



500 West Big Beaver
Troy, MI 48084
troymi.gov

Green Space Sub Committee

Timothy S. McGee | Committee Chair

Agenda/Notes: April 11, 2018

1. Call to order

On April 11, 2018 at 6:05 PM, in the Council Boardroom of Troy City Hall, Chair Tim McGee called the Green Space Sub Committee meeting to order.

Present:

Chair Tim McGee, Geetanjali Arakeri, David Ashland, Rhonda Berger, Marcia Bossenberger, Mike Brady, Pam Brady, Craig Chamberlain, Michael Culpepper, Ida Edmunds, Barbara Fowler, Cindy Hoffman, Rosemary Kornacki, Dave Lambert, Diane Rowe

Also Present:

Kurt Bovensiep, Public Works Director
Scott Mercer, Recreation Supervisor
Dennis Trantham, Facilities and Grounds Operations Manager

2. Appointment of a Committee Secretary for 4/11

Laura Campbell will be taking notes for this meeting

3. Approval of agenda notes from 3/8/2018

Agenda notes from March 8, 2018 are approved.

- a. Note: All information shared from Green Space Subcommittee is available at:

https://troymi.gov/community/green_space_in_troy.php

4. Report to Troy City Council meeting on 4/9- attached

Report has not yet been submitted to City Council. Will be submitted at next Regular City Council Meeting on April 23, 2018.

Reviewed and discussed definitions of Open and Green space below:

Open/Green Space is any open piece of land that is undeveloped; is open for both active and passive recreational use; and may or may not be owned by the City of Troy. This space includes the following:

- City Owned: Developed Parks, Undeveloped "Pocket" Parks, Community Gardens, Cemeteries, Dog Park, two Golf Courses, Nature Center, Historic Village, Civic Center and the Community Center.
- Troy School District Owned: Various School Yards and any undeveloped land.
- Private Ownership: Any undeveloped land within the city.

Is there a list available of Subdivision Parks? Kurt opened map of private open space using the current definition of Green Space. This map is available on shared page and will also check to see if the IT Department is able to generate a list of the subdivision parks (there will probably not be contact information).

Does the committee recommend at some point in the future the City consider a bond drive to purchase additional properties? The City did issue bonds and purchased several properties (3500 John R and more) and additional information can be found in the 2007-2012 Parks and Recreation Plan.

Flash drives distributed containing:
2007-2012 Parks and Recreation Plan
2015-2020 Parks and Recreation Plan

Chair McGee requested members review these plans and list important points for consideration.

5. Update on:

a. review current city ordinances, determine the impact **Dave Lambert**
Dave Lambert will report at next scheduled meeting on May 2, 2018.

b. review other cities green space related ordinances, find what are the requirements of each **Mike & Pam Brady**

Mike Brady presented the Summary of "Analysis of Land use Master Plans and Parks and Recreation Master Plans for Troy's Neighboring Communities". The full report is 24 pages long and available on shared page.

- Most master plans pointed out in one way or another it was important to maintain City character and be walkable and bike friendly.
- Many communities have sent out surveys to get more input from residents.
- Green definitions are required to obtain grants.
- Rochester Hills Master Plan – Green space millage funds are used to "permanently preserve natural green spaces, wildlife habitats and scenic views: protect woodlands, wetlands, rivers and streams; and expand the Clinton River Greenway and other trail corridors."

Chair McGee met with Birmingham and they decided it was important to look at the Parks and Recreation Plan apart from the Master Plan and what is for the recreational purposes of the residents. Birmingham is also trying to put the whole plan under the National Recreation Park Association (NRPA) concept of what green space is to a community.

Chair McGee will go through and get some key bullet points and will distribute at the next meeting.

c. analyze the current city inventory of developed parks **Diane Rowe & Cindy Hoffman**
Diane Rowe presented "Troy Park Inventory April, 2018". There are 18 developed parks including the Daisy Knight Dog Park (needs to be added to report). The full report is available on the shared page.

- Spreadsheet updated from 2015 Plan. Walked through and photographed each park and updated all park information.
- Flynn Park Sign needs to be fixed/replaced
- Schroeder Park has no sign (neighborhood park)
- Play areas at all of the parks were in excellent condition
- Robinwood Park 2 letters missing from sign but painted in
- Skate park is part of the Community Center

Chair McGee thanked members for all of the hard work on the reports.

d. Revisit 11 undeveloped parks Ida Edmunds

Ida Edmunds will present at next scheduled meeting on May 2, 2018.

i. Additional information from Tim regarding direction on this topic: I would start with the 11 sites of undeveloped parks and survey them from this perspective:

1. **Mini Parks (Pocket Parks)** Mini parks are categorized as small, specialized parks that usually serve the needs of residents in the immediate neighborhood. These parks usually serve a limited population or specific demographic group
2. **Neighborhood Parks** Neighborhood parks are typically multi-purpose facilities that serve as the recreational and social focus of a neighborhood. They provide areas for both passive and active recreation activities such as field games, court games, playgrounds, picnicking, etc. Neighborhood parks are generally serve residents within one-half mile.

ii. Should they be developed for passive and/or active recreational purposes and what benefit would they serve the surrounding community?

6. Parks and Recreation 5 Year Master Plan 2015-2020

- a. Lloyd A. Stage Nature Center, Troy Farm, Troy Historic Village – the master plan would need to be amended to add

7. Additional members interested in assisting with topics?

8. Next meeting

- a. Wednesday May 2, 2018 | Council Boardroom 6PM (will let Cindy Stewart know to post on website)

Additional Discussion/Questions:

- The goal is to have recommendation to City Council sometime this summer.
- Discussed school playground availability during the summer (confirmed there are 15 elementary schools located in Troy). The soccer and baseball fields on school properties are no longer

maintained. Troy Baseball Boosters supports tee ball program and games are played at Firefighters.

- Question: When do bonds expire – 2020? Is it possible to repurpose bonds to acquire additional green space?
- Kurt said the committee has done a great job of defining open/green space. The next step is to determine how the City of Troy compares to our neighbors and what do the residents want as far as green space? Will the recommendation be to purchase more land, protect/improve/build upon what we already have and what are the costs associated with the recommendation.
- Chair McGee asked the group to write down what they feel is important as far as recommendations.
- Ida Edmunds wanted to know the percentage of acreage that is parkland or green space and wanted to discuss what a good balance might be. It was reported there are 21,520 acres of City-owned green/open space in Troy including parks, Historic Village, Nature Center, Community Center, Civic Center, Golf Courses and cemeteries. A spreadsheet listing these would be helpful in defining exactly what we have in a readable format. Should schools and churches be included?
- Again, a recommendation might be to use bonds to purchase more land. It was mentioned that the Wattles property is a prime piece of land.
- There was more discussion of what is and what is not green space....cemeteries?
- Chair McGee further defined the following:
Active Use = athletic fields, golf courses, swimming, tennis
Passive Use = walking, sitting, picnic, no sports (Huber Park is an example of a passive recreational area)
- Kurt said a recommendation might be to partner more with private owners like the Raintree subdivision and the dog park. The City can possibly help with maintenance or make improvements and then allow the public to go there. Northfield Park was mentioned as a great opportunity for a partnership.
- There was a recommendation to consider more neighborhood mini-parks

9. Adjournment at 7:10 PM