

Wayzata Park & Trails Board

Meeting Minutes: November 19, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 by Chairman Dan Baasen. Meeting was held at the Wayzata City Hall.

Present: Dan Baasen – Chair, Merrily Borg Babcock, Mary Bader, Jim McWethy, Sarah Randolph, and city representative Mike Kelly.

Absent: Joanie Cunningham, Tyler Purdy, and Sarah Showalter.

Approval of the agenda for the November meeting was motioned by Baasen and seconded by McWethy. Approved unanimously.

Approval of the October minutes was moved by Bader and seconded by Borg Babcock. They were unanimously approved.

Review of the Master Plan thus far. This is a draft and not the final.

Overall review of chapter by chapter.

Chapter 1 Introduction

Give history and context to the region and the City of Wayzata. Activities and programming is important. Community Education is typically partnered with an outside vendor of some sort.

There have been studies done for the Lake Effect, Sailing Ahead Vision and Task Force. The plan is building upon previous plans and task force research. The main purpose is to create a definition of a plan to be guide for the city in the future to come.

Incorporating elements of the 2040 plan that are a direct correlation for our parks and trails.

Connection to the Lake Effect. Needs to be a parallel yet integral part of the Master Plan. Include the quote “The Wayzata Parks and Trails Board emphatically recommends that all changes to Lake Street and the Lake Street waterfront should prioritize and accommodate safe use by pedestrians and recreational bikers, and enhance the viewing of, appreciation of, and access to the waterfront park space.

Community Engagement summary graph. There was input from the community through many meetings, open houses, dot-ology at JJ Hill Days and the Wayzata Art Experience. Information was compiled and graphed as to where the most information came from.

There is a strong feeling that the general public is concerned about the potential cost for this project and where the money is coming from. Needs to be transparency and better explanation in the section about park funds, grants, park dedication etc.

Chapter 2 System-wide Analysis

System-Wide Analysis Partnered with PROs Analysis. The overall consensus is that they have not done what we've hired them for. Our project seems to have gotten lost in the shuffle. They are working for us to plan and pull information from other communities that are the same size. Working to compare what we are trying to do, with what other cities have done, and what works for them. They were to be looking into levels of service (LOS), acreage, programing, and amenities. Communities that are our size typically have x, y, and z. There should be comparison with our city/community in comparison with other communities that are roughly the same size as ours. A LOS comparison will be a helpful planning tool.

Chapter 3 System-wide Vision

System-Wide Vision. What we want the parks to look like?

Community Trends-

- Aging Population and ADA accessibility
- Family oriented
- Trail usage is growing
- Health and fitness is on the rise
- Family dogs are increasingly common
- Programs and specialized sports
- Natural areas highly valued environmental issues in MN clean water and air
- Parks department has an opportunity to foster sustainability.
- Increased socialization in game playing bocce ball, pickle ball, and paddle tennis. Suggested as an additional bullet point by McWethy.

Recreational Trends –

- Paddle Sports are growing in popularity
- Rental opportunities – canoes, paddle boards bicycles, skates, etc., splash pad, hockey, ice skating
- Bike playground for young kids
- Basketball – currently there are no courts in the city at all
- Sand volleyball down at the beach.

Platform Tennis – Open/ Free play. Bringing the sport to the non-country club members.

- Multi-generational
- Vibrancy to the parks through affordable outdoor fun
- Provides a sense of connection with the local community
- Integrating other community activities, leagues and teams, rental space, comradery
- Only racket sport played in the winter
- Used year round. Courts can be used for Pickleball in the summer

Guiding Principles–

- Develop a variety of active and passive parks and programs for our Wayzata Residents
- Ensure each park is well connected. Bikeable and pedestrian friendly.
- Support Residents desire and ability to stay healthy, active, and engaged in the community.
- Create vibrant parks with activities and programming for all Seasons.

- Foster environmental and economic sustainability that projects Wayzata's water and natural resources.
- Create a multi-generational park system that builds community, attracts young families, and supports aging in place.

Connecting Wayzata. Importance of regional trails and their connectivity. Ferndale, Minnetonka Ave., Broadway, Dakota Trail Extension, Wayzata Blvd, connections between parks.

Discussion of adding the walking trail through the Eastman Marsh by Borg-Babcock.

City Identity – City is charming, need signage and wayfinding to be cohesive and charming.

Chapter 4

Park Plans Each park has their existing conditions, location, proposed design, and improvement overview.

Parks included are:

- Klapprich & Bell Courts
- Wayzata Beach & Shaver Park
- Margaret Circle Park
- Nature Center
- City Hall & Children's Park
- Big Woods Preserve
- Heritage Park

Special Consideration Parks

- Post Office Park
- The Great Lawn & Play Area
- Wayzata Depot/ R.R. Museum
- Lake Street Plaza (New)
- Eco Park (New)
- Little Beach

Suggestion that we remove the young kid's bike park from to Shaver Park. Moved by Bader and Seconded by Borg-Babcock. Motion passed by a vote of 3 to 2 (Baasen, Randolph).

Chapter 5 Implementation

Cost estimates and priority ranking have been provided and broken down.

Board members were asked to send Mike Kelly what their top 7-10 priorities, of what they'd like to see, within the master park and trails plan would be. Please get them to him by Friday, November 23, 2018.

Meeting adjourned at 6:48 to get the room ready for the 7PM Planning Commission meeting.