

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

Bondurant Parks and Recreation Board
Minutes
July 27, 2022

1. Roll Call

Present: Bill Baker, Tracy Darbyshire, Ron Hardy, Izzy Hardy, Seth Williams, Skylar Smith, Nicole Rundle-Ballard, Tiffany Reese, Quentin Bailey, Mike Dennis, Mike Porter, and J Blue with the SmithGroup

Absent: Kristen Cook, Ryan Kirkpatrick, Colby Allen

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

a. Introductions

Kicked off the committee with 14 committee members.

2. Call to Order and Declaring a Quorum

Van Houten called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

3. Abstentions declared

N/A

4. Approval of Minutes

N/A

5. Perfecting and Approval of the Agenda

6. Guests requesting to address the Parks Board

a. SmithGroup to unveil the preliminary skate park design.

Present: Landscape Architect J Blue

Representing: SmithGroup

Discussion: The consultant shared the preliminary Master Plan for the Central District Stormwater park. Shared an overview of the entire concept and a more detailed view of the skate park concept.

7. Action Items

8. Discussion Items -

- a. Capture input on skate park design and discuss what amenities would make this a regional attraction

Below are the takeaways from the committee discussions.

- The concept has a nice combo of vert & street on the left.
- The top right of the concept would be an excellent spot to continue with vert structure
- Lauridsen is not meant for beginners. Would like the Bondurant Skate Park to appeal to both younger and older generations; the beginners and the experienced skaters.
- Nice to see options in the Bondurant concept - a standard drop-in bowl but also one where you can skate in and surf the sides.
- It needs to have multiple shaded areas, benches with a canopy, or a concrete seating area with a shade structure.
- It needs to have a fence and access gate.
- It needs plugins so you can play music or charge your phones.
- Lighting is important. We could have a scheduled on/off phase when the park closes.
- Skateparks can attract graffiti. Encourage it properly with controlled art in planned areas. A wall painted with chalkboard paint.
- Partner with the school district that designs and installs art that rotates each year. Not a space would be skated on, but maybe the lower part of the benches. An example would be the art next to the DSM Social Club at 601 Cherry Street. Invite different local artists.
- Must evaluate flow - flow is a big thing - give everybody a lane. Avoid issues with approaches and angles that lose skater momentum or cause safety issues. Avoid cross traffic.
- The Saylor Skate Park is put together well – indoor park, changes configuration periodically, nice funbox). (source: <https://www.concretedisciples.com/global-skatepark-directory/closed-skateparks/saylor-skatepark-des-moines-iowa-usa/>)
- The Jolie Crider Memorial Skate Park, the Ankeny Skate Park, and the Independence, Iowa provide a good example of a bowl that you can skate right into (source: <https://www.columbusparkfoundation.org/projects/jolie-crider-memorial-skate-park/> and <https://www.independenceia.org/facilities/facility/details/Skate-Park-27>)

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- The cams at Lauridsen are awesome (source: <https://dsmskatepark.com/>)
 - can check on skaters (source: <https://dsmskatepark.com/live-stream/>)
 - deter fights
 - can check if it is busy
- The bowls in the Bondurant concept looked cool. Like the idea of a bowl that eliminates fear with flush access.
- This would put us in competition with other areas - not too many skate parks are this big.
 - 20,000 square foot and could have 80-100 skaters' capacity at full build-out
 - Big enough to have more significant contests.
- The more parks we have in Des Moines, the more we can become the skate Mecca.
- The skating community will travel for good skate parks.
- The relationship of this skate park with the overall park system is going to make this a nice attraction.

Why is Altoona not skatable?

- Transitions are not approachable...too steep...too sharp.
- The approach is off.
- Built by someone who hasn't skated before,
- There is no flow
- There is no run-up to anything
- Tons of cross traffic

What can we add to make this park unique?

- Lots of skate parks in the area do not have a flat area to teach younger kids tricks.
- It would be nice to have a half-pipe that is LEGIT - it would be cool to have a roof over it to keep that portion dry - the bigger, the better - 16 feet wide - although it must be proportionate.
- Stressed a few times was a need for a mini vert
- A pump track should be included - it is all-inclusive.
- A shelter over a-mini vert would be unique.

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- b. Unveil Skate Park cost estimate and brainstorm fundraising opportunities.

The initial step will be to form a private Facebook page to include all committee members. Awareness of the proposed Bondurant Skate Park will be an integral part of fundraising and involving partners in the construction of this park. The committee will plan to open a Venmo or Go Fund Me account, begin building partnerships and host fundraising events and initiatives.

Some grant options that the committee will want to pursue:

Grant Name	Organization	Deadline	Projected Dollar Amount	More details
Large Match Grant	The Wellmark Foundation	9/21/2022	Requests up to \$50,000	-
The Skatepark Project Grants	The Skatepark Project	Reviewed Quarterly	The average grant amount for a National Program applicant is \$10,000	-
Land and Water Conservation Fund	Iowa Department of Natural Resources	3/15/2023	\$200,000 ??	-
Creative Places Project Grant	Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs	11/1/2022	\$500 - \$2,500 with a 1:1 match requirement	
Creative Places Project Grant	Iowa Department of Cultural Affairs	2/1/2023	\$500 - \$2,500 with a 1:1 match requirement	-
Creative Placemaking	Iowa Economic Development	9/30/2022	up to 40% of the	

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			signature project	

Fundraising resources:

<https://publicskateparkguide.org/fundraising/>

<http://skateparkfoundation.org/raising-the-money.html>

c. Next Steps

The Skate Park Committee will decide if they want to establish subcommittees.

- What elements are needed? Find regional attractions. Seek skate community input.
- Grant opportunities? Writers, researchers, etc.
- Fundraising includes community outreach, local business outreach, regional business outreach, and park awareness.
- Social Media, Branding, community polling, community surveying
- Community Outreach with community partners, local artists, event partners, school district outreach, etc.

Timeline:

- What is our construction goal? Unknown.
- How often should the committee meet? They will have brainstorming sessions on Facebook and meet monthly to regroup and keep on track.
- How often should subcommittees meet? Undetermined.

9. Reports and Comments:

N/A

10. Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:30 PM

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Nicole Van Houten
Communications and Events Coordinator

ATTEST:

Bill Baker
Board Chair