

Town of Lunenburg Park Commission

Anita Scheipers, Chair
Colleen Shapiro, Vice Chair
Karin Menard, Clerk
Chris Sullivan, Member
Tim Lawless, Member



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Lunenburg, MA 01462

approved 3/26/2025

February 19, 2025

MINUTES

Members present: Anita Scheipers, Tim Lawless, Christopher Sullivan and, Colleen Shapiro

Absent: Karin Menard

Additional Attendees: Chris Ruth

Meeting to order at 7:00 PM and A. Scheipers read “This meeting is being broadcast live and digitally recorded.”

First item on the agenda, Facilities Director Updates

C. Ruth stated he received an abutters list from the Conservation Commission for a project to put in a parking lot at Table Rock on Northfield Road. It project is not a concern to the commission.

C. Ruth received a call from the school’s athletic director asking if LYSA could use the outfield of the 90 foot diamond to set up a field there. The Schools are trying to restore their field and use them less. C. Ruth noted LYSA would have to paint the lines and move the nets Parks would able to do that. C. Sullivan had concerns there would not be enough field space for 2 games simultaneously. C. Sullivan also questioned if the field is big enough for an 11 vs 11 team.

C. Ruth stated it was only for a season so the turf had a chance to come back on LYSA’s field.

C. Sullivan made a motion conditionally to approve LYSA to use the outfield of the 90 foot diamond or any other field that is suitable. C. Shapiro seconded. The chair called for a vote. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

A. Scheipers asked if C. Ruth received the value of the revolving fund. C. Ruth indicated the value of the revolving fund is forty thousand dollars and the finance director is looking for the commission to take a vote on

the amount. A. Scheipers asked if the amount could be amended by a vote of the commission. C. Ruth stated yes.

C. Sullivan made a motion to approve the \$40,000 budget for the revolving fund. C. Shapiro seconded. The chair called for a vote. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Next item on the agenda, Recreation Director Updates

A. Scheipers read the updates that were sent along from A. Clement.

- Vendor Fair is set for May 10, 2025.
- Vendor registration is closed. Roughly 70 vendors. Food trucks are all Nashoba Board of Health approved.
- She is still in need of volunteers for the petting zoo, parking, etc.
- She is looking for a place to print T-shirts.
- The bounce house may not be allowed because of insurance.
- New sessions of Wednesday and Thursday pickleball and Thursday volleyball starting this week.
- Three applications have been received for the Beach Positions. Two decided they are not interested. One is being interviewed next Monday.
- Very low interest by previous lifeguards in returning. Only 2 are definite.
- No interest in the Beach Director position

C. Sullivan stated he knows a place to get the T-shirts done.

C. Ruth indicated he had reached out to the Superintendent to see if any teachers had any interest. C. Ruth also spoke to the teen center.

Next item on the agenda, Marshall Park: Park 60% design discussion and review of cost estimates/Vote phases and cost to insert in town meeting warrant article.

A. Scheipers stated the commission needs to decide tonight on the 60% design and what phase or phases does the commission want to move forward with.

R. Dunetz from RDLA explained the two cost estimators were 30% different. The cost estimators discussed with each other how they got their numbers and they got down to a 7% difference in their numbers.

R. Dunetz indicated phase 1 had added parking on Mass. Ave. Phase 2 is broken into A and B. Phase 2A encompasses the fields and parking on Chestnut Ave and phase 2B is the buildings.

R. Dunetz indicated possibly eliminating a restroom for cost savings. They have a 10% contingency.

R. Dunetz stated that phase 1 and 2 would be around 13 million dollars.

A. Scheipers clarified the numbers being discussed were the construction related numbers. The design is 60%.

A. Scheipers asked that moving forward with phase 1 there is still design work needed to be done, permits etc..

R. Dunetz stated he does not have that number as the commission needs to decide which direction they are going.

C. Sullivan is not in favor of eliminating a bathroom. C. Ruth noted there is Board of Health money available to repair the septic or to connect to town sewer. R. Dunnis stated the cost for the bathroom is approximately \$250,000.

C. Sullivan read a letter submitted by K. Menard. K. Menard would like to continue the path of bringing phases 1, 2 and 2A to Town Meeting and letting the residents decide. If the Commission does not support that she hopes phase 1 at a minimum is brought forward, proper parking is needed at Marshall Park, a proper playground is well overdue. Also, the sports courts will bring much needed space.

T. Lawless expressed concern with paying for all the design up front if the town doesn't move forward with implementing some of those phases.

C. Sullivan echoed K. Menard's opinion. C. Shapiro also agrees that the resident should have the opportunity to decide. T. Lawless is of the same opinion to let the town decide. A. Scheipers also feels the whole project should be put forward.

C. Shapiro made a motion to vote to approve the design and do the construction oversight of the construction for phases 1, 2A and 2B for the Marshall Park improvements with the understanding that the construction cost and general conditions cost would be \$13,080,797 plus the additional Skanska expenses that may need to be added. T. Lawless seconded. Vote taken. All in favor (4-0).

Next item on the agenda, Invoices to be approved

A. Scheipers presented an invoice for approval from RDLA for the period from 1/1-1/31/2025 in the amount of \$29,737 invoice # 24555-05. OPM (Scanska) is recommending approval.

C. Sullivan made a motion to approve. C. Shapiro seconded. The Chair called for a vote. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Next item on the agenda, Chair Updates

A. Scheipers indicated there was a mistake in the election cycle. A. Scheipers should have been re-elected for 1 year term not a 3 year term. A. Scheipers' position now also needs to go on the ballot.

Next item on the agenda, Approval of Minutes

T. Lawless made a motion to approve the minutes for November 6, 2024. C. Sullivan seconded. The Chair called for a vote. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

C. Shapiro made a motion to approve the minutes for December 18, 2024. C. Sullivan seconded. The Chair called for a vote. All in favor, motion carried (4-0).

Next item on the agenda, Commission Updates

T. Lawless stated the Open Space Committee had discussed a property at 100 Townsend Harbor Rd and the Right of First Refusal. The Open Space Committee would like the Select Board to exercise their right and acquire the property.

T. Lawless asked the Commission if they had any potential use for the property. The Commission does not have an interest at this time.

Adjourned: 8:15 pm

Andrea Mastrototoro, Board Clerk, Secretary