

Parks and Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes January 19, 2021

Zoom meeting – virtual attendance

Call to Order & Attendance: 3:06pm

Present:

Matt Withers

Dave Hall

David Moynahan

Gordy Holmes

Lisa Bruce

Rick Hawkins

Staff:

Carly Ruacho

Amy Bergemeier

Sara Robinson

Absent: Gordon Bell

Also known to be present: Steve Shepro, Judy Williams

Citizen Comments:

N/A

Approval of Minutes:

Gordy Holmes made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2021 meeting. Matt Withers seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Elections:

The committee discussed and nominated Dave Hall for Chair and Gordy Holmes as Vice Chair. The Committee confirmed the election by consensus.

2021-2022 Work Plan:

Carly went over the two year work plan relating the parks and trails and the coordinating budget allocations. The upcoming 6 year Capital Improvement Plan investment includes 3.8 million for the Port Susan Trail, 3.3 million for Heritage Park, almost 4 million for Ovenell Park, 1.6 million for Hamilton Park, 1.3 million for our Downtown Park, and just over one million between Johnson Farm and Church Creek Parks. The community priorities are to enhance our parks and recreation, support a sustainable local economy, build safe streets, and protect the environment. The city's total overall Capital Investment budget is over 85 million with spending almost 20 million this year.

- Council member Judy Williams asked what happens to the funds that didn't get used, did it go back to the overall General Fund of the Parks & Recreation General fund. Carly wasn't sure, but believes it goes back to the Parks & Rec General fund.

Church Creek Park– Most funding is set to be spent in 2022, however there will be some of the budget spent this year.

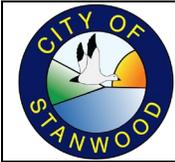
Downtown Park – This is property near the train station which is next to the Mercantile building. In 2020, there was money spent towards a feasibility study and planning. The 2021 budget focuses on the hazardous clean-up of the property, with Design and Right of Way issues handled in 2022.

Hamilton Landing– Design & Engineering was budgeted for and occurred in 2020, and 2021 sees 1.5 million spent towards construction.

Heritage Park – Ball field construction is happening this year that includes 2 fields with new irrigation as well as the continuation of the parking lot repairs from the 2020 budget and plan.

Johnson Farm - This is a new acquisition so there isn't any funding currently in the budget for this park.

Ovenell Park – In 2022 the park has \$200,000 allocated for planning and design-concept work. The projection shows 1.5 million for construction & restoration planned for 2025.



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- Gordy asked why there is so much budgeted in 2025 for that purpose? Carly explained that we only have 7 years to rebuild the original medium sized barn was burned down in the middle of the park, She believes the cut off to have it built would be the summer of 2026. Councilmember Williams really wants to make sure that we get that rebuild done, as that is a critical event space for the City we wouldn't want to lose.

Port Susan Trail – The design and permitting of Phase 2 is budgeted this year as well as the berm construction section. In 2022 the budget is \$734,000 to spend on construction of the trail element.

Heritage Park Project Prioritization:

Carly presented the committee with a “homework assignment” for the prioritization of the projects for Heritage Park that is currently on our Master Plan. Carly would like the committee to place the items in order of priority they feel is most important. Carly emailed each member a list and a discussion will be done during next month's meeting regarding the results.

- Gordy was wanting to know if there is a dollar amount assigned to the projects yet and Carly said no, we haven't got to that level yet.
- Councilmember Shepro mentioned baseball field number 3 isn't on the list, Carly said there aren't any additional improvements planned for field 3. Steve asked if that is something that could be added once the irrigation was fixed and Carly said that is a possibility.

Church Creek Park Master Plan:

Carly presented the newly revised map of the Master Plan for Church Creek Park. It shows the changes that were discussed in previous PTAC meetings including; the layout of the new sport court, trail paths, enhanced flag pole circle and outdoor classroom area.

- The Committee is excited seeing the Master Plan Map and look forward to it getting implemented into Church Creek Park.
- David Moynahan asked how many of the Cedars will be removed in the area near 72nd Ave. Carly said it really depends on what the arborist recommends, but it would, more than likely, be less than half of the current trees standing would be removed.
- Councilmember Shepro asked about the purchase of more land that is due east of the future City Hall and if there is a plan on how that would look incorporated with the current park? Councilmember Williams answered this was discussed sometime in 2019 by the Council, and it is in the works to be purchased, but got put on hold due to Covid-19. Councilmember Williams believes it would be included in the future City Hall part of construction.
- Councilmember Shepro also asked if Michael Schwartz has been in touch with the city regarding the disc golf course. Carly said she hasn't spoken with him, but she has been in touch with Kevin Elmor, the president of the Stanwood Disc Golf Club, and they have an interest in the site and the trees that are kept that are in the path of the disc golf course. He is interested in meeting to add his input about the trees in the park that affect disc golf play.
- A motion was made by Gordy Holmes to approve the Master Plan Update and it was seconded by Rick Hawkins, and it passed unanimously.

Park Updates:



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Church Creek Park - Playground Equipment Phase II

The adding of extra benches got delayed. Carly's hope is to get that added in for 2022 and look into coming up with the funding. Also, there is a person interested in removing the invasive ivy that is in the park right now and her name is Michelle Topman. She and others in her group, would go in the park and remove the ivy by hand, as a volunteers. They have already submitted all of their needed paperwork.

Heritage Park – Baseball Field Renovation

Carly hasn't heard any negative reports from our City Engineer, Shawn Smith, who is managing the construction side of things. Everything is going good and they are getting it done even in this rainy season.

Hamilton Park – Park/Boat Launch Projects

The city is waiting on the appeal and that hearing is set for February. The hearing can take up to 3 days and then they have up to 60 days to give us a decision.

Adjourn – 4:45pm

Next Meeting: February 16, 2021 @ 3:00pm.

PTAC committee takes place on the third Monday of each month.

Until allowed by the Governor, City Hall remains closed to the public. This means remote meetings will continue until that happens.