

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

Bondurant Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes
July 21, 2022

1. Roll Call

Present: Robinson, Simpson, Collison, Williams, and Lyman

Absent: Karwoski and Miller

City Officials Present: City Administrator Marketa Oliver,
Communications and Events Coordinator
Nicole Van Houten

2. Call to Order and Declaring a Quorum

3. Abstentions declared
None.

4. Approval of Minutes

a. Park & Rec 22-6

Motion by Robinson seconded by Simpson to approve June 16, 2022 minutes. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

5. Perfecting and Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Collison seconded by Simpson to approve the July 21, 2022 agenda. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

6. Guests requesting to address the Parks Board

a. EOR's Update on Eagle Park Design Plan

Present: Senior Water Resource Engineer Aaron Gwinnup

Representing: EOR Water, Ecology, Community

Discussion: Gwinnup presents the updated proposal, including the suggestions and adjustments the board requested last month.

Lyman asked if the Disc Golf Course had been adjusted to not cross the trail system.

Gwinnup responded that the Eagle Park Master Plan was set before the disc golf holes were included, so once the schematic designs

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

and the construction begins, the trail system can be avoided, and the disc golf holes can be adjusted to accommodate.

Robinson asked if he could take a closer look at the layout of the Disc Golf Course and if he could point out the different vegetative sites. Gwinnup explained that the southern portion would remain turf, and the southeastern corner has a designated pollinator area. East of the creek will include a low mix of native vegetation, and the wetlands will have a potent mix of native vegetation.

Robinson asked if we would try to retain the trees on site today.

Gwinnup responded that the cottonwoods and brush trees along 3rd Street in the swale would be removed. The cottonwoods of 2-inch diameter or larger will be retained. EOR will evaluate the cottonwoods in the spring to see if they produce flowers or nuisance cotton buds. The trees along 2nd Street will remain. The stormwater output north of 3rd has a bunch of black willows that will be removed. All other trees will remain.

Robinson asked whether the trees in the park's northern section would also be removed.

Gwinnup will have to check and get back to Robinson.

Robinson asked if the walking path would be crushed limestone.

Gwinnup confirmed that the path would be crushed limestone.

Robinson asked about public input and asked when the last time the public had an opportunity to share questions and concerns.

Oliver responded that this project was a part of the 2013 Park, Trail, and Greenway Master Plan, which included many public input sessions and public awareness events. The implementation of this project is similar to the City Park Master Planning Process. The initial project was defined, the site was evaluated and designed per specifications in the planning phase, the phasing was determined, and the funding and priority were established, which

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

took a variable amount of time to get to the construction phase. Once the construction phase is deciphered, it isn't logical to go back to the earlier planning stages to ask for more public feedback. The Eagle Park project has been discussed during public meetings, shared on the city's website for many years, and project updates have been published on social media platforms. Initially, public input was gathered in 2013 and again during the ICON Water Trails project chose this area during 2016/17.

Robinson stated that the residents near the park area are the most impacted.

Lyman requested that this project be shared on social media platforms leading up to the City Council's approval on Monday, August 1.

Oliver also noted that a public hearing will be held before any contract for the work is let.

Motion by Collison seconded by Williams to recommend the approval of the Eagle Park Master Plan to City Council. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

b. SmithGroup Update on Central Park Design Plan

Present: Urban Design and Waterfront Studio Leader
Tom Rogers and Landscape Architect J Blue

Absent: SmithGroup

Discussion: SmithGroup presented public meeting 3, which is the last input session before the final master plan is unveiled. The design includes a 36-acre lake. The Grant Street realignment is now shown as traveling along portions of the park and business district, which required a tighter realignment.

The design showcases the community center with a flexible space with the ability for indoor events to expand outdoors with covered space, also sustainable and forward focused in style and functionality, a grand prominent structure with patio space and overlooks, and includes multiple halls that can be combined to

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

accommodate both small and large events. The community center is a formal node that relates to commercial development. Parking divides the community center, transitioning to an area for seasonal play, including an ice rink/splash pad. This area may also have an open green space that could easily be converted into an amphitheater with a pavilion.

There is also a distinctly different space in another area of the park, including a boathouse that also has event or classroom space, storage, and a prominent overhang for potential concessions or outdoor programming, with a beach area for public swimming and a boat dock for active water recreation.

There are two distinct areas: 1. formal venue and 2. scenic and natural spaces.

The water body uses pinch points for boardwalks and bridges from one side to the other side. This maintains a minimum of 30 acres for an adequate volume of water storage. The water will be engaged by adding a beach. Maximize the view of the water by integrating overlooks and boardwalks. The water's edge will have a mixture of reverted edging with rock, typical shoreline conditions, and native tallgrass prairie.

This park space can be viewed by zones - zone 1 includes the 500 floodplain area, zone 2 would be built up and regarded as a levy, and zone 3 is the park space. The walking path shows two loops that could be traveled, but various route options could be considered - the two routes shown include a 1.55 mile (two loops would complete a 5k) and an alternate route including 1.75 miles.

This will be a phased project.

Roth stated that a lot of dirt would be repurposed while realigning Grant Street, which will begin the process of digging the

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

lake.

Oliver requested that the final master plan document include an exhibit showing the land easements and land needed to be acquired for this project. Also, add the conceptual phased plan with a construction timeline for each phase. This will include the permitting requirement and the time required to acquire the permit.

Van Houten asked if we should consider adding the Gay Lea Wilson Trail connection that will connect the Highway 65 Underpass to Altoona.

Rogers asked if the portion of the proposed Central Park trail would be a part of the regional trail outlining the Bondurant Gay Lea Wilson connection to Altoona Gay Lea Wilson Trail. This would require the redesign of the trail to show a 12' width trail but could be a significant economic driver for the space.

7. Action Items

a. Accessible Swings

City staff presented research on different swing options to consider adding to the current park system. A community member asked if the board would consider adding inclusive swings in more parks. Today, inclusive swings are located at Efnor Estates Park.

Lyman proposed that moving forward in park design, always include an inclusive swing in each park.

Williams does not want an inclusive swing in every park, but maybe on a per park basis, consider if the space makes sense to include more inclusive swings.

Robinson presented that moving forward, as part of the standard park kit, park playgrounds should include standard belt swings, tot swings, and inclusive swings.

Motion by Robinson seconded by Simpson to retrofit playground equipment appropriately in current parks and future parks to be more inclusive and accessible. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

- b. Current draft Parks + Recreation chapter of the Building Bondurant Comprehensive Plan

The board didn't have any feedback except for minor grammatical errors that need to be adjusted.

8. Discussion Items -

- a. Bluejay Mile Markers Update

A trail user observed while traveling east to Lake Petocka that the signs should be on the other side of the post - the Depot and HS mileage on the signs is as if you were heading west instead of east. It may seem confusing if you are traveling east on the trail; the markers indicate the miles until you reach the Depot or the High School.

Oliver clarified that these were installed for the use of the track team. Williams asked if a sign could be added to the other side to eliminate confusion.

Oliver responded that the city would look into this as a solution to the confusion.

Other feedback is that it would be nice to see these signs around Lake Petocka. Lake Petocka trail is typically included in the 5K route from downtown Bondurant. The Parks Board will keep this in mind during the Parks Master Planning process.

Other feedback is that travel on the trail is similar to a roadway, and the side you travel on should be where signs are placed – the right-hand side.

Motion by Williams seconded by Robinson to install mile markers on each side of the posts for better clarification. Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

9. Reports and Comments:

- a. Administrator

Below are the City Administrator's Reports:

1. City Council approved renaming the Bondurant Soccer Complex to Collison Soccer Park. City staff is in the process of updating Google maps, the park sign, and other updates related to the park name change.
2. Received an update today that the Bondurant Dog Park was not a finalist in the Bark for Your Park Grant. The project is still moving forward.

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

3. Prarie Meadows approved a \$20,000 Community Betterment Grant for the Bondurant Dog Park.
4. Lowe's approved a \$2,000 Hometowns Grant for the Bondurant Dog Park.
5. The Bondurant Chamber of Commerce is receiving a \$15,000 Prarie Meadows Community Betterment Grant for a Rec -n- Roll Trailer that will be used for block parties within the community. It will have all the supplies needed to host a block party or outdoor rec event.
6. The Bondurant Soccer Complex is receiving a \$27,000 Prarie Meadows Community Betterment Grant for the addition of a 4-foot safety fence and 4 backstops.
7. Bondurant Development Inc. is receiving \$20,000 for the downtown parking lot nestled along a trail.
8. City staff has applied for a Creative Places Project Grant for a proposed ARTocka concept. This will include art sculptures surrounding Lake Petocka that tell Bondurant's historical story.
9. The Bondurant City Council, City Administrator, and Finance and Employee Services Director are honored with two ICMA awards. One is for the Economic Development program Launch and the other award is for the Strategic Continuous Operational Redesign and Evaluation (SCORE) program.
10. The Underpass construction is kicking off on Monday, July 25, and is projected to be complete by November 2022.
11. City Council approved repaving 2nd Street NE and NW this year.

b. Board Members

Simpson reported that the Bluejay Basketball Club has offered an open gym for its members and has participated in a few open tournaments. Robinson reported that the Tree Board has started planning its fall tree sale. They are looking to gathering a listing of all the tree needs the City has budgeted for this FY. Some of the tree needs are identified by the 2022 park inventory, the discussed trees at BRSC Soccer Park, and the requested memorial trees.

Marion reported that the Auxiliary Club meets in September. The Civic Club is willing to answer any questions the Parks and Recreation Board may have about their organization.

Williams reported that the Lions Club hasn't responded to his interest in joining a meeting. The CVT Visioning Committee is starting back up, and he plans to join their next meeting. The Skate Park Committee is kicking off soon and will plan to attend it and report back to the group.

Robinson reported that there is often people parking on the trail that runs through the parking lot at Lake Petocka on the south side of the park. Oliver responded that there is a possibility to add concrete bollards or mark the trail more significantly to clearly define the trail from the

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

parking area. This will be looked into.
Lyman had nothing to report.

c. **Staff**

Now that the park inventory is complete, items missing at each park from the Standard Park Kit Guide will be presented and discussed during the next board meeting. The hours of operation sign and public smoking regulations sign will include a design plan. The Park Sign will need to wait until the Parks and Recreation Board has updated the Parks Master Plan. The parks needing more trees will include the Tree Board's expertise to determine the best tree species and planting location. The Tree Board's Fall tree sale would be a good time to consider purchasing those additional trees.

A Skate Park Committee will kick off soon. The committee volunteer group will help with fundraising, finding grant funding opportunities, spreading awareness, and spurring excitement in this new park coming to Bondurant. Seth Williams will be the assigned liaison and will share updates as the committee starts.

- On June 10th Creative Genuises' hosted an Art Day Camp at the Regional Trailhead. This is Creative Genuises' fifth year hosting an Art Camp, which was the most attended year. Since the interest is there, Parks and Recreation hope to expand the Art Camp to multiple days.
- On June 23rd Life in Petals hosted a Life in Petals Wreath Workshop at Founder's Irish Pub. It was an excellent opportunity for adults to come together, meet new people, and design a wreath while enjoying the vibe of Founder's Irish Pub.
- On July 16,, the Bondu Blues and Brews Festival was hosted at the trailhead, attracting about 350 people coming and going. The food vendor had 80 orders total, and the whimsical wine trailer had about 88 orders. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. The vendor tents blocked the views, but the audience didn't want to be too close to the stage this year.

The Youth Activity Bus is struggling to attract users. Please guide me on the best course of action. **A program satisfaction survey was sent to the families who signed up for the program.**

Current programs in the process are the Summer Parks Passport, 6-week Little Breakerz Class, and the 6-week Yoga in the Park Class.

Before school starts in August, we will want to finalize the Dog Park Amenities. What amenities do you want to see? Climbing structures, jumping structures, tunnels, fire hydrants? How many? Email me your input in the weeks to come.

10. **Adjournment**

Motion by Robinson seconded by Williams to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM Vote on Motion 5-0. Motion carried.

**Due to the COVID-19 concerns and social distancing recommendations, a virtual meeting was offered.*

Nicole Van Houten
Communications and Events Specialist

ATTEST:

Dennis Lyman
Board Chair