

Town of Lincoln | Weekly News

TO: Lincoln Town Council
FROM: Lisa J. Goodwin, Town Manager
DATE: January 27, 2012

The Chuck Foster Teen Dance scheduled for tonight, January 27th, has been cancelled due to the storm. The next dance is scheduled for February 10th!

ITEM 1. Volunteers are an integral part of our municipal government. Without them, many programs and projects would not be possible. Town Clerk, Shelly Crosby, reports that there are still openings on many of our committees. The following table outlines vacancies on these committees.

Board/Committee	# of Vacancies/Terms
Airport Advisory	One (1) three-year term
Appeals Board	One (3) three-year term
Ballard Hill Ad Hoc Committee	Open Enrollment-No Residency Requirement
Cemetery Committee	One vacancy
2012 Homecoming Committee	Open Enrollment-No Residency Requirement
Library Advisory Committee	Two (2) three-year terms
Planning Board	Two (2) Alternate Members – three-year terms
REC Center Fundraising Committee	Open Enrollment
Recreation Committee	Three (3) Alternate non-voting members

If you are interested in one or more of these committees and would like to get involved, please contact Mrs. Crosby at 794-3372 or email townclerk@lincolnmaine.org.

ITEM 2. Recreation Director, Ronald Weatherbee, has been busy planning some winter bus trips for all ages. The first trip will be to Hermon Mountain for snow tubing on February 11th. The bus will leave Ballard Hill Community Center at 10:00 am and will return around 5:00 PM. The bus trip cost \$10 per person and admission is \$10.00.

The second trip will be to the Sports Arena in Bangor on March 3rd. Again the bus fee is \$10.00 and the cost for two hours of bowling and billiards is \$10.00. The bus for this trip will depart BHCC at 11:00 am and arrive back at approximately 3:00 pm.

The third trip planned is to Spotlight Cinema on March 17th. More information will be provided at a later date. The final trip is to the Bangor Garden Show on April 7th.

A minimum of 10 participants are needed for each trip. Participants must pay and pre-register at the Recreation Department at least a week before the trip. The cost of each trip is \$10.00 per person with any other costs such as food and admission paid by the individual at the event. Call Mr. Weatherbee at 794-6548 for more information on these of the trips.

ITEM 3. Town Clerk, Shelly Crosby, received notice on Tuesday that the area Republican Caucus is scheduled for tomorrow, January 28, 2012, at the VFW hall in Lincoln at 10:00 am. As required by law, each municipality must provide voter registration for one hour prior to the opening of the caucus. Deputy Clerk, Diana Hill, will attend tomorrow's caucus to register and enroll voters. The Democratic caucus is scheduled for February 26, 2012; however the Town Clerk has not yet received information on this event.

ITEM 4. Lincoln's Fire Engineers are available around the clock each day and man the phones as well as aid residents who stop by for assistance. Fire Chief, Phillip Dawson, reports that they are experiencing an increase in the number of calls to the Public Safety building which are complaint related that should be handled through 911. Chief Dawson reminds residents that all complaint related calls or requests for assistance must be directed to the Penobscot County Communications Center (PRCC) for prompt response by law enforcement. When residents call the Public Safety Building directly, the Engineers must transfer the calls to the PRCC for proper handling and assignment. Having the call transferred is often confusing to the caller and takes longer but that is the protocol for all emergency and/or complaint related calls received at the Public Safety Building.

Residents, who have non-emergency and/or non-complaint related calls, should call 794-8455 for assistance. For all emergency and complaint related calls, residents should dial 911.

ITEM 5. It doesn't seem possible that the Assessing Department has been processing passports for nearly a year now! In order to maintain this service, the Assessor and the Events Coordinator must be recertified on an annual basis. Ruth Birtz and Amanda Woodard completed their recertification this week. Recertification involves an online course followed by a test to ensure that all agents are aware of changes and know the proper procedure for accepting an application. If you need to obtain a passport, call 794-3372 to schedule an appointment.

ITEM 6. Have you licensed your dog yet? If not, you have until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, January 31st, to license your dog and avoid a late fee. In accordance with state law, dogs licensed after January 31st will be assessed a \$25.00 late fee. State law requires that all dogs be licensed by December 31st of each year but also provides a grace period during January for those owners who have forgotten.

The Town Clerk's office has worked diligently to remind owners to license their dogs utilizing the newspaper, Weekly News, the Town's sign board and also held two rabies clinics. For more dog licensing information, contact Town Clerk, Shelly Crosby, at 794-3372.

ITEM 7. Police Detective, David Cram, has completed his investigation of the school bus accident that occurred at Clark and Ariel Street. Police Chief, William Lawrence, reports that the six year old victim has been stabilized, is doing well and is anticipating a return home in the near future.

Chief Lawrence will reach out to RSU No. 67 in the near future to discuss bus safety and to develop a plan that could help to prevent this type of accident from occurring again in the

future. Chief Lawrence said, *“This must be every bus driver and parent’s worst nightmare. We must learn from tragic events and come up with solutions to prevent these events from occurring again. I hope to collaborate soon to come up with solutions.”*

ITEM 8. In order to manage the growing teen collection and usage in that area, Library Director, Linda Morrill, closed the room for a day. During that time, books were weeded from the shelves, computers were re-arranged and a study table was added. Mrs. Morrill said there is a new location for new teen books, teen graphic novels and teen non-fiction. In addition, the entire teen collection was shifted and each shelf has adequate space available for future books. Mrs. Morrill states that a few other new items have been added to the room including a new carpet and a bulletin board for posting library events and other teen happenings. A new suggestion box has been placed in the Teen Zone and she is looking forward to receiving written feedback as well as verbal feedback from the teens.

In addition to changing the Teen Zone, Mrs. Morrill, and Library Clerks, Dulcey Regoli and Darlene Mulari, have worked together to create a new Special Collections area. Ms. Mulari, has moved all of the Lincoln News to two file cabinets that house our local newspaper dating from 1959 to the current year. This new location will make back issues accessible to everyone. She will be responsible for maintaining this collection of newspapers.

The state also finished creating a new section for the old fiction books, many of which were a part of the original library built in 1924. One of these books was added to the Lincoln Memorial Library collection in 1925! Inside the front cover was a book plate listing the Rules of the Library. The rules then and now are very different but all send the message of how precious the library books were and still are. In 1925 the rules read:

- 1. All books are to be returned within two weeks of delivery, with the privilege of renewal for one week under penalty of one cent per day for all delay.*
- 2. Non- resident to pay one dollar for municipal year, under existing rules, card to be purchased of any member of the committee.*
- 3. No child under twelve years of age entitled to book without order from parent or guardian.*
- 4. No person allowed more than one book at a time.*
- 5. Librarian shall notify holder of book after expiration of one month if not returned.*
- 6. No person owing any fine shall have use of Library until the same is paid.*

In order to preserve older books, any titles published before 1925, in poor condition and part of the original collection will be stored using appropriate cases to prevent further damage and to preserve the titles for the future generations. These titles have been cataloged and anyone can access information via the online catalog or by visiting the library.

ITEM 9. The wrestling program for grades K to 5 continues to add new grapplers to the group. Recreation Director, Ronald Weatherbee, sees this as a great program with opportunities for a lot of youngsters. At the present time there are 44 wrestlers who are traveling to some weekend meets and practicing during the week. There will be additional wrestlers joining the program next week as Mr. Weatherbee opens the program up to grades 6 through 8. Mr.

Weatherbee reports that space has become an issue at the Ballard Hill Community Center due to the number of participants. He has been in discussions with RSU No. 67 about using space at Mattanawcook Academy for practices as the program approaches 50 participants.

ITEM 10. With the new Maine Uniform Building and Energy Codes due to take effect in July, Code Enforcement Officer, Dan Whittier, has been working on revising the Town's permit process. The current permits do not provide enough information about projects to meet the new code requirements. The new permits will be easier to fill out, give a clear picture of what type of construction will take place, and provide considerably more information about the property for the Town's records. Instead of asking for written descriptions of projects, which proves difficult for homeowners, the new permit lists certain characteristics of construction that the applicant can easily check off. Mr. Whittier will also be proposing new building permit fees to help cover the additional mileage expense that is anticipated in the FY2013 budget due to the increase in inspection requirements. If approved by the Planning Board, the fees will be presented to the Town Council at the same time the building codes are presented for adoption in May.

ITEM 11. Have a nice weekend!