

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

March 9, 2011

7:00 p.m.

Council Chambers

AGENDA

Call to Order

Public Participation

Consent Agenda

1. Minutes from the January 12, 2011

Reports

1. Public Works Report – Mike Helms
2. Recreation Program Report – Chris Engel
3. Community Center Committee – Kathy Peterson
4. Chairperson’s Report – Diana Ewy Sharp

New Business

Old Business

1. Community Garden Discussion
2. Franklin Park Rededication – May 21st
3. 2011 Park Project Update

Information Items

- Next Meeting – April 13

Adjournment

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE
January 12, 2011

The Park and Recreation Committee met at 7.00pm. Present and presiding: Diana Ewy Sharp, Chair, Vice Chair Laura Wassmer, Kathy Peterson, Diane Mares, Joe Nolke, Dan Searles, Tim O'Toole, Clarence Munsch, Ann Bontrager, Max Rieper and Jim Bernard, Jr. Staff: Bruce McNabb, Mike Helms, Chris Engel.

CONSENT AGENDA

Laura moved approval of October 13, 2010 minutes and British Soccer/Challenger contracts. Jim seconded and the motion carried.

Community Gardens Proposal

Margaret Goldstein and Thomas O'Brien from the Environmental Committee made a presentation on establishing a community garden in one of the parks. They would be looking for a 3,000 sq ft plot with access to water and direct sunlight. They suggested an updated Weltner might be a good location since it is still in design. It was agreed this would not be maintained by the City and must have some foliage or landscaping to cover it during the fall months. The committee will discuss the item in February.

REPORTS

Public Works Report

Mike reported vandalism is still a problem and spray painting has increased. He continues to remove all graffiti once reported and plans to prosecute to the full extent of the law if individuals are caught. There was discussion of getting the info out to the public so people will remain vigilant. Student Rep Tim O'Toole suggested getting the information onto the school's Facebook page. Diana will suggest this to Chief Jordan. The Franklin Park shelter is up but still needs electrical work completed and tables installed. Mike looked into time locks for the restrooms and they cost ~\$4,000 each.

Recreation Program Report

Chris reported Tracy Cooper has been hired as the JTL coach and is interested in expanding the tennis program. Guards have been invited back and concessions bids will be sent out in the weeks to come with the aim of revamping the menu. The 2011 SuperPass program was approved. There was an effort at the staff level to close the price gap between cities through SuperPass rate increases and manipulating membership fees but the gap could not be completely closed. One of the strategies for closing the gap is to hold most 2011 recreation fees at 2010 levels while decreasing non-resident pool membership fees to match Fairway. After discussion **Jim Bernard Jr. recommended City Council approve the 2011 Fee Schedule as written. Kathy Peterson seconded and the motion carried.**

Parks Master Plan Report

Kathy reported the planning for Weltner Park is underway and the road realignment is scheduled for late spring so the park should be done by autumn.

Community Center Committee

Jim reported the committee will be meeting next week to discuss the market study and survey result tabulations.

Chairperson's Report

Diana reported former committee member Ben Munday recently passed away and she would be attending his service. The ribbon-cutting for Franklin Park scheduled for spring will be in the next Village Voice. Also, she recently read an economic impact study sponsored by KRPA that states for every \$1 invested in parks there is a \$1.75 return; she will be sharing this with City Council as the difficult 2012 budget process begins.

NEW BUSINESS

A resident would like the parks to close earlier than 11.00pm. The resident lives next to a park and people hang out and play basketball after dark. This is a concern because of the proximity to the park, especially during the summer when the windows are open. This was discussed and considered an isolated item and the hours will be left same.

Chris reported an organization would like to host a race at Franklin Park on May 1st from 2.00 – 4.00pm. The 2nd annual Walk n' Roll Race is for walkers, runners and wheelchairs and benefits spina bifida and Camp MITIOG. Franklin would be ideal because of its level trail and proximity to the center of the metro region. In the absence of more information from the sponsor the committee passed on the event and suggested Roe Park at 103rd and Mission.

Chris reported the clerk staff is recommending a change to CP526 to reflect their current practice of renting ballfields. The amendments allow for a more orderly process of renting fields that allow equal access to fields and eliminates the opportunity for coaches to monopolize all of the prime fields. **Kathy Peterson moved to recommend the City Council approve amendments to CP526 – Reservation of Ballfields as written. Laura Wassmer seconded and the motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

Diana reported city council allocated \$200,000 of the unawarded trail grant matching funds to parks. Their preference would be that it is not spent in Schliffke Park despite that being the next committee priority. Possible uses discussed were the internal trail at Porter Park, lighting in all parks, motion lights/cameras for security enhancement, trail at Harmon, or Brush Creek Trail from 71st south to Porter. Diana will be checking getting with Keith in Public Works to obtain costing of some trail segments between 71st and Porter Park along Tomahawk and within Porter Park.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

The next meeting will be February 9th.

Diana Ewy Sharp
Chairperson

Memo

To: Parks & Recreation Committee
From: Chris Engel
Date: March 4, 2011
Re: Recreation Program Report

- **Recreation Guide** - Similar format as last year. Included in the new article of the Village Voice with an additional 400 printed to hand out in City Hall.
- **Staffing Levels** - We have 37 guards returning, we need about 50. The pool manager has over 25 applications and is setting up interviews.
- **Tennis Coach** - As previously mentioned, we have hired PV resident Tracy Cooper as the new JTL (Junior Tennis League) coach. She has prior experience in JTL and is very involved in the tennis community as a coach. Her addition has allowed us to expand the tennis program earlier into the spring. We are also now offering two new classes - Warm-Up for Summer Tennis and Cardio Tennis (see attached page from the recreation guide). In addition, we are allowing her to teach private lessons in April and May. Rebecca Snodgrass will still teach private lessons in June-July as in years past.
- **Swim Coach** - Head swimming Coach Rob Cole decided to move on to bigger and better things and Kaleb Stoppel has been hired as his replacement. Kaleb has been on pool staff for 4 years starting as a lifeguard and working his way up to assistant pool manager and was the head assistant swim coach under Rob. The kids, parents and assistant coaches love him and he'll do a great job transitioning into his new role.
- **Walk & Roll Race** - Thanks to everyone that emailed me about the Walk & Roll Race proposed in Franklin Park. There were a couple committee members that voted to allow the race but the majority was against it. Parking, specifically ADA considering the nature of the race, was a major concern. I shared this info with the race sponsor and he completely understood and already had back-up locations reserved.
- **Brush Creek Trail** - I am working on getting the entire trail segment along Brush Creek added to the Johnson County Parks and Recreation District (JCPRD) trail map. If this occurs, we will be eligible for any funding they get for their trail system.



PARKS & RECREATION

Parks & Recreation Meeting Date: March 9, 2011

Consider approval of Environmental Committee community garden in Harmon Park.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommend Harmon Park as most suitable location for Environmental Committee to further investigate a community garden.

BACKGROUND

The Environmental Committee is interested in starting a community garden program. This project will be researched, funded and facilitated by that committee. They will be responsible for all ongoing maintenance for the project and understand the Parks Committee will be making no contribution to the funding or maintenance of the project. They have only requested the Park and Recreation Committee assist them by identifying a suitable park to begin their planning process.

To make the program successful they have requested the location meet the following conditions: access to direct sunlight for the majority of the day and access to water. After initial discussion the Parks Committee added additional conditions: parking should be accessible and the area should be of low visibility from the roadways due to the winter months the garden could be dormant. After researching all of the City parks, staff has identified Harmon Park as the most suitable location.

Positives: Harmon Park is very large and most of the land is underutilized. There are multiple locations within Harmon that have full daytime exposure to sunlight and getting water to most of the park should be easily done. There is also parking available in the City Hall lot, Santa Fe lot or the pool lot. In addition, Harmon is relatively isolated from surrounding roadways so when the plot is unplanted for six months out of the year it will not be highly visible.

Challenges: Harmon is used for Jazzfest and Villagefest so the location of the garden needs to take those potential event areas into account. Harmon is adjacent to Santa Fe Trail Park and the garden cannot have an impact on the wagon swales. The property line between Harmon and the Mission Road Bible Church to the south is not clearly delineated and will need to be researched and the church may need to be contacted or involved. The Skate Park is located in Harmon with its accompanying adolescents.

Despite the challenges staff believes Harmon Park is most appropriate. If the Parks Committee agrees to allow the garden project to move forward in Harmon Park it is recommended the Parks Committee require the two following items: (1) Environmental Committee must also get approval from Jazzfest and Villagefest Committees, and (2) return to the Parks Committee for approval of any final plans. In addition, the Parks Committee could also clarify a preferred location(s) within the park. Attached is a map of Harmon Park taken

from the Parks Master Plan. There are four potential location call-outs that could be discussed and then recommended.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

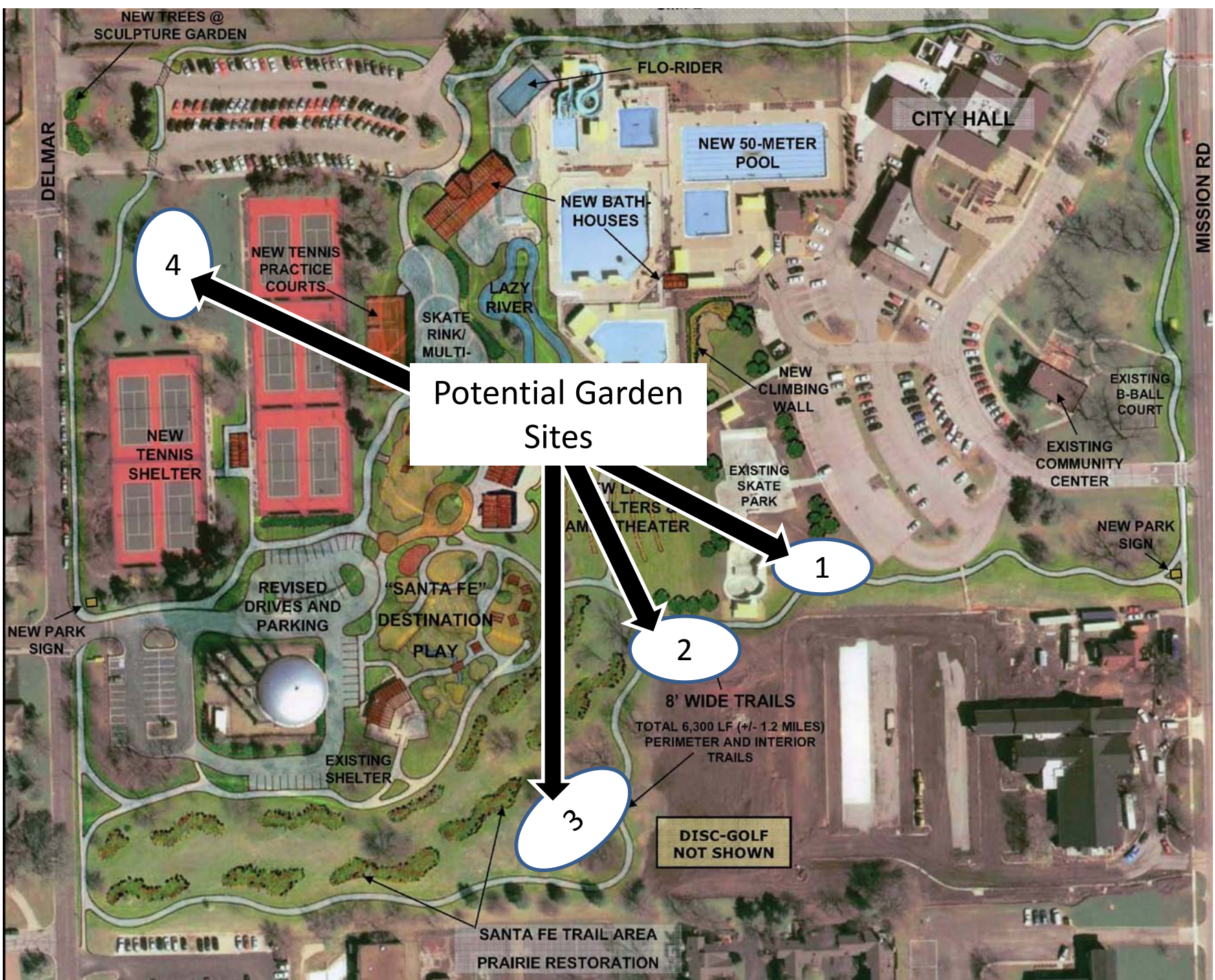
This project requires no contribution from the Parks Committee other than recommending a suitable park, if available.

PREPARED BY

Chris Engel

Assistant to the City Administrator

Date: 2/17/11



NEW TREES @
SCULPTURE GARDEN

FLO-RIDER

CITY HALL

NEW 50-METER
POOL

NEW BATH-
HOUSES

NEW TENNIS
PRACTICE
COURTS

LAZY RIVER

SKATE
RINK/
MULTI-

NEW CLIMBING
WALL

EXISTING
B-BALL
COURT

EXISTING
COMMUNITY
CENTER

Potential Garden
Sites

4

NEW TENNIS
SHELTER

EXISTING
SKATE
PARK

NEW PARK
SIGN

1

NEW PARK
SIGN

REVISED
DRIVES AND
PARKING

"SANTA FE"
DESTINATION
PLAY

2

8' WIDE TRAILS
TOTAL 6,300 LF (+/- 1.2 MILES)
PERIMETER AND INTERIOR
TRAILS

EXISTING
SHELTER

DISC-GOLF
NOT SHOWN

3

SANTA FE TRAIL AREA
PRAIRIE RESTORATION

DELMAR

MISSION RD

TENNIS IN PRAIRIE VILLAGE

Rebecca Snodgrass, USPTA Certified, will be returning to the Prairie Village Tennis Program this year as the Youth and Adult Tennis Instructor. **Tracy Cooper**, USPTA Certified, will be the new coach of the Kansas City Junior Tennis League Team and also Adult Group Lessons instructor.

Tennis courts are available in Harmon, McCrum, and Windsor parks to all Prairie Village residents on a first come, first served basis, free of charge, when courts are not reserved for tournaments or City-sponsored lessons.

2011 TENNIS CALENDAR

March 1 ... Registration begins for spring Private Tennis Lessons & Warm-Up for Summer Tennis	May 31 ... 1st sessions of youth tennis lessons begin	June 27 ... 3rd session of youth tennis lessons begins
April 1 ... KCJTL and Tennis Lesson registration begins	June 4 ... KCJTL Challenge Camp from 1-4 p.m.	June 28 ... 2nd session of adult tennis lessons begins
May 21 ... Kansas City Junior Tennis League Kickoff at Harmon Park Tennis Courts, 8 a.m.-11 a.m.	June 6 ... KCJTL League practice and play begins	July 11 ... 4th session of youth tennis lessons begins
	June 7 ... 1st sessions of adult tennis lessons begins	
	June 13 ... 2nd session of youth tennis lessons begins	

YOUTH GROUP LESSONS *(Up to age 15)*

Sessions run two weeks and will be held as follows:

Session 1 May 31 - June 9	Session 3 June 27 - July 7
Session 2 June 13 - June 23	Session 4 July 11 - July 21

PEE WEE CLINIC *(Up to age 6)* – Meets T, TH mornings at 8:30 a.m. for 30 minutes. Cost is \$41 per participant. There is a minimum enrollment of 4 and a maximum enrollment of 6.

MIGHTY MITES CLINIC *(Ages 7 to 10)* – Meets M, T, TH at 9:00 a.m. for 50 minutes. Session 1 has an additional session offered at 11:00 a.m. Cost is \$54 per participant. There is a minimum enrollment of 4 and maximum enrollment of 10.

FUTURE STARS CLINIC *(Ages 11 to 15)* – Meets M, T, TH at 10:00 a.m. for 50 minutes. Cost is \$54 per participant. There is a minimum enrollment of 4 and maximum enrollment of 10.

OTHER TENNIS LESSONS

ADULT GROUP LESSONS *(16 yrs. & older)*

Sessions will be established for four or more players (maximum enrollment of 8). Each session includes six 50-minute lessons. The lessons are twice a week on Tuesday and Thursday at 6:00 p.m. for three weeks. The cost is \$62. Sessions will be held as follows:

Session 1 June 7 - June 23	Session 2 June 28 - July 14
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Private Lessons allow instructors the opportunity to work with players on individual needs. The fee is \$23 per 1/2 hour lesson.

Semi-Private Lessons for two persons are structured to meet individual needs. The fee is \$15 per person per 1/2 hour.

Three and a Pro is a program for youth and adults. You bring two friends and play with the pro. This is good practice for doubles play and stroke instruction is given. The cost is \$17 per hour per player.

Lessons in April & May will be given by Tracy Cooper. Rebecca Snodgrass will give lessons during the summer months.

KANSAS CITY JUNIOR TENNIS LEAGUE (KCJTL)

Prairie Village is a member of the Kansas City Junior Tennis League (KCJTL). In this program, youth ages 8 to 18 develop, improve, and refine their tennis skills. The League consists of weekly clinics, Challenge Days, weekly team matches, and an end-of-year tournament. Cost is \$92 per participant (\$86 for each additional family member on team). **No refunds will be allowed for the Kansas City Junior Tennis League team.**

A KCJTL Kick-Off, including an initial clinic, will take place on Saturday, May 21st from 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. Interested players must register by May 15th to be eligible for the first week of league play.

This year the coach will hold a tennis camp for registered players on June 4th from 1-4 p.m. **The camp cost is included in JTL registration.** For the first hour participants will receive instruction through fun and challenging games. They will then be set up with a challenge match to help determine the first week's ladder. League play begins on June 6th. Visit <http://pvkansas.recware.com> or the league website at www.kcjtl.org for more information. **Prairie Village JTL participants must register at City Hall and not on the JTL website.**

NEW THIS YEAR

With the addition of Tracy Cooper (USTPA Certified) to the tennis staff, tennis programming has been expanded into the spring.

Private, Semi-Private and Three and a Pro lessons have been expanded to April and May. See section on Private & Semi-Private Lessons for details. **Register Now!**

WARM-UP FOR SUMMER TENNIS (All Ages) – Get your game back in shape for the summer. Includes 5 sessions which will cover skills building and mechanics while focusing on fun and fitness. Sessions meet Wednesdays for 50 minutes at Windsor Park starting

April 6th. Beginners meet at 4:00 p.m. Intermediate meets at 5:00 p.m. Cost is \$50 per participant. **Register Now!**

CARDIO TENNIS (All Ages) – Cardio Tennis is a new, fun group activity featuring drills to give players of all abilities an ultimate, high energy workout. Taught by a teaching professional, Cardio Tennis includes warm-up, cardio workout, and cool down phases. If you are looking for a great new way to get in shape and to burn calories, you must try Cardio Tennis. Sessions are same dates and cost (\$62) as Adult Lessons on Tuesday and Thursday from 7:00pm – 7:50pm at Windsor Park.