



# Parks and Trails Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes October 16, 2023

## 1. Call to Order/Roll Call: 3:01 PM

### Members Present:

Matt Withers  
Gordy Holmes  
Dave Hall  
Lisa Bruce

### Members Absent:

Judy Williams  
Meagen Watne  
Cathy Wooten

### Others Present:

Carly Ruacho, Parks Planning Manager  
Kevin Pellham, Parks Maintenance Lead  
Kevin Hushagen, Public Works Director  
Alan Lytton, City Engineer  
Tansy Schroeder, City Planner  
Brienne, Public  
Allison Jones, Public  
Peter Kamb, Public

## 2. Public Comments

Peter Kamb requested a painted bike lane on the 98<sup>th</sup> Ave NW bridge. Also, he asked that the City re-explore building the trail on the north side of the slough to continue the Port Susan trail versus constructing a boardwalk if costs are a constraint.

Brienne asked that the City consider installing turf for the Heritage Park baseball fields as well as lights for longer daytime use.

## 3. Approval of September 2023 Meeting Minutes

Minutes approved as written.

## 4. Communication Boards Presentation - Allison Jones, Chairman, Walk for Apraxia

Allison Jones did a presentation on a communication board to have at the parks. She has a non-verbal child, and the communication board has helped her child while playing on playgrounds. She indicated that verbal children also benefit from the boards. She is asking for PTAC committee support for putting these signs in the City parks. The committee was in support to have one of these put up as trial at Church Creek Park. If all goes well with it, they will consider supporting the placement in other city parks.

## 5. Downtown Park Design

The committee discussed and reviewed the three proposed designs for the downtown park. Tansy reported that the survey resulted in 400+ responses with design #1 as the preferred alternative.



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Seating and shade were the No. 1 and 2 most important elements. The Committee generally agreed with the community comments. No action taken.

### **6. Pros Plan Draft**

The committee discussed and reviewed the plan. They recommended Quote No. 3 “Study nature, love nature, stay close to nature. It will never fail you - Frank Lloyd Wright.” Tansy asked that any comments be given to her prior to the next meeting. One comment was noted that the Kayak golf course has recently closed and should not be included in the open space inventory. No action was taken

### **7. Park Policies**

The committee reviewed the proposed Polices. No action taken. Tansy indicated that further discussion will take place in November.

### **8. Heritage Dog Park Design**

The committee was notified the dog park was out for bid. No action taken.

### **9. Park Rental Policies**

The committee reviewed the proposed Polices. The Committee recommended that Little League baseball and soccer be given field reservation priority over select and for-profit teams. No action taken.

### **10. Park/Trails Update**

Hamilton - The park is in full swing and lots going on to finish the park by the end of the year.

Ovenell - Carly is working on a lease agreement with Andrew Davis for the public farm use.

Port Susan Trail- There will likely not be a pedestrian bridge due to the cost of wetland boardwalk. The portion of the trail on the north side of the slough will likely happen under a future phase. Phase 2 will end in Hamilton Landing Park.

### **11. Committee Comments**

Lisa Bruce recommended that movies in the park have at least one night targeted for older kids or “date night” movies rather than having all very young age movies. She also recommended having a food truck if possible.

Carly applied for a \$100,000 maintenance grant from the State to help with maintenance needs around the parks. This is the first time such a grant has been offered. Funding awards should be announced by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Adjourn: 5:00 PM**