

Johnston Park Advisory Board  
July 20<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 PM  
Crown Point Community Center  
6300 Pioneer Parkway  
515-251-3707



**MINUTES**

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.
2. Roll Call: Butler, Paulsen, Cook, Smith, Quinlisk
3. Motion for Approval of Agenda-Motion made by Paulsen to approve. Second by Cook. Motion approved.
4. Public Comments:
  - A. Eagle Scout Project Proposal-Nick Maher is working on a project in Rittgers' Oaks. His plan is to take out a dead tree and plant a new one, plant some bushes and flowers. He's hoping to get donations to help pay for most of the items to be planted. He'll also do some landscaping in the area and use small landscaping blocks to enclose this area. Nick hopes to have this completed by the end of the summer or by the beginning of the school year. The Board felt this was an excellent project and encouraged him to keep Ron updated on his progress.
5. Consent Agenda:
  - A. Motion to Approve June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 minutes. Motion made by Paulsen to approve. Second by Quinlisk. Motion approved.
6. Non-Consent Agenda:
  - A. Discuss 2030 Comprehensive Plan for Parks & Recreation-Mark Koegler with Hoisington Koegler Group, discussed the six districts of the City, with proposed improvements listed in the 2003 Plan. The basis of the updated plan will be the 2003 Parks Comprehensive Plan and will include updated inventory and policy information as well as updated recommendations and action steps.

Healthy Living is a strong new planning trend that is growing nationally, so including this in the policies and text of the plan, could aid future funding opportunities. Mark solicited the Park Board's feedback and their perspectives on the current parks and trail systems as well as ideas for future enhancements. Mark will have a draft of the plan ready for the Park Board's review at their August meeting.

Mark presented two maps. One was a land use map, the other a first draft working copy of the Johnston Park and Open Space Map, including areas that have been annexed since 2003. Dave Wilwerding, Community and Development Director, was also on hand for this presentation to help answer questions about boundary lines and sizes of different plots of land.

Mark discussed each of the six districts with the Board and obtained their feedback and ideas for improvements/enhancements they'd like to see in each area. A few of the districts have already had recent improvements and didn't need much discussion. The Board agreed one of the main objectives throughout the growth of the areas is making sure any new trails are connected to the main trail systems already in place.

Improvements already in place or that will happen in the future that were discussed:

1. In the Northridge District very little has changed since the 2003 plan. There is strong resident interest in a trail that would better connect the area to the greater Johnston community.
2. Very little has changed in the North District. The City recently completed some improvements at Morningside Park.
3. In the East District the the City has identified various trail connections to link to the existing trail. The City anticipates acquiring additional park ground as currently vacant land develops.
4. Improvements to Crown Point Community Center are already scheduled in the Central District..
5. The biggest change in the Southwest District has been the development of Adventure Ridge Park.

Mark felt this was a good discussion and also talked about future growth areas of the City. He'll compile the information and feedback and prepare a draft of the plan to have ready for the Board to review at their August meeting.

B. Providence Point Park Development Meeting-This meeting was open to the public and held at Crown Point on July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Ron sent letters to the homeowners in this area and six people attended the meeting. (Ron also had another resident call to give his input on what he'd like to see in this park). The meeting started with Ron giving an overview of the park and why he was holding the meeting. There is \$240,000 available for phased development of this park.

Next was a power point presentation that showed pictures of equipment in parks in Johnston, equipment in the parks in Ankeny, as well as some pictures from catalogs of possible playground equipment that can be ordered. The goal was to have the residents give their feedback on what they'd like to see in this park. Following are the comments from the residents after seeing the presentation:

- A. Tennis Courts w/1/2 basketball court
- B. Climbing Structures-Like the climbing rocks & boulders. Equipment they climb and hang from, climbing nets.
- C. Swings
- D. All agreed they'd like to see new & unique equipment different than the other equipment already in the other parks
- E. Gear equipment toward kids' fitness-with the new age climbers seen in the pictures
- F. All felt that a picnic shelter wasn't necessary at this point in time. But picnic tables and benches would be a plus.

Ron will prepare two drawings of equipment for the different age groups and take back to the Park Board for their approval. The residents are welcome to attend the Park Board meetings and give their input during the public comments portion of the meeting. They need to check the City Website as the agendas are posted monthly before each meeting. Ron said the timing of installation of the equipment could be started in the fall if the equipment is delivered on time, otherwise it will be Spring of 2011.

7. Park & Recreation Director Report:

A. Crown Point Remodeling-The Public Hearing has been set for August 2<sup>nd</sup>, with bids accepted on August 19<sup>th</sup> for this project. The contract can be awarded on September 7<sup>th</sup> and work can begin at that time. Teresa Rotschafer, Finance Director, also approved another \$200,000 to be funded for this project, which brings the overall total funds to \$700,000.

B. Lew Clarkson & Pointe Vista Park Improvements-Council approved this project at the July 19<sup>th</sup> council meeting. The improvements include a trail connection for Lew Clarkson Park and parking lot and ½ basketball court for Pointe Vista Park. The bid opening is July 27<sup>th</sup> with the contract to be awarded for this project on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010.

C. Farmers Market-July 27<sup>th</sup>-Ron will set up a booth at the Farmers Market on Tuesday, July 27<sup>th</sup>. Any Park Board members that want to join him are welcome. He'll be there from 3:00pm-7:00pm

D. Beaver Creek Natural Resource Area Management Plan-The Public meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at the Simpson Barn at 6:00pm. A goal setting meeting with the Park & Tree Board will be scheduled for Tuesday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm at Crown Point Community Center.

E. Beaver Trail Study-Ron has selected Shive Hattery to work on this study. They are now preparing their scope of services for this study.

F. Parks Staff-The Parks Crew has been working on replacing a collapsed retaining wall in Green Meadows. They continue to mow, spray, and clear debris off trails from the recent storms.

G. Ron has an invitation from James Sevenich, who worked on an Eagle Scout project, to attend his ceremony for his Eagle Scout Award. This Award is to be presented to James on Saturday, August 14<sup>th</sup> at 2:30 at St. Paul Presbyterian Church in Johnston.

8. Next Park Advisory Board Meeting:  
August 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010

9. Motion for adjournment made by Paulsen, second by Cook. Approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.