



MINUTES | August 18, 2010

6:00 pm • Leawood City Hall • 4800 Town Center Drive • Main Conference Room

Members Present: Steve Hassler, Alicia Jennings, and Pete Stover

Staff Present: Brian Anderson, Marica Putman

Members Absent: Rod Crawford, Jill Paton

Guest: William Jennings

MEMBERS

Rod Crawford, Chair
Pete Stover, Vice Chair

Steve Hassler
Alicia Jennings
Jill Paton

Chris Claxton,
Director of Parks
& Recreation

Brian Anderson,
Parks Superintendent

Marica Putman,
Adm. Graphics Tech

The BFC meeting came to order at 6:13 pm.

Committee welcomes Steve Hassler and introductions are made.

Call to order

- Alicia Jennings made a motion to approve July 7, 2010 minutes.
- Steve Hassler seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Old business

✚ Tomahawk Creek Parkway Recap – Group

- Discussed:
 - Traffic and safety concerns for cyclists on Tomahawk Creek Parkway.
 - Provided driver/Bicycle instructions.

✚ Complete Streets Policy Update – Brian Anderson

- The Park Board reviewed and approved the CSP (Complete Streets Policy). They recommend that the CSP be presented to Council (September 7th or 20th) and reviewed by Planning. When the Planning Commission approves it, the CSP will be presented to Council for approval.

✚ General Discussions – Group

- Discussed CIP improvements, widening streets, intersections, education, bicycle loaner/rentals and community involvement, and grants.

✚ Bike to Work/School – Alicia Jennings

- Alicia Jennings, Elizabeth Bejan, and Martin Hoser participated in their first Back-to-School/Safe Routes to School campaign last Thursday night.
- Presented the video "If I Ride" from www.peopleforbikes.org, passed out info, and goodies.
- Several people have signed up for Walks/Bikes to School and will be assisting at future events: Back-to-School night, PTOs, Ice Cream Socials, or Meet the Teachers. The focus group is the parents. Parents are interested because they want the kids to walk/ride to schools. Schools are interested because they want to reduce traffic congestion around the schools.
- The next event is August 31st and September 1st at the Cure of Ars. They will also participate in a future PTO meeting for Leawood Elementary. Members Steve Hassler (Mission Trails) and Rod Crawford (Sunrise Point) will try to set up events at their assigned schools. Remaining schools will be visited next spring.
- Requested that Brian Anderson look into and apply for grants for Safe Walks for cones, parking lot striping, etc. There is money available from Kansas Department of Transportation.

- Parents will be assisted into roles like for the virtual bus; someone would be the bus logger and be organized into groups.
- They are in need of volunteers to assist at the information tables and requesting more street maps and would like one of Prairie Village to map safe routes. Alicia Jennings requested assistance from the Police Department and they suggested speaking with Planning. Others have suggested that the safe routes should be mapped by those involved (Alicia Jennings and Camille Croteau have researched some of the streets). There is also a legal concern (liability) in determining if a route is safe and someone is injured. Alicia Jennings asked about liability issues when participating in a PTO function. She was told that the PTO and the school carry insurance and they've not had an issue.
- Steve Petrehn, former Mayor of Roeland Park, was recommended as an excellent source for the Walking to School Bus program. His contact information was not available at this time.
- Alicia Jennings is trying to help the schools set up their own programs for the Walk/Bike to School programs. Once organized, the programs and volunteers will have background checks and various requests under the Safe Routes program. The group discussed examples how the kids and parents will walk to school.
- A meeting is schedule with Elizabeth Bejan and Teresa Van Ackeren of Family Bicycles (League Certified Instructors) to write a letter to PTO for National Walk to School Day, October 6th.

New Business

Trail Segment at 123rd and Mission – Brian Anderson

- Problematic trail segment and bank/slope. For a ¼ mile section of trail, spent \$300,000 with design fees to stabilize two spots two years ago, another area is now eroding because of storm water drainage, and is very close to undermining the trail. This issue went to the Park Board at the last meeting. Brian Anderson requested a proposal by an engineer to design a fix for this site that would entail the installation of rip rap on this segment at a cost of approximately \$80,000.00. The concern is: Do we keep putting money into the trail over and over and when does it end? The trail will be reviewed again Friday morning with our engineers and the consultant engineer to review the entire trail segment to identify other areas that may need to be addressed in the future to assess the overall cost of maintaining this segment of trail. Another possible option is to widen the sidewalk on Mission, north of 123rd up to 119th and widen the sidewalk on 119th west into Tomahawk Park and link back to the trail. This would require a retaining wall because of slope issues along Mission. It would not be scenic but it provides a direct route to the Nativity school. The pros and cons for fixing this trail segment were discussed.

A Tour de Art (Bike Ride Event) – Brian Anderson

- A Tour de Art, a bike ride event that tours our public art. The Art in Public Places Committee is fully supporting this idea and they are excited about it. They will have someone at each location with info about the history and the artist. Brian Anderson would layout the bike route with a support van (for breakdowns, etc). The committee is also thrilled about this event idea. Staff will proceed with the details for this event in the coming spring.

Adjourn

- Meeting adjourns at 7:25 pm. Next meeting is September 8, 2010. (rescheduled to September 22).