

Chanhassen Park and Rec System Plan

Advisory Committee Meeting #3

Jan. 12, 2017, 7:00-9:00pm

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Jim Boettcher, Nathan Pharis, Nick McCreavy, Todd Neils, Elise Ryan, Steve Scharfenberg, Karen Doster, Rick Echternacht, Jennifer Hougham, John Tietz, Brent Carron, Todd Hoffman, Rita Trapp (HKGi), Jess Vetrano (HKGi)

1. Introductions

2. November Meeting Notes – no changes for meeting notes needed.

3. National Citizen Survey Results

- Briefly reviewed the results from the National Citizen Survey
- It was noted that the Senior Center results were not surprising given that they survey was to the general population not just to seniors
- Follow up – what does the level of tax support translate to?

4. Guiding Principles

The concept of Guiding Principles and a system vision was introduced to the Advisory Committee and a draft set was presented to be reviewed. The consultant team indicated that it is intended that the bullets would be taken and transformed in to paragraph descriptions.

- The use of two words for each Guiding Principle was generally not preferred
 - Change “Safe and Connected” to just “Connected”
 - Change “Active and Engaged” to just “Engaged”
 - Change “Effective and Efficient” to “Adaptive”
 - Change “Preserve and Protect” to “Stewardship”
- Safety is an inherent quality of the system, and doesn’t necessarily need to be called out on its own.
- Arts and culture are an important component that are missing from the current list.
- The new “connected” category should contain aspects representative of physical connections and safety.
- The new “Engaged” category should include the welcoming components from the original “safe and connected” category, as well as other programming and social opportunities reflective of community pride.
- The new “Adaptive” category should involve maintaining the current system’s quality while remaining flexible to future trends.
- The new “Stewardship” category should surround the preservation and protection of environmental amenities and the incorporation of sustainable practices within the park system. However, becoming a model for sustainable practices is not necessarily a priority.

- The park system framework and the targeted user groups were considered appropriate for Chanhassen.
- Park classification was acceptable, however, the term “special use park” generated some confusion and should be better defined in the plan.

5. 5-Minute Brainstorming

Several topics were discussed to provide insight and feedback on issues identified during Tasks 1 and 2 before developing a draft set of recommendations.

- Recreation Center and Senior Center
 - Community Engagement efforts exposed that 70% of residents support the idea of enhancing the Recreation Center, a large portion of which are willing to contribute \$6+ dollars of increased taxes to fund this enhancement.
 - The idea of ownership and community pride addresses the fact that this need is still there regardless of surrounding and private facilities.
 - Would identifying the possible amenities included in the recreation center and promoting it as an idea generate community enthusiasm to help push this idea forward?
 - Additional information regarding funding sources and maintenance fees would assist in the decision.
 - It was noted that the Recreation Center doesn’t have to be at the same level of surrounding community centers, and that it doesn’t necessarily have to contain unique amenities to draw users.
 - It would be helpful to understand how surrounding communities funded their community centers, such as private partnerships and donations.
 - A pool is an important amenity to the community and should be considered – the addition of a pool at Chaska Middle School will likely not replace this desire.
 - The role of the City in providing specialized facilities should be established through this process.
- Signature Parks/Features
 - An amphitheater is a major desire – especially for the high school aged residents.
 - Splash pads are a desire for families in the community.
- Neighborhood Parks
 - Revitalization of aging parks is an important consideration moving forward and should be based on utilization.
 - New parks are becoming less prevalent and also more customized based on the surrounding neighborhood desires.