

Minutes: Meeting #2

Thursday, November 9, 2023

6:00 p.m.

Multi-purpose Room, Anthony Recreation Center
2415 Browning Ave, Manhattan, KS 66502

Committee Members Present: Travis Say, Josh Runyan, Blake Wolf, Gail Urban, Sue Maes, Steve Disbrow, Leslie Neilson, Nathan Legleiter, Michael Wilson, Kevin Neitzel, Jenn Edlund, Marcia Rozell.

Committee Members Absent: Mike Marsh, Christine Weixelman, David Willis.

City Staff Present: Wyatt Thompson, Assistant City Manager. Aaron Stewart, Parks & Recreation Director. Tyler Burroughs, Recreation Supervisor (Sports). Casey Smithson, Park Superintendent.

Design-Build Team Present: Garric Baker, Bruce McMillan Architects. Kelly Karl, BHS Construction, William Mann, Schwab Eaton.

1) CALL TO ORDER

Wyatt Thompson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

2) ROLL CALL, INTRODUCTIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENT OF QUORUM

Wyatt Thompson called the roll. Twelve members were present, which meets the quorum of 8 members.

3) RECAP MEETING #1 AND APPROVE MINUTES FROM MEETING #1

Gail Urban made a motion to accept and approve the minutes from Meeting #1 which was held on October 18, 2023. Sue Maes seconded the motion. The vote passed 12-0. Garric Baker provided a brief background and recap of Meeting #1 for those who may not have been present.

4) PROJECT INVESTIGATIONS

A) PREFERENCE QUESTIONNAIRE FINDINGS: HANDOUT (PDF)

- (1) Six stakeholder meetings were conducted with 44 participants. Questionnaire responses were gathered and tabulated. Three themes that made successful sports complexes considered the following: (1) maintenance and operations, (2) typical and preferred components, (3) functionality and feel. Similarly, unsuccessful complexes ranked low on



This meeting was held in the Multi-purpose Room at the Anthony Recreation Center, 2415 Browning Avenue. Public participation is solicited without regard to race, sex, familial status, military status, disability, religion, age, color, national origin, ancestry, sexual orientation, or gender identity. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons with disabilities needing special accommodation to participate in the CiCo Park Improvements Advisory Committee, or those requiring language assistance (free of charge) should contact the City of Manhattan ADA Coordinator, Robyn Dreher, no later than forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting, at (785) 587-2443 or 7-1-1 (Relay).

these three categories. The committee was tasked to remember these central themes when selecting priorities and design concepts.

- (2) The findings of the stakeholder interviews were represented on a graphic scale. Items were split as options A and B with indicators on a sliding scale showing preference for one over the other or landing in the middle as a neutral position. Each stakeholder group's feedback was not weighted and allowed the Committee to discuss. The group was asked to confirm the survey findings and provide final direction for the initial concepts.
- A) The group preferred that that backstops be netting rather than chain-link.
 - B) After extensive discussion on fixed vs portable pitching mounds, the group tentatively agreed the Varsity baseball field should have a permanent mound and three fields should have the option for portable mounds. Additional discussion with USD 383 about their needs and research into options for portable mounds is needed.
 - C) The group preferred a solid enclosure for dugouts instead of open chain-link.
 - D) The group was mostly neutral on style of seating. Seating (Baseball) should include some manner of fixed seating to include concrete steps and aluminum benches. Discussed the idea of more amenities at two fields and lesser amenities at two fields.
 - E) The group was mostly neutral on the construction of a batter's eye but leaned toward a natural material like trees instead of a constructed element.
 - F) The group preferred a traditional concession vending window, but was open to more research into a convenience store model to reduce staffing needs.
 - G) The group preferred batting tunnels for each field; however, depending on the budget, a warm-up area for communal tunnels could be desirable.
 - H) The group preferred a playground be located within the sports complex; the location has yet to be determined.
 - I) The group preferred that tennis courts should at a minimum include adult-only lines with research needing to be conducted to verify that courts with adult and junior lines can be used for KSHSAA sponsored tournaments.
 - J) The group discussed the need for tennis court lighting and recommended that not every court needed lighting, depending on budget. The budget will determine how many courts are ultimately lit but up to 4 or 6 courts may be lit.
 - K) The group preferred that at least one hitting wall should be provided for individual practice, with possibly more than one if budget permits.
 - L) The group preferred that seating for tennis be portable aluminum bleachers so that they can be repositioned as needed for events.
 - M) The group discussed the need for concessions at tennis and what tournaments at other locations offered. The group leaned toward vending machines, and if the budget allows, a concession window would be nice. Also discussed possibility of using the concession stand at Bishop Stadium.
 - N) A wider sidewalk along Kimball Avenue is not anticipated for this project. Planning should accommodate the future modification, however, other funding sources may be needed.
 - O) Wider sidewalks on Wreath were received well and, if the budget allows, should be considered.
 - P) A complete perimeter trail is of high interest. Constructing trail on the west side of the park would need Riley County approval. Lighting the trail was preferred. The overall budget for the sports complex will determine if the trail is funded through this pool of resources or from the dedicated trail fund, if at all.

B) INITIAL DESIGN DISCUSSION

- (1) Maps of CiCo Park were provided along with paper cut-outs of proposed elements to see how these items fit on the site and implications on drainage and property lines.
- (2) Parking was discussed. The northwest lot is to remain gravel per both Committee and Riley County preference. The east lot may serve as overflow parking for the ball diamonds as well as for the tennis courts; pavement or gravel was not determined but the budget may dictate the final design.
- (3) The tennis courts may be built in tiers, adding both interest in the complex but also accessibility concerns. Ramps would be needed.
- (4) Accessibility to the site for pedestrians, vehicles, and emergency responders such as fire department and ambulance was considered.
- (5) Drainage along the east side of the ball diamonds that flows to the drainage basin to the east of Bishop Stadium.
- (6) Other ideas raised were natural plantings, relocating the skatepark, basketball courts, and a pedestrian bridge.

5) NEXT MEETING

November 9, 2023
6:00 P.M.
Anthony Recreation Center
2415 Browning Avenue, Manhattan, KS 66502

6) ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.