

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

Tuesday, May 19, 2015 @ 5:30 PM

**Location: City Offices, 8123 Main Street
PNC Bank, Second Floor – Enter at rear door**

A G E N D A

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**

Becky Murillo - Chair	Katie Koch
Randy Hermann – Vice-Chair	John Coy
Toni Henkemeyer	Julie Knight – Ex Officio
Ellen Han	
- 3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – April 21, 2015**
- 4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- 5. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**
- 6. BREAK – WALK OF MILL CREEK PARK AND TRAIL**
- 7. REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION**
 - A. Chair
 - a. 5-H Coalition
 - B. Commissioners and Ex Officio
 - a. Tree Board
 - b. City Council
 - C. Staff Report
- 8. OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion of: Mill Creek Park Phase Two
 - B. Discussion of: Master Plan Updates
 - a. Cover
 - b. Goals and Objectives
 - c. Public Input
- 9. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion of: RFP for Lions Park Playground Equipment Evaluation
 - B. Discussion of: Park Maintenance Requests
- 10. CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION**
- 11. PROPOSED BUSINESS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**
- 12. ADJOURNMENT**

ANNUAL REVIEW SCHEDULE

March/July – Annual Budget Review

November – Master Plan, Goals, Objectives and Strategies Review

January – Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Review

MASTER PLAN GOALS

I. GOAL: (Space/Facilities) Meet present and future community needs for parks, greenways, trails, and recreation.

- A. Objective: Plan and develop a system of parks, greenways, open space, and recreation facilities that provides a minimum of 16 acres per 1,000 Village residents.
 - ✓ Current surplus in mini-parks, neighborhood parks and community parks based on July 2008 SEMCOG population estimates.
- B. Objective: Encourage the preservation of green space and the development of new parks and/or recreation assets when opportunities arise.
- C. Objective: Following removal of the Mill Creek dam, plan and develop a linear park along the Mill Creek.
 - ✓ Dam was removed in June 2008, Mill Creek Park Master Plan adopted by Council January 26, 2009
 - ✓ Various grant application applied for in anticipation of 2010 Phase 1 park construction and development

II. GOAL: (Recreation) Encourage healthy lifestyles for Village residents through recreation.

- A. Objective: Offer Village residents a balanced program of active and passive recreation opportunities.
 - ✓ Working on developing a system of trails, implemented ice rink in 2009
- B. Objective: Offer Village residents multiple opportunities to walk, run, bike, skate, or paddle without leaving their community.
 - ✓ Grant applications for boating, walking and pedestrian connections submitted throughout 2009
 - ✓ Awarded Waterways Infrastructure grant for installation of 3 boat launches

III. GOAL: (Accessibility) Strive to make every Village park and recreation site accessible.

- A. Objective: Design and develop a system of all-season, non-motorized pathways, trails, sidewalks, and bike paths linking Village neighborhoods with both Village and adjacent non-Village parks, greenways, pathways, recreation venues, schools, and commercial retail areas.
 - ✓ Working with County Parks and HCMA on regional trail connection and B2B Initiative
- B. Objective: Ensure that all parks and recreation assets are barrier-free and universally accessible.
 - ✓ Barrier free design was incorporated into Mill Creek Park Plan and DDA is providing funding to facilitate ADA access to Mill Creek Park via Jeffords Street.

IV. GOAL: (Environment) Make nature and healthy ecosystems an important characteristic of our Village.

- A. Objective: In designated Village natural areas, enhance and preserve healthy ecosystems for native plants, fish, and wildlife.
- B. Objective: In Village urban areas, enhance the natural feel of each park.
 - ✓ Mill Creek Park has been planned as a passive park with a natural feel.
- C. Objective: Advocate for the enhancement and preservation of natural features within and surrounding our Village.

V. GOAL: (Management) Use sound planning, financial, and operational management practices.

- A. Objective: Deliver on our stated goals and objectives.
- B. Objective: Ensure that our parks and recreation assets remain available for enjoyment, now and in the future.
- C. Objective: Foster smart and efficient management practices.
- D. Objective: Identify and utilize all available Village and non-Village funding resources to meet our goals.
 - ✓ Numerous funding sources were applied for in 2009.

VI. GOAL: (Community) Foster a community-wide sense of pride in and support for our parks and recreation program.

- A. Objective: Promote parks and recreation activities in the community and our broader service area.
- B. Objective: Provide and promote opportunities for individual citizens and community groups to influence the mission, priorities, management, and operations of the parks and recreation program.
 - ✓ Mill Creek Park Master Planning Process and Westside Connector Planning engaged many parties.
- C. Objective: Deliver superior service to citizens and others seeking our help.
- D. Objective: Develop an overall parks and recreation program that makes a positive contribution to the economic sustainability of the Village.
 - ✓ Ice Rink in 2009 helped promote downtown
- E. Objective: Develop and maintain parks and recreation assets that incorporate a high degree of aesthetic appeal.
- F. Objective: Develop and maintain park and recreation assets and recreation programs that meet current industry safety standards and, where standards do not exist, develop and maintain assets and programs with careful consideration for user or participant safety.

**CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2015**

The regular meeting of the City of Dexter Parks and Recreation Commission was called to order at 7:05 pm at the City Offices, 8123 Main Street.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Becky Murillo, Ellen Han, Katie Koch, John Coy, and Julie Knight

Commissioners Absent: Randy Hermann, Toni Henkemeyer

Other Present: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager; Anita Twardesky, RiverUp! Trail Towns Coordinator; Amy Samples, Resident; and Ian Bell, Dexter Eagle Scouts.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Motion by Knight, Seconded by Han to approve the minutes from March 17, 2015.
Motion Adopted

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Koch, Seconded by Murillo to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

Ian Bell from the Eagle Scouts presented options for his project to build stairs along the City of Dexter's boardwalk. The Commission engaged in discussion of the desired location and other potential projects, such as animal houses.

Motion Coy, Seconded by Murillo to approve Ian Bell's proposed concept detailing the stairs as being adjacent to the existing deck.
Motion Adopted

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

A. CHAIR

Becky Murillo reported that she had not heard from SRSLY about their proposed cinema nights. She also reported that City would not be able to accept the \$10,000 from the Dexter Wellness Coalition due to the ongoing tax tribunal issue.

D. PRESENTATION BY ANITA TWARDESKY FROM HURON RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

Anita Twardesky from the Huron River Watershed Council presented their Trail Towns initiative. She discussed the DIA's Inside-Out program, marketing, and stewardship. Anita also stated that she would like to assist the Parks and Recreation Commission with their master planning process, as HRWC is currently undertaking their own planning initiative regarding the Huron River and the Trail Towns Blue Print. The Blue Print will be complete in October and November, and the Parks and Recreation Commission will be able to adopt it as an addendum to the 2016 Master Plan update.

Anita and the Commission also discussed acquisition of property along Mill Creek or the Huron River and the level of assistance that HRWC could provide in a river launch project as well as cleaning any debris in the River.

OLD BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF: MASTER PLAN UPDATES

The Commission reviewed several pages of the Master Plan and provided feedback. The Commission reviewed the first two sections of the update, but did not review Goals and Objectives or Projects.

NEW BUSINESS

A. DISCUSSION OF: FY 2015-16

The Commission reviewed the FY 2014-15 Budget and discussed projects proposed for 2015-16. The projects discussed for inclusion in the Budget were the Lion's Park project, rain garden maintenance contract, and the First Street Park project.

REPORTS AND COMMUNICATION

B. COMMISSIONERS AND EX-OFFICIO

Tree Board – John Coy reported that West Ridge tree trimming is planned for this year. Two trees will be planted at Arbor Day on the Mill Creek South hill. He also mentioned that there will be a seedling tree give away for Arbor Day – April 24th. John stated that it is the Tree Board's plan to plant 20 street trees this summer. These trees are available for citizens at \$135 per tree.

City Council – Julie Knight provided an update on new City offices and fire hall facilities. The second town hall meeting for facilities will be on April 25 from 10am – 12pm and will include small group discussion. Julie also stated that the need for a parking facility was discussed at the last Facilities Committee meeting.

C. STAFF REPORT

Justin submits his report per packet. He gave an update that he submitted section of the previous Master Plan to Sean Burton of the Dexter School District for review and comment.

The Commission discussed hosting a walk of the existing boardwalk and proposed Mill Creek Phase 2 trail as a part of the next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting. John Coy proposed inviting all City Council members, Courtney Nicholls, and Paul Evanoff and providing an aerial map of the boardwalk.

Motion Coy, Seconded by Koch to call the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting of May 19th at 5:30pm to allow for a trail walk.

Motion Adopted

CITIZENS WISHING TO ADDRESS THE COMMISSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Murillo, Seconded by Coy to adjourn at 10:00 pm

Motion Adopted

Justin Breyer
Assistant to the City Manager



CITY OF DEXTER
PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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MEMORANDUM

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission
FROM: Justin Breyer, Assistant to the City Manager
RE: REPORT
DATE: May 19, 2015

B2B 10K Run/Walk

The B2B 10K Run/Walk was held on Saturday, May 2, 2015. There were a total of 202 runners and walkers, but Mill Creek Park was full of activity with runners' families, spectators, and race sponsors. The event began in Hudson Mills Metropark and concluded in Mill Creek Park just west of the Farmer's Market. Staff associated with the City, Hudson Mills Metroparks, and Washtenaw County Parks have received a wealth of feedback from participants and attendees commenting on how well the event was managed. Beautiful weather and coinciding with the Farmer's Market's opening day also assisted in making the race a memorable event.

Professional Rain Garden Maintenance Services

The City has awarded the contract for spring weeding of the rain gardens to Bloom! Environmental Services. The work that they will be performing in May is on a trial basis, which will allow us to see their work before proceeding with maintenance for the remainder of the season.

Lions Park Playground

The Request for Proposal for playground equipment for the proposed Lions Park closed on Tuesday, May 12. We have received 9 responses, with most vendors providing three (3) options each. At the meeting on May 19, I would like to discuss the review and evaluation process and look at the proposals.

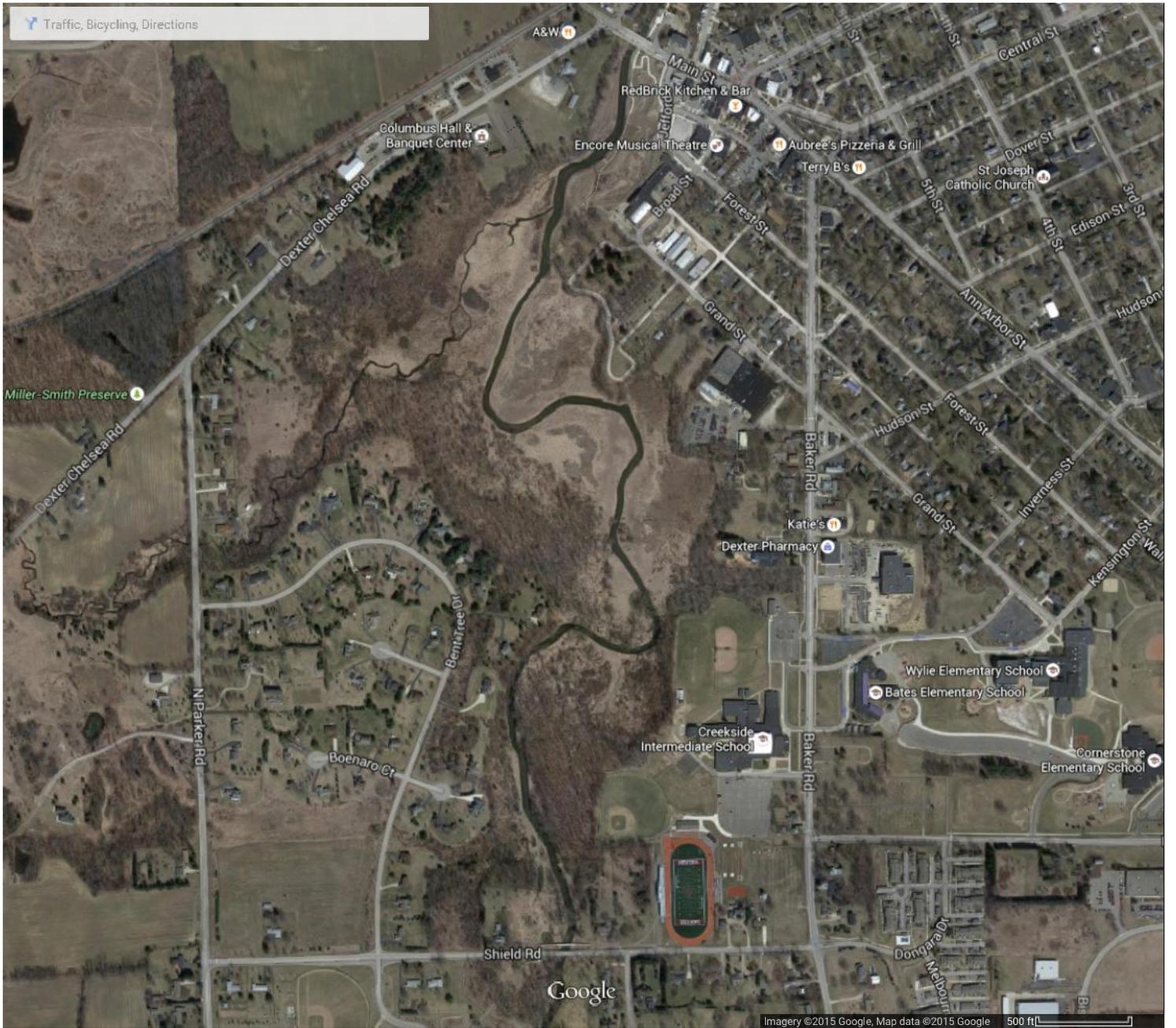
The School Board approved the easement for the land on April 20th. However, the easement has not yet been discussed by City Council, and after further discussion with the City's attorney, it is recommended that some language in the Exhibits be clarified for the sake of the Register of Deeds. In this case, the easement will need to be discussed by Council and go back to the School Board for approval.

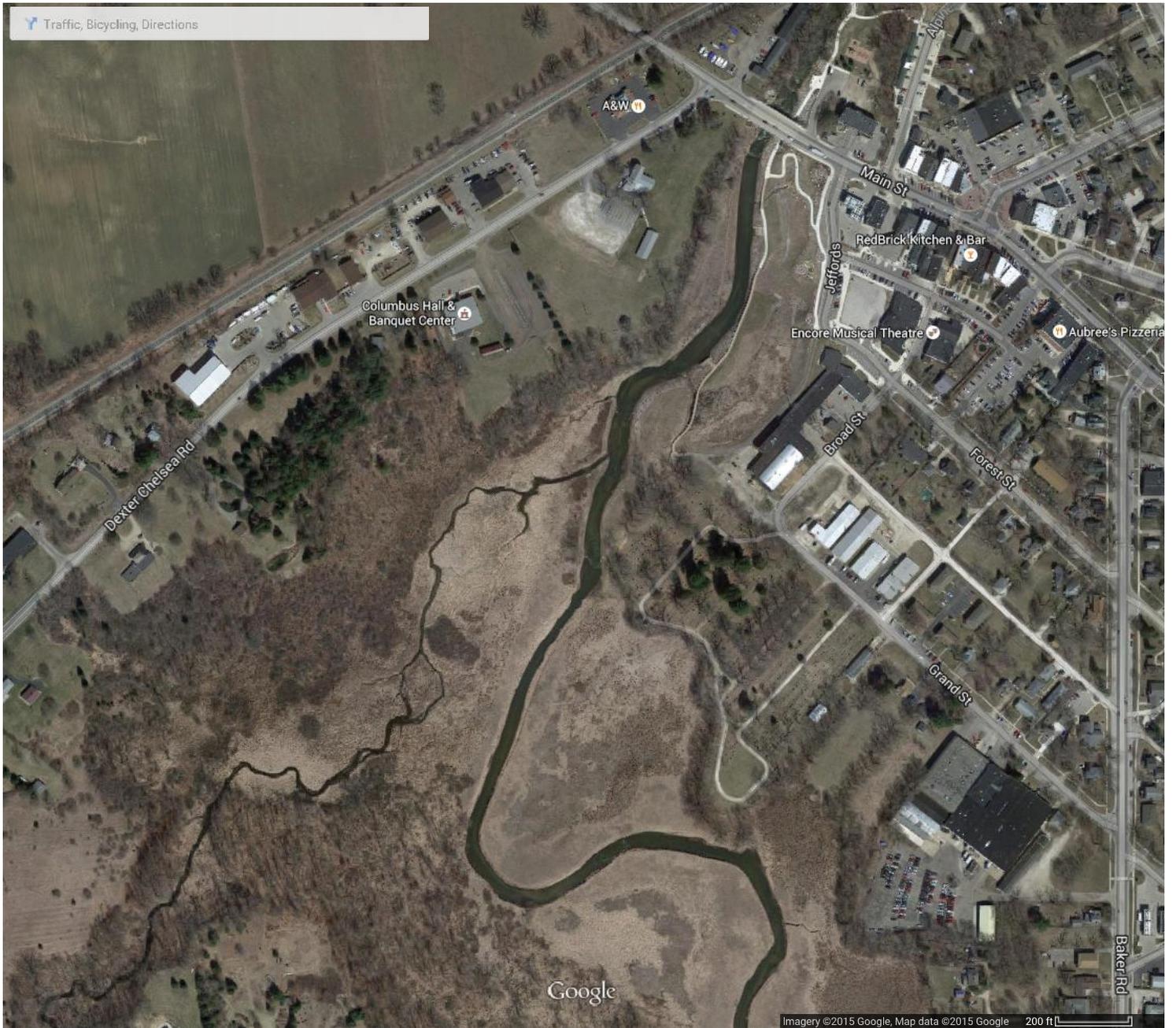
Master Plan Update

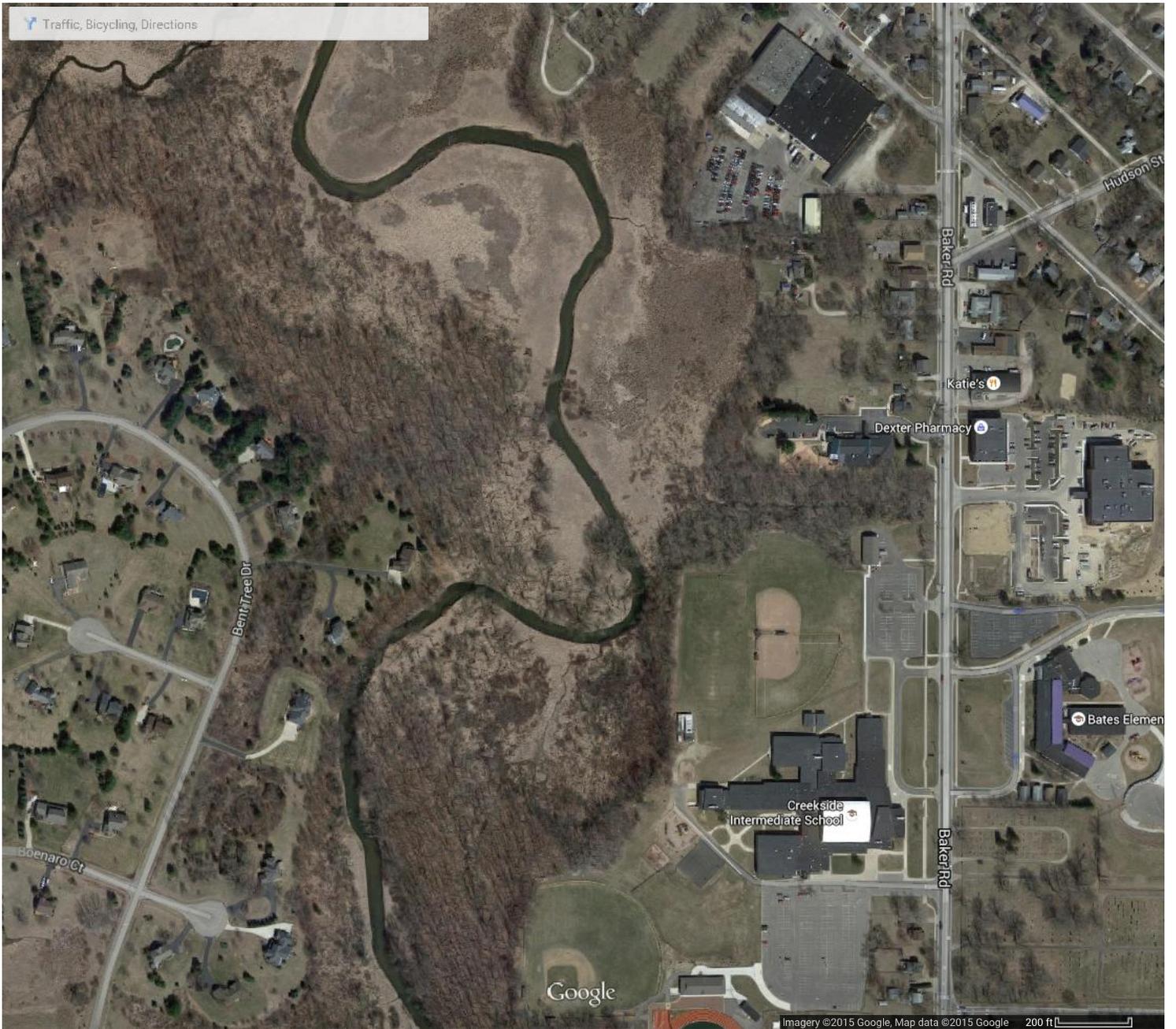
As we proceed through the Parks and Recreation Master Plan update, the items that should next be addressed are the Commission's goals and objectives and the methodology for gathering public input for the Plan. These are items that should be addressed at the May 19th meeting.

Please feel free to contact me prior to the meeting with any questions, etc.

Thank you.







Google

Goals and Objectives

I.GOAL: (Space/Facilities) Meet present and future community needs for parks, greenways, trails, and recreation.

- A. Objective: Plan and develop a system of parks, greenways, open space, and recreation facilities that provides a minimum of 16 acres per 1,000 Village residents.**
1. *Strategy: Identify desirable parcels within or adjacent to the Village and evaluate for park system inclusion.*
 2. *Strategy: Seek to provide required space or facilities through the development of partnerships, or the purchase of easements or property.*
 3. *Strategy: Consider the location of existing parks and facilities when choosing new sites in order to provide a balanced distribution.*
 4. *Strategy: Encourage the development of parks and facilities in areas which are pathway accessible and will serve a large number of Village residents or a priority targeted group.*
 5. *Strategy: Provide park and recreation facilities that are consistent with NPRA standards and guidelines and that coincide with the needs of the Village.*
 6. *Strategy: Develop park and recreation assets with safe, universally accessible pathway linkages as a priority consideration.*
- B. Objective: Encourage the preservation of green space and the development of new parks and/or recreation assets when opportunities arise.**
1. *Strategy: Encourage park projects that honor and preserve local history and historic architecture.*
 2. *Strategy: Promote the integration of our goals with the Village Planning Commission and their development review process to ensure that projects meet increased parks and recreation needs.*
 3. *Strategy: Use the development review process to encourage the clustering of dwellings facilitating more space for parks, recreation, pathways, open space, or linear parks.*
 4. *Strategy: Encourage large developments to dedicate a minimum of 30% of their project as green open space, exclusive of stormwater detention/retention ponds and paved surfaces.*
 5. *Strategy: Encourage small developments to provide green open space for small mini-parks.*
 6. *Strategy: Encourage developers to preserve green open space and mature trees in their projects, to protect significant ecosystems, and to use greenways and linear parks to buffer their projects, to provide for the safe movement of wildlife, and to connect to the linear parks or greenways of adjacent jurisdictions.*
 7. *Strategy: Encourage developers to provide pathways connecting their project with the Village's system of pathways and the pathways of adjacent parks, trail systems, or jurisdictions.*
 8. *Strategy: Encourage developers to meet the recreation demands created by their project through the construction of new neighborhood parks and active recreation facilities.*
 9. *Strategy: Encourage developers to contribute to the restricted parks and recreation endowment commensurate with the size of their project and estimated population.*
- C. Objective: Following removal of the Mill Creek dam, plan and develop a linear park along the Mill Creek.**
1. *Strategy: Seek Village Council creation of a Mill Creek Park Planning Team, with Parks and Recreation Commission representation, to formulate goals, objectives and related criteria to guide the planning and development process.*
 2. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Mill Creek Park Planning Team to develop an environmental framework and master plan for the new park.*

3. *Strategy: Coordinate linear park and pathway connections with regional and local jurisdictions including the planned Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority Hike-Bike Trail, Washtenaw County's Border-to-Border Trail, other adjacent Washtenaw County Parks and Preserves, and with the master plans of neighboring townships.*
4. *Strategy: Select a consultant through a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process to help develop detailed plans for the park's development.*
5. *Strategy: Secure approval and funding from Village Council to engage the services of preferred consultant to develop a Master Plan for the Mill Creek linear park.*
6. *Strategy: Apply for funding from both Village and non-Village sources to help execute the Mill Creek Park plan and park development.*
7. *Strategy: Execute the park development plan in phases as funding allows.*
8. *Strategy: Encourage adjacent jurisdictions to collaborate when appropriate.*

II. GOAL: (Recreation) Encourage healthy lifestyles for Village residents through recreation.

A. Objective: Offer Village residents a balanced program of active and passive recreation opportunities.

1. *Strategy: Develop and promote a program of active and passive recreation activities and local events that are affordable and provide good value to citizens of all ages.*
2. *Strategy: Make pathway and passive recreation development first priority in order to achieve the highest utilization and return on investment.*
3. *Strategy: Develop active recreation facilities secondarily but as required to meet specific high priority needs.*
4. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Dexter Community Schools and other public and private interests in the planning and delivery of recreation opportunities while eliminating duplication.*
5. *Strategy: Evaluate the feasibility of developing passive facilities in support of birding, photography, and environmental education.*
6. *Strategy: Evaluate the feasibility of developing active facilities in support of a skateboarding/inline skating, outdoor ice skating, outdoor rock climbing, fishing, and paddle sports.*

B. Objective: Offer Village residents multiple opportunities to walk, run, bike, skate, or paddle without leaving their community.

1. *Strategy: Identify, promote, and help develop longer outings via additional pathway and water trail linkages to adjacent parks, trail systems, greenways, and waterways owned and operated by other jurisdictions.*
2. *Strategy: Build the proposed west side connector and other linkages to the Washtenaw County Border-to-Border Trail and the Miller/Smith Preserves.*
3. *Strategy: Develop a pathway system within the boundaries of the proposed linear park at Mill Creek.*
4. *Strategy: Develop a Mill Creek water trail from Shield Road to the Huron River.*

III. GOAL: (Accessibility) Strive to make every Village park and recreation site accessible.

A. Objective: Design and develop a system of all-season, non-motorized pathways, trails, sidewalks, and bike paths linking Village neighborhoods with both Village and adjacent non-Village parks, greenways, pathways, recreation venues, schools, and commercial retail areas.

1. *Strategy: Develop a pathway system within the boundaries of the proposed linear park at Mill Creek that will serve as a central hub connecting to other pathway systems.*

2. *Strategy: Construct the proposed west side connector from WestRidge to the proposed Mill Creek linear park.*
3. *Strategy: Identify and develop bicycle lanes on all major roads and streets in the Village.*
4. *Strategy: Segregate bicycle and pedestrian traffic from motorized traffic where appropriate and feasible.*
5. *Strategy: Collaborate with the Dexter Community Schools to establish pathways connecting the High School and Intermediate Schools with the proposed linear park at Mill Creek.*
6. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with the State of Michigan, specifically with the goals of the Michigan State Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP).*
7. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with Washtenaw County Parks and Recreation, especially their regional Border-to-Border Trail Initiative.*
8. *Strategy: Coordinate park and trail planning with the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, especially their Hike-Bike Trail initiative.*
9. *Strategy: Proactively invite other Village and/or regional groups involved in planning to enhance linkages to Village parks and recreation for a broader regional system.*

B. Objective: Ensure that all parks and recreation assets are barrier-free and universally accessible.

1. *Strategy: Review all plans, for new parks and recreation facilities, for compliance with current ADA standards.*
2. *Strategy: Develop and implement strategies to make existing parks and recreation facilities compliant with current ADA standards.*
3. *Strategy: Explore securing funding assistance for ADA-related improvements.*

IV. GOAL: (Environment) Make nature and healthy ecosystems an important characteristic of our Village.

A. Objective: In designated Village natural areas, enhance and preserve healthy ecosystems for native plants, fish, and wildlife.

1. *Strategy: Develop and implement a comprehensive management plan, including environmental framework, to enhance and sustain the above.*
2. *Strategy: Prioritize invasive species and minimize their impact where practical.*
3. *Strategy: Identify desirable species and provide supportive habitat.*
4. *Strategy: Periodically repopulate desirable native species where and when appropriate.*
5. *Strategy: Perform maintenance as required within natural areas and waterways to enhance the environment for native species.*
6. *Strategy: Encourage the Village to maintain best practice stormwater solutions to increase water quality.*
7. *Strategy: Promote and maintain riparian buffers to reduce erosion and lower water temperatures.*
8. *Strategy: Promote and maintain sufficient ability for fish to move upstream.*
9. *Strategy: Educate community about habitat, plants, wildlife, fishery, and their value.*
10. *Strategy: Educate community about potential for pet damage to habitat, plant life, wildlife, fishery, and water quality.*
11. *Strategy: Develop and promote identification and education programs in our natural areas using citizen volunteers, teachers, or partnering with non-Village organizations.*
12. *Strategy: Promote the use of our natural areas by residents in an effort to increase their sense of ownership and support.*
13. *Strategy: Develop a volunteer stewardship program in support of our natural areas, including school-based programs to educate and nurture interest.*

B. Objective: In Village urban areas, enhance the natural feel of each park.

1. *Strategy: Integrate the use of native plants with non-native perennials and annuals.*
2. *Strategy: Use bioretention islands, bioswales, rain gardens, and other innovative water retention strategies when appropriate.*
3. *Strategy: Add and maintain features or structures that invite and support wildlife, e.g., hummingbird gardens, birdhouses, bat houses, etc.*
4. *Strategy: Consider integrating large boulders, water features, or other natural-style hardscape.*

C. Objective: Advocate for the enhancement and preservation of natural features within and surrounding our Village.

1. *Strategy: Promote the preservation of scenic vistas, natural land buffers, greenways, and waterways.*
2. *Strategy: Promote the preservation and enhancement of important wildlife habitat and migration routes, including aquatic, in and through the Village.*
3. *Strategy: Promote increased public access to adjacent waterways, greenways, and public lands.*

V. GOAL: (Management) Use sound planning, financial, and operational management practices.**A. Objective: Deliver on our stated goals and objectives.**

1. *Strategy: Develop and annually review the development plan for each Village park and recreation site.*
2. *Strategy: Annually maintain and implement project priorities as listed in the 5-year Capital Improvements Plan (CIP).*
3. *Strategy: Develop an annual plan for meeting program objectives through the implementation of specific strategies, both CIP and non-CIP items.*
4. *Strategy: Review progress quarterly on the implementation of our annual plan to keep on track.*
5. *Strategy: Annually review degree to which prior year's plans were implemented and recommend adjustments for the future.*

B. Objective: Ensure that our parks and recreation assets remain available for enjoyment, now and in the future.

1. *Strategy: Develop a parks and recreation master plan and update it at a minimum of every 5 years.*
2. *Strategy: Annually secure adequate funding for operations and maintenance.*
3. *Strategy: Establish and promote a restricted parks and recreation endowment fund.*
4. *Strategy: Leverage outside funding, partnerships, and other assets whenever possible.*
5. *Strategy: Consider opportunities for the development of parks and recreation revenues from user fees, rentals, and/or other direct services when appropriate and desirable, e.g., gazebo rentals, facility and equipment rentals, concessions, etc.*
6. *Strategy: Periodically consider asking citizens to provide a dedicated and stable revenue base through a renewable millage.*
7. *Strategy: Annually develop and submit a budget and capital improvement plan.*
8. *Strategy: Fully implement and live within the authorized operating and capital improvement budgets.*
9. *Strategy: Build effective working relationships with Village Council, staff, and other Village and non-Village agency representatives as required.*

10. *Strategy: Develop community support as required.*

C. Objective: Foster smart and efficient management practices.

1. *Strategy: Ensure appropriate staff and volunteers are educated in relevant current best practices of the parks and recreation profession.*
2. *Strategy: Ensure that appropriate staff and volunteers are provided the resources and support of Village government to be successful.*
3. *Strategy: Stay abreast of changing trends and add this information to our discussions.*
4. *Strategy: Recommend investment in assets and programs that satisfy community needs and values while staying true to our mission and goals.*
5. *Strategy: Develop and implement appropriate asset maintenance schedules, reflective of the investment and projected long-term value of the asset.*
6. *Strategy: Participate in Village and regional groups involved in planning that would impact Village parks and recreation.*
7. *Strategy: Partner with other public and private entities where duplication could be eliminated or to help provide new programs and facilities for Village residents.*

D. Objective: Identify and utilize all available Village and non-Village funding resources to meet our goals.

1. *Strategy: Identify and apply to funding sources that may serve as alternatives or supplements to Village funds.*
2. *Strategy: Consider selling park, facility, hardscape, or equipment sponsorships as a part of any funding campaign.*
3. *Strategy: Develop and promote efforts to fund a Village Parks and Recreation Endowment, e.g., Dexter Parks & Recreation Guide to Giving, raffle-style giveaway, or other fundraising device.*

VI. GOAL: (Community) Foster a community-wide sense of pride in and support for our parks and recreation program.

A. Objective: Promote parks and recreation activities in the community and our broader service area.

1. *Strategy: Request amendment from Village Council to change existing name from Parks and Recreation Commission to Parks and Recreation Commission.*
2. *Strategy: Communicate with the Village Planning Commission and Village Council the importance of parks and recreation initiatives in the community.*
3. *Strategy: Meet with the Downtown Development Authority, Chamber of Commerce, and other local civic organizations about our initiatives.*
4. *Strategy: Develop and consistently use a Village Parks & Recreation brand including logo, marketing message, etc.*
5. *Strategy: Develop a Parks & Recreation branded website as part of the Village site, e.g., www.villageofdexter.org/parksandrec.*
6. *Strategy: Produce an integrated set of branded print and PDF brochures promoting our parks and recreation assets and programs.*
7. *Strategy: Promote our parks and programs through participation in major downtown events.*
8. *Strategy: Promote our parks and programs through branded wayfinding and activity promotion signage and advertising.*
9. *Strategy: Communicate our annual plan to the general public.*
10. *Strategy: Communicate our success and shortfalls to the general public annually.*

11. *Strategy: Provide periodic updates through a combination of communication channels, e.g., Village newsletter, website, brochures, Dexter Leader.*
12. *Strategy: Work with other public and private agencies to promote our parks and recreation program through shared mailings and/or joint sponsorship, e.g., education, recreation, events, etc.*

B. Objective: Provide and promote opportunities for individual citizens and community groups to influence the mission, priorities, management, and operations of the parks and recreation program.

1. *Strategy: Regularly survey residents to measure program and service quality, user satisfaction, and to collect citizen input.*
2. *Strategy: Establish an online comment form and email address for suggestions or feedback.*
3. *Strategy: Regularly invite residents to attend and participate in Parks and Recreation meetings.*
4. *Strategy: Invite citizens to volunteer in support of Parks and Recreation objectives.*
5. *Strategy: Understand the importance of engaging the public and local community organizations.*
6. *Strategy: Identify and promote project opportunities for voluntary community participation.*
7. *Strategy: Meet annually with the Downtown Development Authority, Dexter Community Schools, Washtenaw County Planning and Recreation Departments, Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority, and other local units of government within the Dexter vicinity.*
8. *Strategy: Meet annually with local civic organizations and neighborhood groups to inform them of our goals and projects and to invite their feedback and participation.*
9. *Strategy: Annually review citizen feedback, incorporating desired ideas.*

C. Objective: Deliver superior service to citizens and others seeking our help.

1. *Strategy: Commit to serving residents with warmth, courtesy, and respect in all matters.*
2. *Strategy: Communicate with residents regularly to enhance timeliness of information, transparency of process, and support for parks and recreation in our Village.*
3. *Strategy: Make ease of use and affordability priorities when developing recreation programs.*

D. Objective: Develop an overall parks and recreation program that makes a positive contribution to the economic sustainability of the Village.

1. *Strategy: When developing park and recreation assets and programs, maximize how each will contribute to the local economy consistent with our mission and goals.*
2. *Strategy: When possible and appropriate, consider improvements that will support efforts to build "Dexter as a Destination".*
3. *Strategy: Stay abreast of, influence, and support the activities and objectives of other Village organizations, e.g., DDA, Chamber of Commerce, Dexter Community Schools, Historical Society, when consistent with our mission and goals.*

E. Objective: Develop and maintain parks and recreation assets that incorporate a high degree of aesthetic appeal.

1. *Strategy: Engage the services of appropriate design professionals when developing or upgrading parks and recreation assets.*
2. *Strategy: Develop and implement design standards for all park and recreation assets.*
3. *Strategy: Periodically review existing assets for appearance and invest as necessary to elevate to desired standard.*

4. *Strategy: Utilize or compliment other design standards used in the Village by other departments and organizations.*

F. Objective: Develop and maintain park and recreation assets and recreation programs that meet current industry safety standards and, where standards do not exist, develop and maintain assets and programs with careful consideration for user or participant safety.

1. *Strategy: Engage the services of appropriate safety or risk assessment professionals when developing or upgrading parks and recreation assets.*
2. *Strategy: To assure safety of users, require that current industry standards be identified and met when developing any design or bid specification.*
3. *Strategy: Work with local law enforcement personnel to develop appropriate design safeguards and post-implementation strategies.*
4. *Strategy: Where identifiable, clearly indicate potential risks to participants or users and any limits to participation or use, e.g., signage.*
5. *Strategy: Follow recommendations of the Michigan Municipal Risk Management Authority (MMRMA).*