

Dallas Center Parks and Recreation Board Minutes

The Board meeting was held on January 19, 2021 beginning at 7:00 P.M.. It was held in person (with masks and adequate social distancing) in the American Legion Hall, 1502 Walnut Street and via Zoom for Gary Licht.

In Attendance: Mary Werch, Bob King, Ken Matteson, Nadine Stille, Gary Licht, Amy Jarnagin

Absent: Susan Collins

1. Call to order.
2. Moved to approve the agenda for tonight's meeting (**Motion made by: Ken Matteson and seconded by Amy Jarnagin. Approved 6-0**)
3. Appointed Bob King as temporary secretary.
4. Agenda Focus: Discussion and possible action on timeline and funding sources for long-term parks plans and updates.

The following initial priorities were expressed by the Board Members and organized by park in the summary below. The number of members expressing interest are indicated in [] following each entry. Gary was unable to mark his priorities and Bob added his as he typed the minutes.

For Mound Park

1. Replace and improve the current basketball court. (No consensus emerged on where it should be placed and how big to make it.) [4]
2. Consider placing local art within Mound park.[1]
3. Add more lighting that can be easily controlled. [4]
4. Update the upper play area. [2]
 - a) Consider moving the tall slide to the Burnett Complex
 - b) Consider moving the merry-go-round to the south side play area
 - c) Consider building more of a tween play and meeting area.
5. Complete the installation of the accessible play area. [5]
6. Resurface the parking lot (build a basketball court at this time on the south half).[1]

For the Burnett Complex

1. Complete the paving of the walking trail and link to the current parking lot. [5]
2. Create two youth soccer fields east of the eastern most softball field. [5]
3. Add more play equipment. [1]
4. Create a shelter next to the concession stand. [3]
5. Create interest along the walking trail with youth story displays similar to one seen in Pella, suggestions to vary the walking style (walk backward to the next sign, skip, etc.) and unique small local art. [2]

6. Do NOT create the promenade suggested by ISU or any large sculptures.

For Memorial Park

1. Add a splash pad feature. [2]
2. Add to the natural play area (consider placing large logs similar to those at the Brenton Arboretum near the large Rock.[4]
3. Consider adding signage to the disc golf Ts showing the next hole location. Review location of the holes to reduce discs ending up in neighbors' homes. [2]
4. Add parking to the east side of the park. [2]
5. Improve signage at entrances and on city maps.[2]
6. Do NOT plan to incorporate the retention pond into the park.[2]

For Heritage Park and the Walnut Streetscape Project

1. Add a large pavilion beside the bike trail. [6]
2. Add a good quality grass surface beneath the ice rink for use during the other 9 months of the year. [2]
3. Add a small community garden along with a rain garden between the pavilion and the ice rink shed.[2]
4. Support the plans of the streetscape planners – including our interest in a pocket park. [2]

Other Green Space/Park Considerations

1. Support the construction of a new swimming pool. [2]
2. Add a dog park somewhere.[1]
3. Create a link between 8th Street and the Dallas Center Elementary and swimming pool. [4]
4. Add a pocket park near the new southeast homes. [2]
5. Do NOT plan any parks for the Country Living and Cross Country Estates. [1]

The Board then discussed near term priorities for the rest of this year and next fiscal year. They set these goals:

1. Build a large pavilion if a substantial grant can be obtained.
2. Decide where a basketball court in Mound Park would most cost effectively be built and get it built.
3. Add lighting in Mound Park
4. Improve signage and access to Memorial Park from its northwest corner.
5. Get the two youth hockey courts added to the Burnett Complex.

Meeting adjourned