

## **Chanhassen Park and Rec System Plan**

### **Advisory Committee Meeting #2**

**Nov. 10, 2016, 7:00-9:00pm**

#### **Meeting Notes**

**Attendees:** Jim Boettcher, Nathan Pharis, Nick McCreavy, Balakrishna Chintaginjala, Jesse Hawke, Jeff Filipek, Todd Neils, Dorina Tipton, Elise Ryan, Anna Simet, Kim McCreavy, Steve Scharfenberg, Courtney Miller Bellairs, Cheryl Ayotte, Todd Hoffman, Rita Trapp (HKGi), Gabrielle Grinde (HKGi)

**Absent:** Karen Doster, John Tietz

#### 1. Introductions

- Most Advisory Committee members reported that they had either participated in a Pop Up Meeting or had responded to one of the online questionnaires.

#### 2. September Meeting Notes – no changes for meeting notes needed

#### 3. Community Engagement Recap

- Recap of community engagement events and findings
- There is general discontent with Chan rec center – pool, youth care
- Adv Comm members noted that there is a gap in the Chanhassen Rec Center compared to what other neighboring communities offer
- Additional information about what the neighboring communities have for a rec center will be helpful
- Some noted that they are surprised how many people are unaware of the Senior Center – baby boomers will be redefining
- There is synergy between a rec center and a senior center – in addition to service, it will benefit awareness to have them together
- Awareness of rec center may be low because it doesn't offer what folks are looking for
- There are long term needs for Bluff Creek Elementary School– the student body is growing
- Concerns about accessibility to school with rec center attached – even though doors are locked still shared gym and restroom facilities
- Would like to see more detail from Social Pinpoint – link can be shared for folks to review in more detail. Map just showing likes, needs work, missing facility, and trail gap would be helpful. May be helpful to see most popular comments

#### 4. System Evaluation and Needs and Assessment Findings

- Powers should be a barrier north of Hwy 5 for the neighborhood parks map
- We will be including neighboring communities' parks and trails on the maps to show where connections can be made
- Lake Minnewashta Park should be included on the community parks map because it serves the people in the NW part of the city

- Bandimere is a community park that is lacking a park shelter – it has been a point of discussion with the Park and Rec Commission
- Can we look at the population density around the playgrounds and shelters to see how many people are using the facilities? >>this is shown with the residential (low density and med/high density) land use
- Pioneer Pass Park has a big shelter, and it is a neighborhood park.
- There is a request to look at proximity to restrooms in the parks.
- Some teens and youth go to Excelsior downtown area and then use the parks that are in the downtown area. It might be good to note connections to parks from the downtown area of Chanhassen or other key tourist areas rather than just connections to residential areas.
- Basketball – indoor courts should be noted on the maps, Chanhassen Rec Center and Chanhassen High School courts do serve the athletic organizations’ needs.
- Lighting could be noted on the maps – lighting on athletic fields and on trails would be nice to know.
- Lighting is desired in more parks and along more trails.
- Will we be looking at cost-benefit analysis of providing new facilities?
- How much are adjacent communities talking to each other about sharing facilities? Do we really need to add a rec center with a pool if other cities have pools that are not too far away? What is the next big thing that other communities don’t have that we could add in Chanhassen to serve other communities?
- Do we really want to serve other communities or just our own community? There’s something about staying in your own community and supporting your own community that is nice.
- There are informal skating rinks that people build on ponds or lakes – can we add those to the map? We can try to note them on the maps if people tell us where they are.
- Can we note rental facilities? Paddleboards are rented at Lake Ann – we can add a note to the map.
- Can we note event locations? Where are destinations, public art, event centers in parks?
- On special rec facilities, can we note the dog park?

#### 5. Peer Community Comparisons and National Standards

- Would be helpful to have surrounding communities’ information when we have specific facilities to make recommendations about. Noted that we could not gather the information for all facilities but could for specific ones.
- Noted that the service areas may tell us that community is being served but in another community – for example – pools
- Asked about usage information. Stated that not available for informal facilities but staff may have a sense.
- Noted that the Park Commission has a standard template for neighborhood park development: playground, half court basketball, and open field

#### 6. Key Findings – Advisory Committee Input

- Arts
  - Public art - ARB does it but this is not public
- Trails
  - Trails are great but could use improvement/expansion
  - There are missing links for trails
  - Powers Blvd crossing is dangerous – especially as it is considered a “loop” trail
  - Preserve area around Lake Ann/Lucy for loop trail
  - Connection points
  - Safety
  - People seem to love the trail system
  - Chanhasen is doing above average with trails, but safety and trail connection concerns still exist
- Programming
  - More events in parks possibly associated with ‘places’ defined for those events
  - Adult classes
  - Senior programming
  - Kitchen facility
  - To market our Senior Center and add programming – also potentially tie in Senior Center with the Rec Center
  - That people want more programming for adults
- Open Spaces
  - Prince’s land is wanted in the parks system by residents
  - Want to preserve some of the existing open areas, such as prince’s property
  - Residents want more open spaces
  - Prince’s land
- Facilities
  - Desire more indoor facilities; swimming pools, basketball courts
  - Rec center and senior center should be co-located. Hopefully would improve overall usage and facility offerings
  - Better marketing for our Senior Center so it can be used by larger segment of senior population
  - New and better utilized rec center with diverse activities to meet the needs of greater segments of our population
  - The facilities underserve the community
  - Chanhasen residents want a state of the art rec center/senior center, including a pool, walking track, and workout facility
  - There is an opportunity to increase awareness of senior center and to increase utilization
  - Swimming pool
  - Walking trail
  - Rec center

- The rec center does not serve the needs of community, which are:
  - Pool/indoor
  - Work out facilities
  - Meeting space for all ages
- Senior center
  - Unknown
- To update the current recreation center or build a new one
- That Chanhassen meets or exceeds for facilities/fields in comparison to other cities
- Chanhassen is capitalizing and recognizing trends like pickleball, but is missing out on a growing sport like disc golf
- A better rec center possibly integrated with senior center
- We need good fitness facilities
- Senior center: City needs to do a better job creating awareness among Chanhassen seniors that it is here and accessible – add activities aimed at active seniors
- Chan rec center needs a renovation. Maybe a pool, indoor track, something more for families and not necessarily for sporting (organized) activities. A place our citizens will be proud of and excited to go to.
- Indoor pool
- Indoor skate/hockey rink
- Parks
  - Bathroom facilities
  - We have a lot! Some improvements – bathrooms – at some seem to be in demand. Shelters seem to book up very quickly this summer I had trouble renting one that would work for a birthday party
  - Parks work well, but better bathrooms and more access [more access to parks means closer to home, better accessed by trails, tunnels, etc.] would be beneficial
  - Athletic fields could be evaluated for use by field size and field sized could be re-allocated as needed
  - Chanhassen excels in outdoor parks and open summer activities
  - We need internet access points in our parks
  - We need to include tornado shelters in our parks
  - Restrooms
  - Lights