

**Bentonville Parks and Recreation
Advisory Board Meeting
August 15, 2016**

The Bentonville Parks and Recreation Advisory Board met June 20, 2016 at the Downtown Activity Center.

Present were members Holly Hook, Jon Terlow, Tom Butrynski, Tregg Brown, Chris Sooter, Courtney Schaefer and Tom McCoy. Lee Farmer, David Wright, Crant Osborne, and Angel Stuler were present for the staff.

Meeting began at 5:04PM

Old Business

1. Approval of Minutes from May meeting
 - Motion to approve by McCoy
 - Sooter seconded the motion
 - Approved 7-0
2. Update – Trail Marking Plan – North Walton Trail
 - Wright updated PRAB on the trail marking plan for the North Walton Trail. Alta proposed an audit of Walton Blvd. Trail. Alta will evaluate the driveways and traffic and propose a solution.

New Business

1. Bike Playground at Bark Park – Concept Plan Review
 - Wright brought pictures of the conceptual design for the Bike Playground. He said he asked the designers to make the 2 tunnels more natural. Wright also explained to PRAB that the sign in the design will actually be green and our sign. In addition, the park will be installed before November – before IMBA. Hook suggested additional benches and signage for helmets. Schaefer also suggested a covered picnic table should be installed. They both mentioned since it's built for a younger crowd, plenty of seating should be available for parents while they supervise their kids.
2. Wildwood Park – Playground/ Concept Review/ Park Name Discussion
 - Wright recapped the Wildwood Park project. This project is a project that the Brightwood students were split into groups and each came up with a playground design that they would like to see in a park. Our designer, incorporated different ideas from the projects into the Wildwood design. PRAB was concerned with the color scheme – orange and red tend to be the colors that fade the quickest. PRAB would like to see the colors changed to possibly orange on the posts, but blue or green for the plastics so that it will last longer. Sooter asked about the surface and Wright told PRAB that the surface will be mulch due to budget. McCoy asked about a timetable for the project and Wright said it should be done by Labor Day. Wright also mentioned that PRAB might consider a name change because the majority of the public think it's a neighborhood park since it's named Wildwood

Park and sits in the Wildwood division. Because it's a public park, we want the public to know. Sooter mentioned we should also include the tennis courts in the name change because many people believe those are part of World's Gym. Wright asked PRAB to brainstorm and come back with some names at the August meeting.

3. Razorback Greenway Tree Planting Grant Project

- Wright told PRAB that he was approached by the Walmart Foundation. After seeing a picture from a park in Boston and the large Oak trees, the foundation would like to see something like that here in Bentonville. A company in Georgia is one of the only companies in the United States that sell trees that are 40 feet tall and about 6 inches in caliber. After telling the foundation the cost of 75 trees would be \$75k, the foundation said to double it to 150 trees for \$150k. 120 of the trees will line the trail stretching from the Bark Park to Wishing Springs and will also provide an immediate impact to the area. The remaining trees will be south of BHS to 28th street. McCoy asked about maintenance for the trees and if we can handle it. Wright said we will have to water the trees and they do come with a 5 year warranty. A contractor will plant the trees (this will be bid out) and the trees will go in the ground late fall. Wright all that was left was PRAB's approval Hook motioned to approve and Sooter seconded the motion. It was approved 7-0.

4. July Meeting Sub-Committees Discussion

- Wright passed around committee meeting notes. In addition, he asked about some of the sub-committees needing additional PRAB members. Scafer volunteered to be a part of the recreation programming sub-committee, Hook volunteered to be a part of the maintenance facilities sub-committee, Butrynski volunteered to be a part of the marketing sub-committee, and Terlow volunteered to be a part of the overall budget sub-committee. Wright reminded PRAB that we will not meet in our regular July meeting due to the sub-committee meetings. The next PRAB meeting will be in August.

5. North Bentonville Trail – Outdoor Fitness Center

- Wright said the foundation approached us about an outdoor fitness center. Jennifer Valentine, our fitness specialist, met with them to help design this project. The project costs \$63k. McCoy asked Wright if this is normal to have next to trails and Wright said yes, many trails in the country have this set up. Scafer motioned to approve the outdoor fitness center and Sooter seconded the motion. The outdoor fitness center was approved 7-0.

6. Other News

- Brown asked about the roundabout installation and the Wishing Springs trail closure. Wright said Wishing Springs Trail will be closed for 4 months and then reopened.

Meeting adjourned at BCC at 6:05 PM