



Parks and Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes April 19, 2021

Zoom meeting – virtual attendance

Call to Order & Attendance: 3:03pm

Present:

Matt Withers
Gordon Bell
Dave Hall

Gordy Holmes
Lisa Bruce
Rick Hawkins

Staff:

Carly Ruacho
Amy Bergemeier
Patricia Love

Absent: David Moynahan

Also known to be present: Councilmember Steve Shepro

Citizen Comments: N/A

Approval of Minutes:

The March 2021 Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted.

Parks Feasibility Study Introduction:

For several years, the Parks and Trails Advisory Committee (PTAC) and members of the public have been requesting that the City hire a full time Parks and Recreation Director. However, prior to hiring a Director and/or staffing a new department, the City needs a plan and vision for what the future of parks and recreation may look like in the City, what types of service models should be considered, and a funding mechanism to support recreational programming.

Berk will attend the PTAC's May 17, 2021 meeting to facilitate a discussion with the entire Committee regarding how the City could provide parks and recreation services to the community moving forward. During the next month, please think about how you envision City of Stanwood parks and recreation operations in the future including facilities, programs, and levels of service for various maintenance and operational aspects. What is the City currently doing well that should continue? What should be changed? What new elements should be added? Please come to the next meeting prepared to present and discuss any items that you feel need to be considered as recommendations and options for future parks operations are developed. This is the perfect opportunity to speak to your vision for our parks system and raise any issues or concerns, even if longstanding and previously raised with staff or in past PTAC meetings.

The group will need to select one PTAC member who will serve on a larger Advisory Group for this process. That person will be the voice of the PTAC through the duration of the study and will report back to the larger group of the progress throughout the process.

- The Committee was presented with an overview from Director Patricia Love and have been asked to provide feedback at the next PTAC meeting to BERK Consulting regarding any issues and/or concerns for parks and trails in the City of Stanwood.

Heritage Park Project Prioritization Wrap-up:

The following is a prioritized list of the program elements included in the Heritage Park Master Plan based on the previous PTAC discussions. Newly added to the list are "pump track modifications" as it has been discovered that further work may be required on the recently placed dirt pump track. Also added is a project for "pump track upgrades/enlargements" which was inadvertently removed on the



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previous draft and would allow for consideration of paving and/or modifying the pump track in the future based on usage history and projections.

Project #	Project Description	Notes
1	Improve Baseball Field Drainage	
2	Resurface Parking Lot	
3	Pump Track Modifications	
4	Repair Soccer Field 1	
5	Improve Soccer Fields (2 and 4)	
6	Enlarged/Additional Dog Park	
7	Concessions/Restroom #2	
8	Baseball Field #4	
9	Skate Park Upgrade/Enlargement	
10	Covered Dug Out/Foul Netting	
11	Gateway/Wayfinding Signage	
12	Additional Soccer Field (3)	
13	Additional Parking Lot	
14	Pickleball Courts	
15	Picnic Shelter/Restroom #3	
16	Windbreak Landscaping	
17	Site Furniture (benches, trash cans)	
18	Baseball Lighting/Scoreboard	
19	Viewing Mound/Labyrinth	
20	Gathering Meadow	
21	Open Meadow/Landscaping	
22	Basketball Courts	
23	Picnic Shelter/Group Area	
24	Pump Track Upgrades/Enlargement	
25	Skatepark Lighting	
26	Soccer Field Lighting	
27	Additional Playground	
28	Existing Playground Improvements	
29	Trail System Connections	
30	Reforestation/Wetland buffer	
31	Wetland Viewpoints	
32	Viewing Mound #1	
33	Viewing Mound #2	
34	RV Parking	
35	Pickleball/Basketball Lighting	
36	Zipline	
37	Bull Pen	
38	Batting Cage	



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Note: shaded items are located on the additional western property (currently vacant land)

- The Committee discussed the priority list. A Motion was made by Rick Hawkins and seconded by Matt Withers to accept the list as presented. All present are in favor.

Church Creek Park Project Prioritization Discussion:

Church Creek Park is Stanwood's largest neighborhood park serving its residents with activities such as basketball and baseball, a new playground in 2020, a group picnic area, open lawn areas for community movie and music events and opportunities for walking in mature forested areas and accessing Church Creek. The updated Church Creek Park master plan builds on the existing facilities at the Park to better realize its full potential as a recreation destination through opportunities for play, walking, and gathering.

This update ensures the 15-acre park meets the needs of the Stanwood-Camano area residents to the greatest extent possible for the next 10 to 20 years. The proposed improvements help to reduce the deficiency of trails in Stanwood and address multiple action items outlined in the city's Six-Year Project Action Items and Twenty Years Park Plan. The master plan is guided by community input, site analysis, conceptual scenarios, and discussions with city staff. The Plan incorporates the desire to maintain the rural, forested character of Church Creek Park while making enhancements that make the park more accessible and useable for visitors as well as adding desired amenities such as pickleball courts.

The following list of program elements are included in the updated master plan for the Park. The projects need to be prioritized to allow for planning of future improvements.

Project #	Project Description	Notes
	Frontage tree thinning	
	Create forest glade recreation area (remove Alder trees)	
	Playground bench and signage	
	New/renovated sports court(s)	Maintain basketball, add pickleball
	Flagpole circle renovation	
	Create forest glade recreation area (remove Alder trees)	
	Park edge plantings	
	Renovate parking lot	
	More visible existing park entrance (including entrance signage)	
	Loop trails to/from Church Creek	
	Connections to adjacent properties (including wayfinding signage)	
	New park NW park entrance (including signage) New sports courts	
	Renovated baseball field	



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	Loop trail around NE wetland	
	New picnic shelter/plaza space	
	Improve trails/paths in NW park	
	Creek viewpoints	
	Forest picnic area	
	Complete disc golf course	
	Outdoor classroom and environmental education area	
	Frog pond restoration	
	Wetlands enhancement and mitigation plantings	
	Improve park host area	

- Committee discussed the above list and expressed their concerns and desires as to where they want to see some of the items moved up/down. They will submit any more thoughts on this list to Carly by the end of April. A revised list will be discussed at the June meeting.

Committee Member Comments – Glass Quest:

Committee member, Gordon Bell, suggested the state parks on Camano Island will no longer participate as a “venue” for the Great Northwest Glass Quest due to damage at the parks by quest participants. He wondered about the impacts on Stanwood parks and if similar damage was occurring and if it will worsen once the State Parks no longer participate. He brought it up not to recommend any specific action, but as a point of information and something to watch and consider.

Park Updates:

Hamilton Park:

The City staff is currently working on the environmental documents now and will have a new application finalized in the next 2-3 weeks to submit for the required permits as a combined project including both the City park and the WDFW boat launch.

Heritage Park:

The project is wrapping up and the parking lot is being paved soon and things are going smoothly.

Additional Committee Comments:

N/A

Adjourn – 4:56pm - Next Meeting: May 17, 2021 @ 3:00pm.