

Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting #4

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board North Service Area Master Plan (NSAMP)

10/25/2017 6:00 – 8:00pm
Folwell Recreation Center

CAC members present: Jonathan Palmer (chair), Angelina McDowell, Mike Brennan, Olivia St. Martin, Erika Dani, Philip Kelly, Brett Buckner, Catherine Fleming, Georgianna Yantos, Jodi Gustafson, Tim Davis

Approximately nine members of the general public attended the meeting:

Staff, consultants, and speakers present:

Adam Arvidson (MPRB), Colleen O'Dell (MPRB), Dan Elias (MPRB), Siciid Ali (MPRB), Terry Minarik (Consultant), Emily Neuenschwander (Consultant)

1. Welcome / Introductions

The fourth Community Advisory Committee (referred to in this document as CAC #4) was called to order at 6:30pm by MPRB project manager Adam Arvidson. The CAC members were all asked to introduce themselves and share which neighborhood or association they were from and representing. Following the CAC introductions were introductions from the guest attendees, Minneapolis Park Board Staff, and Consultant Team.

2. Project Schedule and Park Design Process

Adam explained that the project is at the point of pivoting from general engagement to design. He presented the process and schedule for the design phase. The service area has been divided into six planning areas. In addition to the lead consultant (Confluence) and MPRB staff, six additional designers will be contracted to work over one intense design week to generate initial concepts. These designers will have diverse backgrounds, experiences, and ideas. Each designer will be paired with a project team member and that pair will be primarily responsible for one of the six planning areas.

The first step in the design timeline is a Data Jam, which will interpret community engagement and assist presenting to designers.

3. Data Jam

The CAC members and the general public participated in the Data Jam, which occupied the majority of the meeting. Groups self-selected into planning areas and were asked to read the summer's community engagement data and demographic / urban form data and develop themes for each park, and for the service area as a whole. People only chose to participate in three of the six planning areas.

Bassett's Creek Planning Area

- Themes for Bassett's Creek and Bryn Mawr Parks
 - Connectivity
 - Bike
 - Walking
 - Current and future parks (transformation from com./indust. to park space)
 - Expanding with amenities
 - Big Amenities
 - Amphitheater
 - Kayak
 - Climbing Wall
 - Sports Dome/Bio Dome
 - Restaurant
 - Dog Park
 - Natural Spaces
 - "Minnehaha of the North"

Northwest Planning Area

- Themes for Each Park
 - Victory Park
 - Like Playground
 - Don't like Pool- improve it
 - Need shade and Benches
 - Tennis needs maintenance
 - Victory Dog Park
 - Data Gap
 - Need Osseo road access
 - Folwell Park
 - Tennis- Fix them or change
 - Wading-like
 - Physical facilities and drainage-Improve
 - Conditions of paths is bad



- Cleveland Park
 - Liquor Store
 - Playground Like
 - No on shuttle board (especially if no rec. center)
 - Emphasis on kids amenities
 - Improve facility
 - Access improvement
 - Lighting

- Ryan Lake Park
 - Lake amenities- yes
 - More natural focused
 - Access- Paths, water
 - Nature lake (educational)
 - Grills
 - Clean up needs and invasive

West Central Planning Area

➤ Themes for Each Park

- Triangles
 - Fruit Tress
 - Place to sit

- Theo Wirth
 - Lighting
 - Safety

- Willard
 - Improve/updating existing
 - Basketball Full courts
 - Play ground
 - Restrooms
 - Field programing kids

- North Commons
 - Aquatics “seasonal” (cost barrier)
 - Existing programing?
 - Extend season...
 - Basketball high quality
 - ✓ Multi Court
 - ✓ Tournaments
 - ✓ Camps
 - Quality fields diamonds
 - 365 programing for park
 - Track and field



- Farwell
 - Signage
 - Upgrade existing
 - Food
 - ✓ Concession
 - ✓ Food truck
 - ✓ Food plots/Gardens
 - ✓ (intergenerational use)
 - Aquatics
 - Playground improvement
 - Event stage area “cathering”

Service Area Wide Themes

These themes were developed by each group and placed on the wall. All meeting attendees were allowed to vote for the five (5) themes that resonated most with them. The following is a summary of themes, with votes.

- Safety (1)
 - Lighting
 - Maintenance
 - Less Police
 - Cameras
- Services Maintenance
 - Cleanliness
- Broad Reach/ Future Planning
 - Connection (2)
 - Park Programing
- Maintenance + upkeep (4)
 - Restrooms
 - Signage
- Sports + Rec. (6)
 - Basketball
 - Water parks
- Winter Rec. (1)
 - Flexibility w/ season (2)
- Supervision + programing (1)
 - Events, Music, Movies
- Community Garden + Park Integration
 - More food in park (6)
- Signage improvements
- Youth centric
- Improve safety (1)
- Playground, Kids (1)
- Aquatics (Yes)
- Outdoor activities
- Large space activities
- Solo activities vs. team



- Winter sports (2)
- Community events (4)
- 65+ (lots of data or none)=GAP
- Focus on male/ young men
- Poverty
- Ice Skating (4)
- Restrooms (2)
- Safety: Lighting (8)
- Age of children
- Aquatics (4)
- Adventure (2)
- Senior Design Activities + Activities (1)
- Cultural Ack. (part to neig.) (2)
- Seating/picnic/gathering (1)
- Physical prox. Of amenities
- Programing specific for women (1)
- Consider elderly (1)
- Preservation of natural amenities (3)
- Safety (2)
- Create community with parks
- Urban Agriculture (1)

4. Comments from the General Public:

- Restrooms needed
- Water fountains needed
- Lighting improved
- Safety *traffic crossings
- Data on organized sports vs. passive uses?
 - Demographics
 - Funding
 - Popularity
- Too much emphasis on mowed grass. Consider naturalizing
- Concern about pesticides and chemicals
- Designated meditation and healing space esp. for trauma
- North Commons often used after funerals
- Don't rush community process. Capture robust conversations
- Make engagement authentic + real. Presences
- How can schools + parks work together
- Movement on contracts