

MEETING MINUTES

RECORDED BY: Melonie Trang

MEETING PURPOSE: PRC Board Meeting

MEETING DATE AND LOCATION: March 24, 2010
Community Center

ATTENDEES: PRC Board Members:

Tom Iverson, Rick DeVore, Rachel Cox, Catherine Grott,
Margy Bonner, Dave Williams, Gary Gray, Darwin George
PRPL Staff Members:

Mike Whitaker, PRPL Director
Jon Thompson, Park Superintendent
Joe Fedin, Recreation Superintendent
Mark Jarvis, Park Planner
Lee Stadtmiller, Cemetery Manager



I. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Chairman Tom Iverson called the meeting to order at 11:35 am.

A. INTRODUCTIONS

Public attending were Ken Beck, Jim Rott, and Gary Bresse

B. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

II. DIRECTORS REPORT – Mike Whitaker

No report

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. The Role of a Park Master Plan:

Park Planner Mark Jarvis discussed briefly the role of a park master plan. Some of the points discussed are as follows:

- A master plan has to be approved and in place before any development can take place at a city park.
- Any modifications to the approved master plan that are a significant departure to the plan must go through a public process and be updated.
- Purpose for doing a master plan; it is a guiding document, it insures highest quality in parks and recreation facilities, it insures public input it is the community's vision for that park, it identifies compatible land uses

with community need, it identifies and resolves user conflicts and it identifies operation and management efficiencies.

- Benefits of a master plan are; identifies and quantifies needs, secures finances in park development and it is a guide to implement park features.

B. Pioneer Park Master Plan Update:

The Land Group consultants Stan Griswold and David Selvage gave a presentation via teleconference on the Pioneer Park Master Plan update to the board. Some of the items discussed are as follows:

- Potential Pioneer Park Program Items (Complete list of items are available online at the PRPL website): community prefers Pioneer to be an active and highly used park, improve park maintenance, upgrade existing facilities, provide picnic shelters, add restrooms on west side of park, downsize and manage disc golf, provide additional disc golf courses, preserve sledding hills, provide ice skating ring and continue support of community events in the park.
- The consultants created three schematic plans based on the first public comments. From those three schematic plans and the comments from the second public meeting, a preferred schematic plan was created. (Copy of the preferred schematic plan is available online a the PRPL website)

The preferred schematic plan shows several new items to the park: 10" pathway recreational service and emergency access, picnic shelter and ice skating warming house, parking lot on the southeast corner, seasonal 9 course disc golf course, mini-amphitheater, expanded parking next to the Zimmerman building, new all season multi-use Zimmerman building with bathrooms available from both the inside and outside area all year round, maintain sledding area, and an upgrade to the playground, wading pool and tennis courts with the additional option of using the courts as an ice skating ring in the winter,

- Pioneer Park Recommendations: continue to manage, maintain, and utilize park, implement additional safety and security measures, secure funding to connect existing identified A.D.A. deficiencies throughout the park, seek agreements for access and management of existing parking resources found around park, increase maintenance funding for turf care and forestry practices, retain, improve and manage disc golf by reducing size, redesigning layout and instituting a seasonal closure/alternate winter course.

Board member Rick DeVore brought up the concern of increase maintenance funding when the department has no mechanism to do that. Consultant Stan Griswold said they have discussed this with the department and there are plans to add specific detail recommendations to the master plan.

Board member Catherine Grott asked what the costs were for maintaining and developing a disc golf course. Consultant David Salvage said the Professional Disc Golf Association says the average cost per hole is about \$1,000. Mr. Salvage felt that for our area it could cost around \$1,200 per hole. He said total costs could be around \$20,000 for set-up and signage. He said it would be an additional \$1,000 a year to have it inspected and maintained.

Board member Margy Bonner asked if a nine-hole would be enough for the high use the course gets by the youth. Mr. Salvage said the new course is lengthier and has dual options in which a player could play it twice and get their 18 holes. He discussed that the course will also have the option to remove the baskets and place them in a different location for seasonal use giving it a different feel every time you play. Mr. Salvage recommended the city to look into setting up an additional course in another park. He suggested Mystic, High Sierra and Phipps.

Ms. Bonner asked why a paved pathway runs through part of the course. Mr. Griswold said the pathway she is referring to, does go up through the existing course, but will not be an issue with new proposed course areas. The new reduced course areas will have buffers to prevent any problems.

Mr. DeVore asked if the disc golf groups would be willing to provide funding for a new course. Jim Rott Founder of Disc Golf AirFairways said they are willing to do everything in their power to provide funding.

Chairman Iverson asked why the schematic plans show the disc golf course layouts but the preferred schematic plan does not show the course layout. Mr. Salvage said they generated a design that would work for each of the three concepts but they did not want to be specific with the exact design on the preferred schematic. Recreation Superintendent Joe Fedin said the department has not finalized the design but instead the area it will be located. Mr. Whitaker commented that the preferred schematic should show a layout before it is presented to City Council. Mr. Griswold said they would show a layout on the final plan.

Mr. Rott commented that he participated in putting in the current disc golf course at Pioneer. He expressed that he looks forward to an agreement and partnership with the Parks Department and assist in improvements to the disc golf course.

Board member Dave Williams wanted to know what the feelings were about the five-month close down of the course and how it would be enforced. It was commented that the course needs a time to rest and as for how it would be enforced; you would remove the baskets from the course and create a second winter course along with educating people.

A comment was made to have a second course located in the southeast corner of the park.

Board member Dave Williams commented on having a heated all season bathroom near tennis courts/future ice skating ring. Currently, the bathrooms located in the area are only open during the warmer months.

A question was asked as to why we are upgrading the wading pool, which costs more to maintain then putting in a spray ground, which costs less to maintain. Mr. Whitaker response was that we are retaining the wading pool due to the strong responses of support from the survey, task force, and public meetings to keep one there at Pioneer.

Mr. DeVore asked what the estimated cost would be to put the schematic plan in place. Mr. Griswold said once they receive all of the tweaks on the proposed schematic plan, they will develop a cost on all of the elements.

Mr. DeVore asked if there was any floodplain assessment for along the creek area. Mr. Griswold said no. Mr. DeVore suggested looking into the matter.

Ms. Bonner commented her opposition to the plan due to the proposed parking lot in the southeast corner. Several other board members agreed. They expressed that it was unnecessary and took up park space. Board members also commented that from the survey the majority of the people were opposed to a parking lot in that section of the park. Mr. Griswold said the parking area is optional. He said the plan is a guiding document and if in the future there is a demand for additional parking, that section of the park is the only area that would work.

Ms. Bonner wanted to see the plan showing where bike racks would be located within the park.

Mr. DeVore expressed his dislike for a 10-foot pathway in the park. He saw a problem with it in regards to maintenance and public use to drive into the park. Several board members agreed and made a recommendation to have it reduced.

Chairman Iverson requested the board to make a recommendation on the proposed plan. *Board member Dave Williams made a motion for the proposed Pioneer Park Master Plan be moved to City Council for approval with specific mention of the Parks Boards concerns; the width of the 10-foot sidewalk, removal of the parking area located in the southeast corner, an addition of a heated all season bathroom along the east side of the skating area, the addition of a disc golf course in the southeast corner for winter alternate use, and a layout schematic for the permanent disc golf course. Board member Gary Gray seconded. On a voice vote all were in favor and motion passed.*

V. ADJOURNMENT

1:25 pm