

Parks and Trails Board
Wednesday April 17, 2013

Call To Order: 7:08PM

Attendees: Dan Baasen, Merrily Babcock, Joanie Cunningham, Dick Himes, Sarah Randolph, PW Staff Dave Dudinsky, City of Wayzata Communication Specialist Samantha Grosz, and City Manager Heidi Nelson

Meeting minutes from March 20, 2013

- Approved by Dan Baasen, 2nd by Sarah Randolph
- Unanimously approved.

Presentation given by Samantha Grosz regarding our existing parks of Wayzata. Goal for our parks is that they have a clear, direct, and straight forward orientation.

Merrily Babcock mentioned we all need to visit our existing parks to become familiar with what the city of Wayzata has to offer. To date, about half of the committee, including Samantha has visited all the parks.

What is our Goal?

- Expand use to both residents & visitors.
- Friendly and accessible. Then people will use the restaurants and shops more.
- Make Wayzata a destination.

Who is our key audience?

Who do we want to influence?

Who will help us reach our goal?

Who will benefit?

Who will be responsible for implementing this plan?

Who will be responsible for funding?

Who are we targeting?

Community

City Staff

Visitors

Chamber

Historical Society

Volunteers.....Rotary, Lions, Service Organizations

S.W.O.T. Analysis:

Strengths

- The Lake
- Diversity

- Gateway to the Trails
- Balance to population
- Location close to the city/ close to the country
- Luce Line is linked to downtown
- Retail combined with the Parks
- Place to have lunch on a bike trip.
- Multiple facilities for different seasons; lake in summer and winter, beach, Klapprich.

Weakness

- Lack of knowledge as to what's available
- Unclear amenities
- No knowledge of how parks are being used and how to properly market them and to whom
- No way to evaluate programs
- Access to and condition of parks
- Connectivity of trails
- Adequate facilities
- Parking

Opportunities

- Wayzata as a destination
- Rental of our parks – revenue generating i.e. Depot
- Lake – Minnetonka
- Close to the city
- Gateway to the trails
- Retail before, during, after, being outdoors
- Seating
- Lake Effect
- Shower
- Activities at the Beach
 - Paddle Boarding

Threats

- Competition
- Winter – Utilize
 - Use of Lake in the winter; broom ball tournaments, snowshoe race on the lake.
- Parking (lack of)
- Resident views on neighborhood parks

Discussion as to what our priorities are as a board and what we want to do in and with each park.
What exactly are we doing??

Priority List:

- What is our budget and what is our spending plan?
- Funding -

- o Is it adequate?
 - o How is it being used?
 - o Where does it come from?
- Being an advocate for our parks. Previously the parks and trails have been viewed as maintenance.

Parks and Trails task force inventory and survey.

Capital plans, landscape boardwalk etc.

Park and Trails board to revisit their findings.

What would we like to see as an improvement to our parks?

What is the priority for improvements?

Our focus is improvement (amenity). How do we get this done?

East Buffer meeting next meeting which is located between the Presbyterian Homes development and Circle A Drive.

Depot potty discussion of building a permanent one, it's appearance and placement. \$1200 estimate to have it built on a concrete slab.

EAB (Emerald Ash Borer)

A Survey of our trees estimates that there are roughly 450 Ash trees on public property and it could be 4 times that on private property.

The problem seems inevitable. What are our options?

New Business

Merrily Babcock's thoughts:

We need to get people to focus on the trees a little more. Who in Wayzata has the oldest tree? Who has the biggest tree? Who has the most different species on their property etc?

Get people to start focusing on trees and the health of them for our future.

Dick Himes will not be at the next meeting.

May 10th at 11AM there is a tree planting at Bell Courts Park.