget. Annetta asked the Eagles for a donation. She did not ask a dollar amount but suggested a donation of \$5,000 which would help out a lot and would leave \$11,000 for other things this year.

**Total donation funds:** \$13,000 raised last year and right now, the Licking County Foundation has collected \$22,995.53 for a total of \$35,995.53 for pickleball courts. More discussion about who to reach out to for more donations – corporations and groups. Sue suggested getting a mockup made of the plaque that would feature the recognition levels so other donors can see an example of what would be put up at the courts. Mitzie suggested holding another fundraiser in the Spring. Weather could be a major factor in the slow donation time during the winter right now. \$140,000 is the low-end donation goal. Also, would like more support from the village and council in getting some excitement stirring about it.

**Ball Field Usage:** The team that was here using and maintaining the ball field has moved on and/or dismantled. There was another man interested in using it who Annetta has tried to call back but he has not returned her call so she will try to contact him again. If no word is received, could try to reach out to some travel teams or advertise to get some seasonal users of the ball field.

**Library Programming:** Annetta and Pam Reed (Friends of the BL Library) are speaking about having some programs at the Recreation Center in the Summer. Annetta will continue to reach out to Pam.

**Parks Position:** Annetta has not heard from the village yet about a Program Coordinator / Part-time Parks Position for Parks. Final budget is to be prepared by March. Annetta will follow up to see if that position has been created or not. \$5,000 was in anticipation for that position to use for programming but if it is not created, Annetta would like to leave some in the supplies line and move the rest to repairs and maintenance.

Motion by Mitzie, seconded by Mary to move forward with getting the mulch and border for the new playset.

All in favor, motion passed. Annetta will contact the PlaySet Direct company to get that going.

**New Business** –

**Kids to Parks Day:** Will have a grand opening of the new playset on Sunday May 18<sup>th</sup> from 1pm-3pm with hot dogs, drinks, pickleball, skate ramp, ball field, and more. Annetta will work to get the mulch and border put in before then.

**I Walked the Damn Dam:** Dave Fields from Ohio Party Bus emailed asking if there would be another walk this year. Need to see if we can streamline payments. Mitzie says the first year was the hardest setting everything up and should try our best to have it each year to raise money to upkeep the pickleball courts. Also need to try to have it earlier in the year like beginning of June. Or set it for last Saturday in June each year. Bandana for dogs that walk to go along with shirts? Try to contact Licking County Foundation about them being able to take the payments via credit card this year. Possibly contact Lakewood graphics students for a new design for the shirt this year.

**Comments** – None.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mitzie Chrisman, seconded by Mary Schumacher, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 4, 2025 at 6:30pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Samantha Torres", written over a horizontal line.

Samantha Torres, Parks Aide

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Annetta Macedonia", written over a horizontal line.

Annetta Macedonia, Commission Chair