



**City of Jordan
Park and Recreation Commission
November 23, 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; City Engineer, Tim Loose

Others Present: Liz Boyer; Julie Bischke; Dan Elke

1.0 Call to Order.

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

2.0 Adopt Agenda.

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

3.0 Approval of Minutes.

A. October 25, 2010 Minutes

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

4.0 Presentations/Discussions.

A. Master Park and Trail Plan Open House

Foust provided an overview on the Draft 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.

Motion Glynn, seconded Breeggemann to recommend holding a Public Hearing on December 27 at 7:00 p.m. for consideration of adoption of the Master Park and Trail Plan. Motion approved unanimously.

5.0 Old Business.

A. Project/Discussion Update.

Mr. Janish provided an update on past projects. Commissioner Knutson questioned if it would be possible to split the list of projects to include headings of tabled, ongoing, and completed.

B. Holzer Park Improvements

Mr. Janish at previous meetings the commission discussed several options for possible improvements to Holzer Park and the a potential survey. During one of the more recent meetings the Park and Recreation Commission derived several goals that believed should be reviewed for this particular park including: stopping traffic from going next to the the concession stand, revamp the circle area, purchase play equipment, provide a better handicap accessible walkway, and review potential funding sources including possible grants.

Janish provided a list of several potential options in an attempt to meet the objectives of the goals and noted that the list is not inclusive and members may have other alternatives that could meet the noted objectives or goals for the park.

Members discussed potential projects and noted a map with approximate parcel lines would be beneficial in reviewing alternatives and stated additional information is needed related to paving the parking lot or circle area and if curb and gutter would be required.

Janish noted that the write-up included some examples of play equipment however staff was uncertain on the actual age group that the members had been trying to appeal to. Members noted that the age groups of 2 to 12 should be addressed in new play equipment at the park.

Motion Breeggemann, seconded Bischke to table action until January and noted that additional information is needed related to maps, and if curb and gutter would be required for the parking area and circle. Motion unanimously approved.

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

Janish noted that at a previous meeting the Park and Recreation Commission discussed potentially acquiring the piece of property along East Street that is currently in Tax Forfeiture. Staff had been directed to look at possibly providing a trail on the property and it was found that if a trail was constructed it would be very difficult to meet the 5 percent grade requirement for ADA. Janish noted a Park and Recreation Commissioner had spent some time to develop a potential plan for the property and members should discuss this item. Janish also noted that it may be appropriate to invite neighboring properties to attend a meeting to find out what the residents would like to see for improvements if it is developed into a park.

Julie Bischke, noted that neighbors love the idea of trees and plants on the property and had assisted Mr. Boncher in the design the Park and Recreation Commission is reviewing tonight. Bischke noted that water would be needed and some site work would have to be completed prior to the planting in order to provide better soil for the plants.

Motion Boncher, seconded Breeggemann to invite neighboring property owners to a meeting in January to review the attached drawing for discussion purposes and determine what if any improvements the residents would like to see on the parcel. Motion unanimously approved.

6.0 New Business.

A. Highway 169 Pedestrian Crossing

Tim Loose, City Engineer provided options for potential crossings of Highway 169. Loose noted the Alternatives Analysis Report included five possible options for crossing Highway 169 with alternatives for over and under including rough estimated costs for the options, which included:

1. Highway 282 – under \$1,169,000/over \$1,258,000
2. Triangle Lane/Frontage Road – under \$1,175,000/over \$1,402,000
3. Creek Lane – under \$734,000/over \$703,000
4. Syndicate Street – under \$1,000,000/over \$1,025,000
5. Varner Street – under \$835,000/ over no estimate provided due to elevation changes

Mr. Loose also noted that Commissioner Bischke provided another option that would be located at the unofficial crossing under the Highway 169 Bridge over Sand Creek.

Mr. Loose indicated the estimates did not include time for review by other agencies and many of the designs would be located within the floodplain which could require additional time and money during the review process.

Members discussed that it would make sense to attempt to avoid crossings that would be considered “throw away” or removed when a future interchange would be constructed at 282 and Creek Lane. Members narrowed the selections down by providing a first, second and third alternative. The plans that rose to the top included Creek Lane, Commissioner Bischke’s alternative, Varner Street, Triangle Lane/Frontage Road options.

Motion Knutson, seconded Breeggemann, to recommend to the City Council to continue to move forward with the favored options and begin to have discussions with the proper agencies to determine which alternatives would be most feasible. Motion approved unanimously.

B. Winter Event

Janish indicated he was contacted by a Park and Recreation Commissioner who had requested this item on the agenda. Janish noted the member is interested in having a winter event in the City and would like to discuss potential options or organizations that may be willing to host the event.

Commissioners discussed it may appropriate to talk with Brenda Lieske about including an event with the Frosty Fun Daze event.

Motion Boncher, to propose a winter event to be associated with Frosty Fun Daze. Motion died due to a lack of a second.

Members noted Mr. Boncher should discuss options with Lieske and report back at a future meeting.

C. Interviews

Janish noted that one of the potential interviewees are in attendance this evening and staff had not yet heard from the other potential member. Janish also noted that a current member whose term has expired has also submitted an application for consideration for reappointment and the Park and Recreation Commission should consider if they would like to interview the current member tonight.

Members of the Park and Recreation Commission interviewed Mr. Elke. After the interview discussion occurred about delaying action until the December meeting and to delay action on the interview of the current member until December.

7.0 Planners Report.

A. PEI and Parkland Dedication Account Information.

Commissioners acknowledged the account information. Members questioned if it would be possible to obtain a year end statement.

B. December Meeting

Janish questioned members if they would only like to have interviews and the public hearing on the December meeting due to the holidays. It was the consensus of the Park and Recreation Commission to place only the hearing and interviews on the December meeting.

8.0 Commissioner Report.

Commissioner Bischke noted the Jordan Valley Bike Tour would be interested in donating a kiosk or Bench in Memory of Roger Hanson who had been an advocate of biking in Jordan, and members may want to think of an area that one of these items may be appropriate.

Mayor Ewals provided a handout to Park and Recreation Commissioners about a workshop on November 30th during the day and noted if members are available they may want to consider attending.

Commissioner Boncher questioned whose terms are coming due and Janish noted that members whose terms are expiring and are available to re-apply would be contacted.

Chair Langsweirdt commented he has heard from some residents that some time back the Mini-Met was visible from Highway 21 and some residents are wondering if something should be done in order to make it visible in the future. Langsweirdt noted this was just something he had heard about and something to think about.

9.0 Adjournment.

Motion Breeggemann, seconded Knutson to adjourn the Park and Recreation Commission meeting at 10:25 p.m. Motion unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joe Janish
Senior Planner