



**City of Jordan
Park and Recreation Commission
December 27, 2010**

Members Present: Chair Jerry Langsweirdt, Vice Chair Donna Breeggemann, Thom Boncher, John Glynn, Margaret Knutson, Donna Breeggemann, Tim Bischke, Pete Ewals

Staff Present: Senior Planner, Joe Janish; Planning Consultant, Joanne Foust

Others Present: Guy Beck, Dan Elke, David Hanson

1.0 Call to Order.

Chair Langsweirdt called the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:02pm.

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

Motion Knutson seconded by Breeggemann to adopt agenda. Motion approved unanimously.

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

A. November 23, 2010 Minutes

Motion Glynn seconded Boncher to approve the minutes as presented. Motion approved unanimously.

4.0 Public Hearing.

A. Master Park, Trail and Natural Resource Plan.

Foust provided an overview on the Master Parks, Trails and Natural Resource Plan. Foust provided an overview of the purpose of the plan which includes, being proactive, guide for the development of new parks as annexation occurs as well as redevelopment of existing parks. The plan will assist staff and Park and Recreation commission in budgeting capital expenditures, establishes policies and recommendations for parks, trail and natural resource stewardship. The master plan also assists staff and developers when developing site plans for proposed developments.

Foust provided an overview of the steps taken up to this point which included guest speakers from US Fish and Wildlife, DNR Complete Streets (Fresh Energy), Metropolitan Council, 100 Friends of Minnesota, Scott County, and the Cities of Belle Plaine, Carver and New Prague. Foust also noted that an online survey was utilized with 81 respondents, a Natural Resource Survey was completed by City commissions and GIS Site Suitability Modeling was developed by 1000 Friends of Minnesota.

The master plan furthers the goals and guiding principles of the 2008 Comprehensive Plan and based helps to reinforce the Vision Statement that was derived during the 2010 Strategic Planning Process.

Foust noted the plan itself contains elements of creating connectivity within the community by providing additional connections such as a pedestrian/bike crossing of Highway 169 and making connections between existing segments of trails and sidewalks. Foust further provided an overview of the recommendations derived from the plan including: park and Open Space Goals and Recommendations; Trails, Sidewalk and Greenway Goals and Recommendations; Natural Resource Goals and Recommendations; ordinance and Policy Recommendations; and Financial Planning Goals and Recommendations.

Chair Langsweirdt opened the Public Hearing at 7:21 p.m.

Guy Beck commented some statistics had stood out while reviewing the plan which included:

- The age of population under 19,
- 10% of surveyed respondents use sidewalks or trails for errands,
- 40% use sidewalks for 30 minutes, which shows that trail segments are not long enough and the city should look at completing gaps.

Mr. Beck also noted that the Park and Recreation Commission may want to review:

- definition of on-street or bike lanes,
- allowing for flexibility at time of development to determine if a sidewalk or bituminous trail should be installed and not “lock” yourself into a situation of requiring sidewalks in places that trails may be more appropriate,

Mr. Beck questioned one of the long term goals which was returning recreational department to the City of Jordan. Commissioner Knutson noted the intent was to establish a Recreation Department and Activities run by the City which would allow for planning for the long term.

David Hanson, noted he was surprised that almost half of the survey respondents had been from High School students and the Park and Recreation Commission should continue to tap into that involvement.

Dan Elke commented he travels extensively on his bike and segregation of bikes and cars would be beneficial, and paint on a road may not be enough.

Chair Langsweirdt closed the Public Hearing at 7:45p.m.

Members discussed the comments received by the public and discussed that it would be appropriate to include language within the plan to determine if sidewalk or trail should be installed, and provide an option to potentially vary from engineering standards in order to provide trail or sidewalk connections.

Motion Breeggemann, seconded Glynn to recommend the Jordan Master Park, Trail, and Natural Resource Plan with the two suggested changes related to sidewalks and trail location review and potentially varying from engineering standards in order to provide trail or sidewalk connections. Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 Old Business.

None.

6.0 New Business.

A. Interviews

Janish noted the Park and Recreation Commission has had two members continue to serve on the commission until replacements could be found. At the last meeting one individual had been interviewed for consideration and tonight three others could potentially be interviewed. Janish noted at the time of the write-up Tim Bischke, and David Hanson had provided their applications and earlier in the day Donna Breeggemann provided a copy of her application for consideration.

Members interviewed the three individuals.

After the interviews members considered the potential candidates and the following motions occurred:

Motion Boncher, seconded Glynn, to recommend appointing Bischke to the term that would expire at the end of 2011. Motion approved 6-0-1 (Bischke abstained).

Motion Glynn, seconded Boncher, to recommend appointing Breeggemann to a term that would expire at the end of 2012. Motion approved 6-0-1 (Breeggemann abstained).

Motion Boncher, seconded Bischke, to recommend appointing Elke to a term that would expire at the end of 2012. Motion approved 5-2-0 (Boncher and Ewals opposed).

Motion Boncher, seconded Breeggemann, to recommend appointing Hanson to a term that would expire at the end of 2012. Motion approved 4-2-1. (Boncher and Glynn opposed, Ewals abstained).

7.0 Planners Report.

Janish stated that members received information related to future Holzer Park improvements that had included two aerial photos, past handouts on playground equipment, and two websites that provide playground equipment. Janish noted last month staff had been directed to provide this information in order for members to review and research possible new playground equipment at Holzer Park along with additional possible improvements related to specific goals set in October and November related to this park. Janish noted members should be ready to share the information they found with other members at the next meeting and if material can be provided prior to packet time it would be included in the next Park and Recreation Commission Packet.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

Commissioner Knutson questioned who is responsible to clear the snow off the sidewalk along County Road 9 and she has witnessed individuals walking within the drive lanes which can be dangerous to the pedestrians. Janish noted he would have a discussion with the Public Works Director. Mayor Ewals noted that the Public Works folks have been working long hours to keep the streets clear of snow and some sidewalks and trails have not been cleared because of the amount of snow that keeps coming. Mayor Ewals noted that Public Works has been focused on keeping the downtown clear of snow in order to keep parking open and once time is available the folks will work on sidewalks and trails the city is ultimately responsible for.

Mayor Ewals noted that he had attended a Scott County Board meeting to express issues with the three-quarter access proposal at 173.

9.0 Adjournment.

Motion Breeggemann, seconded Knutson to adjourn the Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 8:45 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner