



**City of Jordan
Park and Recreation Commission
August 24, 2010**

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

Staff Present: Senior Planner, Joe Janish; Public Works Director, Dave Bendzick; Planning Consultant, Joanne Foust

Others Present: Julie Bischke, Tim Bischke, Guy Beck, Rolf Hafslund, John Watkins, Ron Beckman.

WORKSHOP 6:00 P.M.

Prior to the meeting Members of the Park and Recreation Commission viewed potential crossings of Highway 169 which included potentially creating a paved trail under 169 at the intersection of Sand Creek and Highway 169, a potential pedestrian overpass at Highway 282 and Highway 169 and also viewed property just outside of city limits looking at a potential crossing.

Members also visited the intersection of Hillside and County Road 66 (Old Highway 169) to look at current trails and sidewalks. Mr. Janish also pointed out a potential alignment for a trail along County Road 66 which would be discussed at the regular meeting.

Members then traveled to City Hall for the regular Park and Recreation Commission.

1.0 Call to Order.

Chair Langsweirdt called the Park and Recreation Commission to order at 7:01pm.

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

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

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

A. July 26, 2010 Minutes

Motion Glynn, seconded by Boncher to approve the July 26, 2010 Minutes, with two corrections to spelling. Motion unanimously approved.

4.0 Presentations/Discussions.

A. Master Park and Trail Plan (This occurred at approximately 7:45 p.m.)

Planning Consultant Joanne Foust provided an introduction for the guest speakers for the evening which included Ethan Fawley of Fresh Energy, Andrew Korsbert, Trail Program

Coordinator with the MN DNR, and Kevin Roggenbuck, Transportation Coordinator with the Transportation Advisory Board at the Metropolitan Council.

Ethan Fawley presented information related to Complete Streets. Mr. Fawley stated he was impressed with the information the City of Jordan had in place for implementation of a complete street program. Fawley noted Complete Streets is a policy in which transportation is looked at for not only vehicles but also walking and biking.

Mr. Fawley provided an overview of the process in which Albert Lea undertook and indicated with the recent legislation changes MNDOT is in process of implementing a Complete Street policy. Currently the Minnesota Complete Street Coalition has more than 65 members.

Mr. Fawley also provided an example of a common process in Minnesota which included the following steps:

- Create the case for complete streets.
- A work group drafts a resolution of support.
- Council/board approves the resolution.
- Work groups create a full policy.
- Implementation and reporting.

Mr. Fawley indicated that Fresh Energy would be willing to work with the City if an interest is present in developing a Complete Street Policy.

Janish questioned Mr. Fawley if the MNDOT Policy would allow for communities to not be liable for construction of on road bike lanes if communities deviated from the MNDOT Bikeway Facility Design Manual. Mr. Fawley noted that it is his understanding this would be the case, and MNDOT would become more flexible in regards to communities installing complete streets.

Andrew Korsbert, Trail Program Coordinator with the MN DNR presented information on Local Trail Connections Grant Program. Mr. Korsbert provided an overview of 5 grant programs which included: Parks and Legacy Grant Program, Solar Energy Legacy Grants, Regional Trail Program, Local Trail Connections Program, and Federal Recreational Trail Program.

Janish questioned Mr. Korsbert if the DNR is expecting to have funding next year with the current budgeting issues at the state level. Mr. Korsbert indicated the Legacy Grants have a dedicated funding source and the DNR is still preparing for funding of the other grants at this moment, and do not expect funding to be cut.

Kevin Roggenbuck, Transportation Coordinator with the Transportation Advisory Board at the Metropolitan Council explained the MNDOT Enhancement Funds program. Mr. Roggenbuck indicated the program requires a 20% local match and is prioritized by the following:

- Urgency and significance.
- Relationship between other enhancement categories.
- Project impact.
- Met Council development framework.
- Maturity of project concept.

Members reviewed the trails and sidewalk plan and reported on the six areas the members had visited over the last month. Foust indicated the members reported information would be incorporated into the Master park and Trails Plan.

B. Basketball Discussion

Public Works Director Bendzick provided an overview of how the potential basketball court was going in the Bridle Creek subdivision. Mr. Bendzick indicated that the residents are still fundraising and the project may be split into to phases. The two phases would consist of preparing the site and then pouring and installing the equipment next spring.

5.0 Old Business.

A. Project/Discussion Update.

Mr. Janish provided an update on past projects.

B. Possible Funding of School Field.

Ron Beckman provided an overview of the school field 2 improvements that are underway. Mr. Beckman noted that the field is progressing rather well and it is expected to be complete this fall with the intention to be able to play baseball in the spring of 2011. Mr. Beckman noted the project is about \$20,000 short at the moment but has received strong community support. It is estimated about \$175,000 have been donated in-kind, with about \$95,000 in cash.

Commissioners questioned if one thing was still missing from the project what would it be?

Mr. Beckman noted that the girls and boys batting areas could use new netting and potentially another batting cage.

Motion Boncher, seconded Glynn, to recommend the City Council consider using PEI funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 for trees and batting cage improvements of the school athletic complex. Motion unanimously approved.

C. Disc Golf Course

Members discussed the potential Disc Golf Course at Holzer Park. Janish noted the designer indicated the need of a bridge in order to design a 9 hole course. Janish noted in the past the Park and Recreation Commission had reviewed a potential bridge from Sawmill Park to the MNDOT Rest stop. This particular bridge had a price tag of around \$212,451. The designer also noted the cost of the course would increase due to the amount of trees that would need to be removed.

Commissioners discussed it would be appropriate to insert the desire to potentially have a disc golf course within the community but to place the discussion on hold and include language within the Master Park and Trail Plan for the desire of such a facility.

D. Cannon Wheels

Janish noted a Park and Recreation Commissioner requested to have this item on the agenda. Janish noted staff has in the past try to find someone who repairs wheels for wagons and has spoken with some local horse owners but could not find someone. Janish noted contact was made with a buggy repair shop that was not interested in repairing the wheels of the cannon.

Commissioner Breeggemann noted she had a relative that may have access to someone who might be able to repair the wheels and will make contact with the relative.

Commissioners indicated it would be appropriate to again look for someone who might be able to repair the wheels.

6.0 New Business.

A. Overview of Past Park Improvements

Public Works Director Bendzick provided an overview of the last 10 years of park improvements and from what funding sources the improvements had been made from.

Commissioners had no comments or questions for Mr. Bendzick.

B. County Road 66 Improvements

Senior Planner Janish indicated that at the City Council meeting of August 16, 2010 City Engineer, Carol Caron, provided an overview of a potential project along County Road 66. Janish indicated that staff heard about Scott County having intentions of rehabilitating County Road 66 when discussing future projects. When it was noted at this meeting staff thought it would be appropriate to discuss the possibility of constructing a trail along the roadway. Janish provided a copy of the engineer report that was presented at the City Council meeting on August 16, 2010.

The Council write-up indicated that the estimated cost for the trail system is \$444,000. Janish noted that at this time it is not certain that the segment along Highway 21 could be constructed but if it was would provide access to the trail segment under Highway 21. Janish noted that staff believes it may be possible to use dedicated developer dollars to complete the project.

Motion Knutson, seconded Breeggemann to pursue the construction of the trail on the North side of County Road 66 potentially using developer dollars and looking for possible grants as well. Motion unanimously approved.

C. Discuss Tax Forfeited Property

Janish noted at the City Council Meeting on August 16 a discussion occurred about a tax forfeited property on East Street. The parcel was located at the intersection of 1st Street and East Street. The City Council ultimately requested the Park and Recreation Commission review the parcel for possible public conveyance or purchase.

Neighboring property owner Julie Bischke indicated if the property is made available for sale she would be interested in purchasing the property. Mrs. Bischke also noted that the property could also be acquired by the City and restored to its natural vegetation.

Motion Knutson, seconded Boncher to recommend to the City Council to accept the property through the public conveyance process and develop plans for a natural habitat on the property. Motion unanimously approved.

7.0 Planners Report.

A. PEI and Parkland Dedication Account Information.

Commissioners acknowledged the account information.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

Commissioner Knutson indicated next Monday August 30th a Healthy Living event is occurring and encouraged members to attend if possible.

Commissioner Glynn questioned if it might be possible to have a permit for individuals to park or drive into the parks in order to show the residents the individuals had proper permission.

Commissioner Boncher indicated that tomorrow night in Belle Plain Scott County will have a meeting to discuss the County Master Park and Trail Plan and encouraged individuals to attend.

Mayor Ewals indicated Scott County completed a study of Sand Creek which resulted in stating Sand Creek is too expensive to try to improve the water quality and it creek has no recreation value and indicated members should actually look at Sand Creek as a recreation opportunity.

9.0 Adjournment.

Motion Knutson, seconded by Breeggemann, to adjourn the Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 10::20 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner