



**City of Jordan
Park and Recreation Commission
February 28, 2011**

Members Present: Chair Donna Breeggemann, Council Liaison Thom Boncher, Margaret Knutson, Tim Bischke, David Hanson

Staff Present: Senior Planner Joe Janish

Others Present: Jason Sellner, Julie Bischke, George and Kathy Colling, Carole Cole, John Stahler.

1.0 Call to Order.

Vice Chair Breeggemann called the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:00pm.

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

Motion Bischke, seconded Hanson to approve the agenda as amended. Motion approved unanimously.

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

A. January 24, 2011 Minutes

Motion Bischke seconded Knutson to approve the minutes with noted changes which included noting a name of a person who spoke. Motion approved unanimously.

4.0 Presentations/Discussions.

A. Introduction: David Hanson, New PRC Member

Mr. Hanson indicated he has been a Jordan resident for 13 years, 4 of which he served on the City Council. Mr. Hanson stated he was thankful to be on the Park and Recreation Commission and indicated he hopes to add good thoughts and ideas to the commission. Commissioners welcomed Mr. Hanson.

B. East Street Lot (a.k.a Tax Forfeiture Lot).

City Engineer Loose and Senior Planner Janish noted that the development of a possible park as discussed previously might cost \$107,800 to \$113,000 plus acquisition costs. The plan had called for a gazebo, trails and also retaining walls for the project. Janish stated the Park and Recreation Commission discussed this item at the last meeting and had asked for the costs that may be incurred if the property was acquired. If the City of Jordan sought the property through public conveyance it would cost \$462.50, if the property were to be purchased outright the cost would be \$5,462.50 plus a possible assessment of \$5,602.00 if the City Council placed the assessment on

the property. If the City of Jordan decided to ask the county to sell the property the City Council would be again asked to consider the possible assessment and a fraction of the sale price would be returned to the City of Jordan.

John Stahler, indicated he thinks the City should let the property be sold, and perhaps it will be purchased and then put on the tax roll. The cost to develop the park is too much and the funds should be spent elsewhere for park improvements.

Council Liaison Boncher noted he did not see the project costing the amount that was estimated, but much lower. The project in his mind would be over a few years making improvements of the trail. Boncher also noted that if the property is sold anyone could purchase the property and possibly use it for any purpose, and he did not want to see it used for a possible multi-family structure.

Jason Sellner, stated the city could acquire the property for a minimal amount of money through public conveyance, and right now this section of town does not have a park. This property would allow for kids in the neighborhood to not have to cross Highway 21 to access parks.

Council Liaison Boncher stated the property could be purchased and then time taken to access the possible use of the property and the city would own and control the property. Mr. Boncher stated the city recently approved spending \$12,000 for a parking study and the lot would cost less than that.

John Stahler, questioned why the city did not survey the property and the property is not that large. Mr. Stahler commented that the City of Jordan really needs a survey to assess the property they are consider obtaining. Stahler noted the property has slopes to it and much of the property cannot be utilized for park purposes.

Council Liaison Boncher commented that the original concept did not have impacts on the lot beyond the first 35 or 40 feet.

Julie Bischke, congratulated David Hanson on his appointment to the Park and Recreation Commission. Julie Bischke stated she has expressed her interest in the City acquiring the property, but does not get the sense that neighbors are receptive to the idea. Mrs. Bischke stated she has concerns with who would ultimately maintain the property and the first few years are critical, she also pointed out that invasive buckthorn exists on the upper hill that should be removed. Bischke stated the city does not have to give up on beautifying the community but perhaps look at some of the existing parks to make improvements, noting that it would be worthwhile to spend money on other projects in our community.

Council Liaison Boncher discussed that without a survey and title search the groundwork has not been done and if the City purchased the property then additional options could be explored. If the property was deemed to not be useable by the city, then it could be sold.

Commissioner Knutson noted that the cost the county is asking for in order for it to become a park is "bargain" pricing and where else in the community can the city purchase this property for.

Carole Cole, commented that this particular lot is not a proper place to have a park. If the Park and Recreation Commission is looking for park members it should look at the top of the hill, because no park exists in those developments. Cole also noted that a trail is not feasible in this

area because of the terrain and if a trail is wanted a sidewalk or trail should be built parallel to Highway 282 and not in the old Maple Lane area.

John Stahler, commented that Carole Cole and Julie Bischke had a lot of strong points in their arguments. Timberline could use additional improvements, money could be spent elsewhere.

Janish also indicated he received an email from Cathy Weeks who is unable to attend the meeting but is favorable in seeing the property developed as a park for the residents in the area.

Commissioner Knutson made a motion, Seconded by Hanson, that the City Council consider first to acquire the property through public conveyance, second consider purchasing the property outright, and finally allow Scott County to sell the property. Motion approved 4-0-1 (Bischke abstained).

5.0 Old Business.

A. Past Projects/Discussion Updates.

Janish noted that the list had been divided up into three different groups. One is projects to be done, completed and delayed projects for some reason.

Janish indicated that staff is still working on some numbers for potential improvements at Holzer Park and expects to have new information at an upcoming meeting. Members questioned if it might be possible to change the entrance to the bathrooms by utilizing the storage room of the concession stand at the park. Janish noted he would look into this further.

Janish stated that staff will be disbursing information related to the Adopt A Planter program soon and members noted that information should be looked at to be certain it notes that the program is a 6 to 8 month commitment and perhaps the Chamber of Commerce may be interested in providing Chamber Dollars for the best kept planters.

Members questioned if it might be appropriate to have a rededication of the Cannon when the wheels are brought back, and thought that Char Koepp may have done an article in the past on the cannon.

B. County Road 66 Trail Discussion

Janish stated the Park and Recreation Commission reviewed the concept of a trail along County Road 66 at the last meeting. The recommendation to the City Council was to include striping along Hillside Avenue and Stuart Drive. The Safety Committee had reviewed the options and had concern over the striping along Hillside Avenue and Stuart Drive, members of the Safety Committee indicated the proposal is very similar to the past proposal the City Council had voted down. The Safety Committee also expressed concern with a “false sense of security” the painted lines would provide to users of the segment. The Safety Committee asked that funding be reviewed to find a way to construct the trail segment that would be on the north side of CR 66 and west side of Highway 21.

Janish noted one possible funding option existed which included using the developer contributed funds we have on hand along with additional general fund capital contributions per the fund balance policy that was adopted in 2010. The funding would include money from park capital,

and general construction capital. Janish noted that the intent would be to reduce any developer contributed funds from the project if a grant was received for the construction of the trail.

Commissioner Bischke noted the Jordan Valley Bike Tour may be able to contribute funds for the painting of the bike routes as well.

Commissioners expressed concerns with the Safety Committee noting that painted lines add a sense of false security. Members noted that the recently adopted Master Parks Plan included language in support of complete streets and this painting is moving in that direction. Members also questioned the credibility of members of the Safety Committee and if this group should even comment on plans like this since it does not have non-elected or non-paid folks on the committee.

Motion Boncher, seconded Bischke, to construct a trail along County Road 66 until Hillside Avenue intersection, continuing the trail to Highway 21 and then north to Hillside Drive and also to provide signage and striping along Hillside Avenue and Hillside Drive to make the connection of the trail using PEI funds for the striping and signage of the Hillside Avenue section. Motion approved unanimously.

C. Interview Process.

Janish stated the Park and Recreation Commission had brief discussion about the new process for appointments a few meetings ago. It was determined at that time to wait until the proposed ordinance amendment had been approved prior to discussion. Members discussed it may be appropriate to include information related to what is expected of members who are appointed in the advertisement of the position.

Janish noted perhaps members could email their thoughts and all comments would be forwarded in a staff write-up for discussion at the next meeting. Commissioner Hanson also noted it would be appropriate to provide updates to the potential candidate to keep them informed of the process.

D. Walkable Communities Event

Janish noted two possible dates for a Walkable Communities Workshop (WCW). The date was established as Tuesday, April 26th.

Members also discussed possible locations to walk and where to hold the event. Discussions centered on City Hall, one of the Jordan Schools, and also the Jordan Fire Station. Members indicated that the Jordan Fire Station would be the best location to hold the event and make it the locations identified.

The areas identified by the Park and Recreation Commission included to split into two groups with one group walking to the Mini-Met/Lagoon Park area and the other going across Highway 169 and returning to the Fire Hall.

Members also discussed a list of invites which included: City Council Members, Planning Commissioners, EDA Members, School Board Members, Joint Power Board Members, Bev Ripley, Joe Radermacher, Steve Radermacher, Paul Radermacher, Greg Pekarna, Stacey Decorsey, Brenda Lieske, Char Senske, Tom Sand, Mike Harrington, Mathias Baden, Rick Lockert, Jim Holle.

6.0 New Business.

None.

7.0 Planners Report.

A. PEI and Parkland Dedication Account Information

Park and Recreation Commissioners acknowledged the report.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

Commissioner Hanson indicated that the Basketball court at Bridle Creek is coming along and a report will be made at an upcoming meeting.

Commissioner Hanson also questioned if it would be possible to keep restrooms open for the folks who use the Skating Rink in the winter. Some Members thought the restrooms may not have heat and that is why they are closed in the winter.

Council Liaison Boncher noted Commissioners should be clear in the actions that are taken in order for staff to understand exactly what the members are looking for in the future. Boncher also questioned if it is possible to provide information on the Open Meeting Law.

9.0 Adjournment.

Motion Boncher, seconded Bischke to adjourn the Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 10:00 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner