



ZIONSVILLE
PARKS & RECREATION
Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation
Meeting Minutes
For
Wednesday, February 9, 2022
At 7:00 P.M. EST
ONSITE MEETING
1100 West Oak Street

In Attendance: John Stehr, President, Jill Pack, John Wollenberg, Tim Casady,
John Salewicz, Sarah Moore (virtual)

Absent: Erin Bidwell

Staff attending: Superintendent, Jarod Logsdon, Park Board
Attorney, Amy Noonung, Director of IT, Joe Rust

OPENING

Call to Order/Roll Call

Stehr Thank you for all being with us tonight as we undertake the Zionsville Board of Parks and Recreation regular meeting for Wednesday, February 9, 2022. Keeping with Governor Holcomb's Executive Order, we are doing this meeting live and online for those who don't feel comfortable actually being in the room with us tonight and it's good to see so many people here so thank you for coming out for the beginning of this meeting tonight and, you know, I invite you to stay for the whole thing if you'd like. But the first thing we are going to do is call the roll and with that we go Vice President, Jill Pack?

Pack Here.

Stehr Secretary, John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Here.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Here.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Here.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Here.

Public Presentations/Comments

Park Board Attorney Roger Burrus

Mayor Styron Proclamation

Stehr Sarah joining us online tonight and Erin Bidwell is not here so we will continue on then with the agenda and on the Agenda as listed it says “Public Presentations and Comments” we’re going to go ahead and defer that for just a moment and we’re going to jump right in to the Recognition of our Parks Board’s Attorney, our former Parks Board Attorney, Roger Burrus. He was the Parks Board legal counsel for 3½ decades and as many of you know, Roger grew up here and, in fact, as the crow flies right over there just a couple hundred yards, and I don’t want to say Roger is old but he has been here a long time and when the Rail Trail, in those days, when the Rail Trail existed it was just a rail line at that time and he probably listened to the trains coming through at night as he was trying to go to sleep and when he was a kid we didn’t have much of a Parks Department here. The Parks Department as we know it really formed in the mid-‘70s when the Starkey family gave us the land now known as Starkey Park and the Town needed to set up a Parks Board to manage that. Roger took over in the mid-‘80s and has literally had a hand in the acquisition, development and maintenance of every park property since then. The Department has grown from Starkey Park to 15 parcels and 500 acres under our management and it’s still growing as the Town continues to develop so he has done a remarkable job over those years keeping everything moving forward. So to get the honor started tonight, we are going to begin with Mayor Emily Styron who is here and she has a Proclamation to read to Roger. Roger, why don’t you come on up and stand by the podium?

Styron Thank you so much. It has been my pleasure to have worked with you, Roger, since 2004? 2003? Sometime like that when I was, when I got to sit up there.

Burrus You remember that better than I do now I remember it

Styron

Yes, yeah. I know, I'll bet. You've seen a lot of those real estate transactions. Well I am, it's my great honor to proclaim today as Roger Burrus Day.

Whereas, Roger Burrus was born and raised in Zionsville; and
Whereas, Roger Burrus has practiced law in Zionsville since graduating from Valparaiso University in 1982; and
Whereas, Roger Burrus has served as the legal counsel for the Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation since 1985 helping to guide the Board through land acquisition, construction and maintenance of the Town's Parks portfolio since that time; and
Whereas, Roger Burrus' efforts have helped lead to the establishment of more than 15 parks covering over 500 acres in Zionsville; and

Whereas Roger Burrus is honored for his many years of serving his community by helping to obtain and develop park land and associated facilities.

And, now, therefore, recognizing Roger Burrus' dedication to Zionsville and the community through his service as legal counsel for the Zionsville Board of Parks & Recreation, the Town of Zionsville, through its Mayor, proclaims February 9, 2022 as Roger Burrus Day.

Stehr

Thank you, Mayor and, you know, one of the biggest efforts that Roger and the Board has been focused on the last few years is finishing the Big-4 Rail Trail and our Board's Secretary, John Wollenberg, came up with, I thought, a pretty good way to thank Roger for all of his work on that and he is going to tell us about that now. John?

Wollenberg

So I have been on the Board for, I think I'm going into my fifth year now, and I remember our first meeting, I don't remember the exact topic but it was something to the effect of an easement between a cemetery and Roger brought up the name of the folks that used to own that parcel of land and I was impressed with the fact that he knew this, thinking to myself, "Gosh, this guy really knows a lot about the parks, surely I'll never get to that point." Well, I can say after being involved with bond issues and new superintendents and nature centers and parks, I can definitely say you have forgotten more than I will know about parks. So, on behalf of myself, the rest of the Board members, past Board members, future Board members, we are all in gratitude of your service and to honor your service we will have a plaque that says "In honor of Roger Burrus, Park Board Counsel, placed by the Park Board February 2022." It's going to be at the north

expansion, a tree placed in your honor that we hope to serve the citizens of Zionsville as you have served us. So, thank you.

Stehr

So I know many of you know that Roger is a bike rider too, so hopefully he'll be able to ride back that, ride by that plaque and enjoy it a number of times over the years to come. And now, a few words from long-time Board member and also past President, Tim Casady.

Casady

Thanks. Roger and I go back almost 20 years, the early days recycling and then Pathways Committee and then for the last 8 years the Parks Board, so, what I want to say about Roger, it's just been my pleasure to be his friend and his colleague and some things about him. Just listen to his voice and you immediately know, what a smooth as honey voice, he must be knowledgeable. You must be convincing and he is. You see him as an advocate and he is wonderful. He's really a wonderful advocate for you. But a couple of things that you may not know about Roger or they may not be apparent, is that he is tenacious. You see him at a cycling group going about 60 miles at 25 mph and he is just tenacious in the pack. In fact, he has a bunch of friends that every year he goes out to Iowa and does the Des Moines Register's Great Ride Across Iowa, the RAGBRAI, and it's about 70 miles a day for 7 days and, of course, he gets to have and enjoy his craft beers at night but I did it once and it's very, very difficult so he is tenacious in whatever he puts his mind to. And, finally, he's also committed and loyal. He's loyally committed and this is whether it's like his father in his law practice, whether it's to his clients, I know he has so many clients around Indianapolis who he's worked with closely over the years, certainly with the Parks Board for 35 years that loyal commitment is greatly appreciated and then, of course, there's his family. He's always talking about his family, whether it's the musical genius of Danielle that has been transferred to a couple of, his twin sons but his kids are special to him. So I really appreciate that tenaciousness and the committed loyalty that you've shown us all and, of course, Zionsville has been the beneficiary of all of this. Finally, going back to the voice a little bit, talking a little bit about his kids, I had just returned from some travels right before the snowstorm last week and our furnace was going out in our house and my wife was taking care of the furnace and the house and I had to get down to, we have a very isolated cabin in the very remote southwest part of Brown County so it's off grid, it's a half mile off the road and here there's a snowstorm, I haven't been there for 5 weeks and so I had to go down there by myself and try get a half mile off the road in the 6-8" of snow so I'm back there and I'm taking care of, everything was great, so no

emails and all sorts of stuff but, you know, when you add up the numbers and certainly I have forgotten about some of the stuff that I've been involved with with the Parks Board but, you know, it's been a partnership, there's been a lot of Board members like Tim said and the best comments that I've heard today are the ones that talk about the fact that, that, you know, the Parks Board has accumulated a vast amount of park land and that was certainly not something that I did totally, I just did all the legal work but it was a lot of fun. Like somebody said, there's been a lot of members on the Parks Board. I've enjoyed working with all of them and, as you know, I could tell stories all night about stuff but before I do that, I would like to recognize a few people that have helped me along the way, first and foremost, my wife, Danielle, who, where'd she go? She may or may not appreciate having me home on the second Wednesday night of every month and something that I realized is that, you know, if you look at 12 Park Board meetings a year for 35 years, and if you did those, every night, that would be over a year and two months of every night being in a meeting so that's a lot of time that I've spent up here and so we'll see if Danielle likes having me home more but I remember after every meeting in January I would come home and Danielle would say "Well, did you get hired again?" because it's up to the Board to hire me, so thanks for doing that for 35 years.

Also, we've talked about my twins who live in Bloomington and who are wonderful musicians. Some of you have heard them play at the Farmer's Market or Christopher plays as the Christkindlmarkt, they used to play the Fishers Renaissance Festival. They're very talented young men and I know John Stehr also appreciates the media connection. He gave Christopher some advice about how to go about that. I think you told him not to do it, but it was still very helpful to him. I also have, we have a son, Andrew, who is three years older than the twins and Andrew has three young children, two boys and a girl, so he and his wife are very busy. His wife, Courtney, is the one that saw the announcement today. Courtney is a nurse practitioner and also was the coach of the Zionsville Middle School Cheerleading Squad. So, she's a good athlete in her own right. My son, Andrew, is an IT person but he has a degree in landscape architecture from Ball State and talked to Tricia's firm about some things at a time and Andrew actually was also an intern for the Parks Department, I think during their senior year and actually helped Matt Dickey with the grant for the first phase of Heritage Trail Park so that's kind of cool as well. I also have a couple of friends here that I'd like to recognize in the front row, Brad Allen and Brian Pease. They both have rather significant jobs in Madison and many people know

them from that but I know them from the seat of the bicycle because they're the guys that I do the Ride Across Iowa with and do many rides on Saturday mornings and other times with them so I've ridden, you know, thousands of miles with them just like I've ridden thousands of miles with Tim Casady and that has been one of the joys of my life. Just a quick story about Tim Casady, when I first met Tim, you know, I met him and we kind of hit it off and then the second time I came in to his bike shop I was kind of surprised to see that his face was kind of scarred and he had abrasions and stuff and I'm thinking this is not the typical guy who went to law school at Harvard and then retired from Eli Lilly and then I find out he's a mountain biker so, he had a little accident over the weekend when he was mountain biking probably down in Brown County, so he likes to have fun and he started the biking team that I'm still involved with so I really appreciate Tim's words tonight and just support.

But before I talk about why I'm turning things in at this point, I want to tell you just one story about the Rail Trail because I think that really is the kind of epitome of my career with the Park Board because it started 30 years, actually when I checked and when I talked to David Brown, who was the Park Board President at that time, I mean I thought it was David's idea but he reminded me that actually the idea came in 1987 and it was a presentation by Zionsville Middle School kids who had Mike McGuire as a teacher and he brought his kids in here to the Park Board meeting to talk about the idea of converting which then was the recently, you know, abandoned and terminated railroad line, the Penn Central Railroad, and turn that into a rail trail. I think David Brown deserves a lot of credit for kind of taking that idea and running with it and David couldn't be here tonight because he has a grandson who plays basketball for DePauw and they had a game which also is a neat connection. But the first acquisition for the Rail Trail was like 1992 and I have to tell you that at that time there was a big difference in the Town and in everything, you know? You can imagine that. But when we started acquiring pieces of the Rail Trail which carried a lot of difficulties because of title issues and like one piece we got we then got into four lawsuits because the owners wanted their section and didn't want a Rail Trail there but we dealt with all of those but when the Town Council heard what we were doing David Brown and I were summoned to the Town Council meeting in order to justify how we were going to be able to do this without putting the Town at risk and they were very concerned about the liability of things. I think those were valid concerns but we did our homework and we thought that it could work and when you think back at how much

has changed since then it's just amazing, how, you know, now rail trails are really valued as, you know, it's like the homes that are closer to the Rail Trail have more value than those that are not and it took many years, you know, for that change in perspective to happen. So, you know, looking back at some of my notes, the people on the Park Board back then, Bing Pratt, Nancy Tikijian, her husband, George, was also very involved, Hope Corning, and a guy named Dan Clark and David Brown was the President but Dan Clark came in kind of handy and he still lives on Pine Street. Dan Clark was a bridge engineer so, you know, when we first were looking at the 100-foot bridge and acquiring that as part of a park, it was helpful to have a bridge engineer on the Park Board. So, so we ended up being able to do it. I think the Town Council said okay but we're going to separate your insurance line item from the rest of the Town because we want to see how much this is going to cost us and it's going to be part of your budget not ours and by the way at that time the budget for the Park Board was about \$60,000-70,000 a year, so, obviously, a lot has changed since then too. And so then it was rewarding that a few years later we kind of entered the period of Park Board/Town Council relations that I will call the feeder system because David Brown ended up on the Town Council, Dick Crane came up through the Park Board and ended upon the Town Council so there was a time when most of the people on the Town Council had come through the Parks Department, through the Park Board and that was really helpful in kind of, you know, getting the Town Council and the Park Board really seeing eye to eye on property acquisition and some of the things that we were going to have to do in order to do what we've done. So, so that was really a change in paradigm for, you know, it's like at that point almost anything the Park Board wanted to do would get approved by the Town Council so that was very helpful. So we've had a lot of good Presidents of the Town Council, two of you here tonight, are good or going to be good. David Carr, was another member that moved up to the Town Council. Jeff Glass was another Lilly person who was the Park Board President. Ellen Butz for a number of years, Jeff Edmondson. You know, I'm sure I would miss somebody if I continued trying to name all the people that ...

Casady

Steve Bullington.

Burrus

Steve Bullington was very, did a lot of work for the Parks Department. I remember when Mayor Styron helped us with our first bond issuance and was a very valued member of the Park Board at that time because of what she brought to that situation which we had never done before, so she and Katie Culp really

spearheaded that and made sure that we did it the right way and got it done. That was another kind of key to what we have now. So I know you want me to wrap this up because you've got other business to do but, you know, after 35 years and after being able to finish the Rail Trail which, by the way, we've got two more closings, I think they're going to happen this week and then we've got one little easement that is all prepared and ready to go so I think by the end of the month the Rail Trail acquisitions will be done which is phenomenal and I'm so happy that I was able to finish those transactions and kind of go out on a high note let's say. I mean, I feel kind of like Tom Brady, only I won the Super Bowl before I retired and I think, you know, the Parks Department the last few years, you know, it's been, it's been intense, a lot of work, but because of that work and because of what is going to happen this year, I mean I firmly believe that 2022 is going to be absolutely the best year in Zionsville parks' history so I'm not going anywhere. I'm going to be in the same office. I'm going to share my knowledge and my files with Amy. I've worked with Amy for the last two years. You're in good hands with her. Her law partner is a friend of mine and I just know that, that's another one of the things that just worked into this. The last thing is that some of my office staff is here, so Beth Sease, my partner and next to her Jenny Riddell, my paralegal, and Bonnie Kincaid, who everybody knows and she's been around longer than me, I want to say thank you to you as well for your support and I really appreciate the honor that you've given me here tonight. It's beyond my wildest dreams and I just wanted you to know how much I appreciate it and how much I appreciate Zionsville Parks. So thank you very much.

Stehr

We have one more note to add. Again, this is Roger Burrus Day so in addition to the free parking that you're all enjoying tonight outside of Town Hall, we do have a reception room set up where you can go and greet Roger and say thank you yourself and speak with him directly. The Fanimation Room. So as you head out toward the front door turn to the right and that room is set up with coffee and some snacks and things like that so we hope you'll take a few minutes and stop and see Roger there and enjoy that. So, as far as the meeting is concerned, I'm going to go ahead and call a 5-minute recess and then we're going to jump into the bulk of the meeting here and we have a lot to get through tonight so we'll be doing that in 5 minutes. If you want to stay, you're perfectly welcome to do so and we would love it if you did and but if not, we understand. And, again, Roger, thank you so much for everything. We really do appreciate it and, you know, Amy, you think you have 35 years in you?

Nooning I hope so.

Stehr We'll see. That's a long run. Long run for anybody. So, a 5-minute break and we'll get back to it then.

[Intermission]

Approval of the January 12, 2021 Minutes

Stehr All right, the words that every 3rd grader hates to hear. Recess is over. Time to jump into the meeting here. So, we're going to get started working through our Agenda. At the top of the Agenda is the Approval of the Minutes for our previous meeting and you probably noticed looking at your packet that the Minutes are now more of a transcript, different from what we've done in the past, something that we're trying here. We have access to this system to do this. It adds to transparency, we think, but also adds to our reading time, too. So, this is something that we can revisit in a couple of months and if we want to talk about whether or not we want to go back to having a summary like traditional minutes or if we want to continue with the transcript but for the moment, does anybody have any corrections on the January 12th Minutes? That being said, do I have a motion to approve the January 12th Minutes?

Casady I move we approve the Minutes as submitted.

Stehr Tim Casady moves that we approve the Minutes as submitted. Do we have a second?

Wollenberg Second.

Stehr John Wollenberg seconds and because we have Sarah on remote tonight, we're going to have to take a roll call vote with everything we do. So, Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well. All right, the next item on the Agenda is the Public Presentations or Comments. Do we have anyone in the room that would like to come up and make a comment or bring anything to our attention? Anybody online? No? Okay. Well then we'll move on to Staff Reports and leading that off is our Superintendent of Parks and Recreation, Jarod Logsdon.

Staff Reports

Logsdon Thank you, John. How do you follow up that? Well, we do want to welcome Mallery Pflum to the Department. She is our Natural Resource Technician. It is a new position we created this year which is a hybrid position of Natural Resource Management and Park Maintenance, so we welcome her to the Department. I'll also mention that there was a pre-filing meeting with the Plan Commission internal group and we will intend to submit to the Plan Commission our Trail Head Development for their March meeting so that'll be coming up soon and moving that right along. Additionally, we did have a pre-bid meeting for our LARE Grant that we received for this year. So, a little history with the LARE Program. Zionsville has been working for just under a decade with the DNR with their LARE Program which enhances streams, rivers and bodies of water and so we have been working with them on our Starkey shoreline to improve the erosion that we've been witnessing as Eagle Creek changes its route. So this year we are conducting a new study to revisit the four project sites that we had previously and, specifically, the two that we have not entered into construction yet and also this gives us an opportunity to look at the Overley-Worman shoreline and develop projects to fortify that shoreline so we keep all 53 acres of our park as we bring it online. So those bids, those proposals for that project will be due at the end of the month and we will have that before you at the March meeting to proceed. Finally, I wanted to just mention in 2021 kind of our departmental vision was "Get Up, Get Out and Go Play" so you saw a variety of new recreational offerings in the community and we are going to move forward on that momentum but for this

year kind of the 2022 vision for the Department is “Everybody Plays” so we will be working in finding new ways to identify opportunities for our charted demographics that are a little bit harder to read and grasp their attention, so that’s our teenagers and our seniors, our two stubborn bunches, so we will be expanding programs to those demographics as well as providing new opportunities to make sure everybody and get to our parks with more routes and connectivity. So, you’ll see those initiatives throughout the year with our Agenda items. And that is all from the Superintendent Report. I believe Mindy Murdock, our Director of Recreation Services, is online to give a quick update from her report.

Murdock

Yeah. Good evening everybody. So, not a lot. We’ll go through this quickly but, again, continuing to have a really good turnout at the Nature Center. A little over 1,000 walk-ins for January so even with the weather being kind of bad we saw a lot of people coming through the door but we have started to focus on some of our large projects that we want to do for 2022. So, having a little slower in attendance is allowing the naturalists to kind of start working on some of those. Big ones are focusing on trying to reach out into our scout groups, trying to reach more school groups and then also to look into expanding our homeschool offerings through the Nature Center. We did have two webinars that were both very well attended in January, Naturalist, Rachel Felling, did a Backyard Maple Sugaring webinar and then I actually held one which was at lunchtime so maybe that’s the time to do a webinar on Beginning Vegetable Gardening so both of those, Rachel, she had 28 attend her webinar there and I actually had 100 sign up for mine. So if you missed those, if you’re interested, they are both on our YouTube Channel and so anyone can go back and revisit those as they want to. A couple other things, we did our first ever puzzle swap so Saturday, January 29 was National Puzzle Day and we actually hosted a puzzle swap at Town Hall and so for about two weeks prior to that, with the help of the Mac at Town Hall, people could stop in and drop off their puzzles. For each puzzle they dropped off, they got a ticket and then they came back on that Saturday with their tickets in tow and so for every ticket they had, they got to pick out a new to them puzzle. So we had a little over 300 puzzles when it was all said and done donated for the swap and we had over 60 people attend our first ever swap so it’s definitely something that we will probably be doing again. Everyone had a lot of fun. We saw people from all ages, from really young all the way up into a lot of seniors, so. And, of course, January, winter, it’s a great time to do puzzles. So, everyone got some new puzzles to try out. And then the other thing I wanted to

add in is that our part-time Naturalist, Siera Stuart, she did attend online Certified Interpretive Guide training through National Association of Interpretation and she did pass so she is now CIG certified so all of our naturalist staff have at least a CIG or higher in their certification, so. And that's all I have for January.

Logsdon All right. Thank you, Mindy. Also on the line we have our Director of Maintenance Services, Greg Dickenson, with his report.

Dickenson Good evening, everybody. So it has been a pretty busy month with our maintenance team besides going about our daily tasks of, you know, keeping the parks up and clean and safe. A couple of things I want to highlight is they did spend close to a week assisting our ecological contractor in invasive honeysuckle removal and for doing that they removed about 50 truckloads of invasive brush and tipped it all out at Perkins so it was quite a big feat that we're glad we accomplished. Another thing we did, finally did get another memorial bench in and that is installed at the Starkey Park at the base of the switch back ramp so we did get that installed this month. And that kind of just wraps it up for what we have for this month.

Logsdon Thank you, Greg. Any questions from our Director of Rec or our Director of Maintenance? If not, I'll turn it over to Amy Nooning with her Park Attorney Report.

Nooning Sure. Roger and I, as he mentioned, have been in close communication over the past month or so here and he's been sharing his wisdom and experience with me and bringing me up to speed on pending projects. He is working now to package together some digital packets relating to each project and going to include all the documents that are related to that and send that all over to me. We're going to meet with Jarod and Amy Lacy I think here within the next couple of weeks here at Town Hall so he can physically give us the documents that he's been housing in his office that we may just have hard copies of and we're going to aim to digitize some of those things just for easy accessibility and public records retention and the four things that Roger mentioned before a land acquisition is to finish the Rail Trail. Those are all just about completed. The one on the Cain Property, it's a 55-foot strip of land along 400 South. That has already been closed. That one's done. Right next to that we have an easement that should be executed hopefully the beginning of next week. Mr. Garrison has indicated that he is having his legal team review that right now and hopes to get it back to us real quickly so those two pieces are, one's done and one's very, very close to being done. And then on

the other end on Zionsville Road, the two properties there that we are acquiring, those will be closed this week. I think that one of the property owners signed their documents today, the other one is to sign them tomorrow and then I think John is going to link up with Roger maybe later on this week and finalize those. So hopefully by the mid-week next week we're anticipating all four of those to be all finished.

Stehr So the last time we talked about this it was 98% down, now we're at 99%.

Nooning Yeah.

Stehr The finish line is within sight so that's great.

Casady And we're downloading an app that's right there at the end, I gotta have it.

Stehr Well thank you, Amy.

Nooning Sure.

New Business **Snow Clearing Policy**

Stehr All right, New Business.

Logsdon I do have one addition to request to the New Business and that is to add on the review of the snow clearing policy for the Parks Department. So if you're ready, we can jump right into that.

Stehr Sure.

Logsdon Just a quick overview. This policy was last updated in 2018 and it kind of lines out the priorities that the Parks Department Maintenance Team will respond to as snow events happen. So, the Parks Department is not, you know, a professional snow clearing crew. We have very limited resources but this priority list was developed so that we can reopen our parks and engage the community as quickly as possible after these events. So just a little housekeeping and updating of this policy -- to review tonight and with your approval, we'll adopt this moving forward. So it's broken into three primary levels of response. So with Level 1 priorities, when the accumulation reaches over 3" of snow, there is the potential for overtime. So regardless of the day of the week we can respond to these snow events on the weekends or before hours

as appropriate and as needed and as resources are available. So within that is Mulberry Fields and that is the middle and southern parking bays and drive and for tonight anything in green is what I would like to add to our Priority 1 list or add tonight and anything in red is something that we will subtract. So for Mulberry Fields since we are obligated as the property owners to maintain our pathway in front of our property, that is, regardless of whether you are a residence, public municipality or commercial enterprise, you are responsible for the pathways and sidewalks in front of your land so I am adding the perimeter pathways on Mulberry Fields as part of that Priority 1. And then speaking about the Rail Trail, currently we do clear from Laurel Avenue up until Heritage Trail Park but with crews already engaged to that area, it just makes sense to also target the Nancy Burton Trailhead and all the extensions so truly clearing the entire paved portion of the Big-4 Rail Trail when we do respond to these snow events in Priority 1 and as we bring on the southern and northern expansions, we will revisit this next year. So.

Casady

When you say the Nancy Burton Trailhead, is that the parking lot there?

Logsdon

The parking lot and the ramp up to it. Yes. Yep. Rather than mobilizing twice, it only takes a couple of minutes so speaking with Greg, we're confident that we can accommodate that extra work. Removing the Zion Nature Center as we are no longer in the school and over at the library, so we do appreciate the library's resources responding and clearing those pathways and parking lot so people can visit the Nature Center. And also at Heritage Trail Park I do want to add this as a Priority 1, the immediate parking lot as well as the inner paths to the Dog Park and the pathway along 875 so that pathway is new with Phase 2 construction that's why I'd like to add that as well as the Dog Park is a paid service that members utilize so I think it's important that we clear that since we are in the area anyways on an initial report. Just a couple of other things that we are responding to with that Level 1 Priority and some of these are ordinance bound, that is the Village Corner sidewalks, Lincoln Park sidewalks, Elm Street Green sidewalks along the road, American Legion Trail crossing along the parks southern border and the sidewalks around the two Town parking lots in the Village. So those are also things that we have historically and will continue to respond to with that Priority 1 event. Something else I'd like to add, and it was just based off this most recent event, is to list the school zones as a Priority 1 as well. So, Monday morning came this week and historically the school zones were listed as a Third Priority so that is the Third Priority

that we get to on the next regular business day. I think it's imperative we try to clear those routes to school, especially as bus services are questionable. We have, you know, students walking in the road to try to get to school so with our resources we do want to try to prioritize that as a Level 1 response allowing us to respond on a Saturday or Sunday to get those clear or coming in early on Monday to get those cleared up before school. To Level 2 -- so this is, again, when accumulations reach 3" of snow but these are not overtime qualifying. So these would be conducted on the next business day. So this would be after Priority 1 is finished and not triggering that. So removing the Nancy Burton Trailhead as that is included as Priority 1 now. This includes Creekside Nature Park's internal pathways and parking lot, Starkey's parking lot up at the Sugarbush, Heritage Trail Park the other pathways and then our new extended parking lot, I think it would be time to revisit that, Mulberry Fields this would be the last parking bay as well as the paved loop, the American Legion Trail Crossing that would be the parking lot and internal paths and then also the Municipal Building walkways which has never been in writing but we are housed out of the Municipal Building, the public does still interface with that facility when needed with the police side so we should clear those walkways with the next business day so that people can safely enter the building. And then Priority 3 is kind of attempting to do the rest of the pathways in Town. So these are already listed and all I have done is remove the Mulberry Fields since that is already covered in a previous Priority. So these are the good intentions of the Parks Department and we do attempt to respond to these as well so that residents can get around Town but as stated in the policy, you know, there are times the snow will melt before we can ever respond to these types of events so that's just the reality of our resources and our ability to respond but they are worth noting and listing. So that is all the additions and changes to the Snow Priority Response so I'm happy to answer any questions you all may have.

Stehr Relative to the school properties, excuse me, don't they have plows of their own to do that?

Logsdon They do have plows. I think they are usually focused on the parking lots and historically the pathways have gone unplowed when Monday morning rolls around or the next school day so just the ability to assist as a community. DPW, you know, running around the clock to get our roads back open they often push excess snow onto those pathways so truly just trying to assist in that.

Stehr So we do that now, we're just seeking to formalize that?

Logsdon Currently that is a Level 3 Priority ...

Stehr Right.

Logsdon So we would not respond to that until our parks are clear and it is a business day.

Stehr Okay.

Logsdon So just freeing up the ability to change up our strategy when it relates to school pathways.

Casady Some of those pathways are technically not parks, we're just helping out? Right?

Logsdon Yep.

Casady So they're not adjoining parks, they're not park property but we're in the neighborhood so we can help out a kid that walks to school or bikes to school.

Logsdon Exactly. Yep.

Stehr And what about the Jennings Field parking lot? There are a lot of kids who get picked up there after school from the high school. Does the district take care of that? The school district take care of that?

Logsdon I would imagine. That was not listed on the policy so with that land swap that occurred, I would have to assume that they are responsible for that. We do plow up to that because there is a pathway connecting to the Rail Trail.

Stehr Right. Okay. And it says here, it says Lions Club perimeter pathway if needed. That's pretty far down the list but --

Logsdon You know, they got to --

Stehr I think that's something people appreciate when we do that.

Logsdon Absolutely. They were able to respond faster than we were with this event falling on a Thursday/Friday so whether it was volunteers or whoever, they were able to get to that before us but we are happy to help them as well.

Wollenberg Give perspective. Did we hit any of these Level 3s this time or where did we land?

Logsdon So we were able to respond on Saturday and finish all of the Priority 1 and the Monday we began and finished Level 2 as well as beginning Level 3. So, the unfortunate thing is, you know, with limited resources, we can't get to it all and as people drive on it, it becomes compacted ice rather than fluffy snow so it is more challenging the longer it sits so, there's a delicate balance.

Stehr All right. If there are no more questions, I'll take a motion to formalize the Modified Snow Removal Priority Policy. Anybody want to make that motion?

Salewicz I'll make the motion.

Stehr John Salewicz makes a motion. Do I have a second?

Pack I'll second.

Stehr Jill Pack seconds. And now we'll take a roll call vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Erin Moore? Yeah, I'm sorry, Sarah Moore? Sarah?

Moore Yes. Can you hear me?

Stehr We hear you now.

Moore Okay. So, yes. Aye.

Stehr Thank you. And I say aye as well. So that passes unanimously. Okay, Jarod, do you want to go to the 5-Year Master Plan Review?

5-Year Master Plan Review

Logsdon Go to the 5-Year Master Plan. So, an RFP has been developed for the next 5-Year Master Planning Process so every 5 years the Park Board develops this document to guide the next 5 years. We survey the community, benchmark with the surrounding neighborhoods and communities and develop a priority list for our park system that is an actionable item that we dictate and guide the next 5 years of the Parks Department operations and funding. So we are beginning to arrive on that next cycle which will be 2023 forward 5 years so as that RFP comes in at the end of the month we would like to establish a Review Committee of Park Board members to review the proposals that we receive from firms and ultimately make a recommendation to the entire Park Board for consideration and approval for funding. So those will be due at the end of the month and we will hope to have a review session and then interviews with those firms March 4-9 concluding that decision and presenting that at the March 9 meeting. So just asking for recommendations on who should form that committee.

Stehr And that's going to be a heavy lift to ask for Parks Board members to be involved in this. It's going to be, you know, probably a couple of times a month of during the day talking to the people running the survey and also going to public meetings and that sort of thing. So, I'm proposing that Tim Casady and Jill Pack be the representatives from the Parks Board that are going to be doing that and we will also, once we decide on who our vendor is going to be, we can fill out the rest of the committee that is going to be working on that 5-Year Plan. But, again, everybody can get involved on the public meetings that take place throughout the year and we hope you will and, you know, obviously, pass on things that you hear from constituents too about what they are thinking and what they would like to see over the next 5 years. So do we need to vote to accept this tonight or just --

Logsdon I think I just needed to hear the names.

Stehr Okay.

Ecologic Projects for 2022

Logsdon Moving on to our Ecological Projects for 2022, the Parks Department, as mentioned previously this evening, has over 500 acres of park land. The large majority of that is natural, or was natural, you know, unfortunately, invasive species do out-compete

our natives and often take over our ecosystems. So with a small maintenance task force we have consistently budgeted line items for ecological services with EcoLogic who have partnered in our parks for years. So this year I want to propose three projects which would be Heritage Trail Park, Elm Street Green and Starkey Park. So with these contracts, the EcoLogic crews come out and they respond and spot treat in the vegetative beds at Heritage Trail or Elm Street Green's prairie. Similarly, they will respond to the Starkey Park prairie and they treat for, you know, poison hemlock, honeysuckle, sweet clover, Canada thistle and other invasive species and allow those to be spot treated with pesticides or mechanical removal and that allows for natives to backfill that once that void is there. So with these three contracts, for Heritage Trail Park it would be multiple services throughout the year and that contract would be \$6,962. For Elm Street Green, it would be the same treatment schedule as well as mowing the hillside prairie leaving the lower prairie to remain as habitat while we maintain that upper part and do the routine mowing and that contract will be for \$8,445 and then also the Starkey Park we'll treat the prairie throughout the year and then end the dormant season with a mowing of half of the prairie, again, leaving the other half for wildlife and other things to inhabit. So that final contract is \$6,995 so for all three agreements for ecological services with EcoLogic for this year, it'll be \$23,696 so I'm asking for the approval of these agreements. This is a budgeted item that we incorporate into our operations annually.

Casady We've used EcoLogic on all three areas the past couple of years?

Logsdon Yeah--

Casady At a similar cost or lower. Maybe the price went down? I don't know.

Logsdon Yeah. Speaking of those that work, that ecological work that was done in January that Greg mentioned with those 50 truckloads, that was in partnership with a 2021 contract that was sunsetting for the wetland reserve. So, we, we identify a different park to try to maintain with those services and then we rotate and, you know, the ultimate goal is to keep expanding our new natural resource technician positions and eventually that would take over that stewardship and we would be able to have better control and planning over that.

Stehr Have these proposals been vetted legally?

Nooning Yes, they have.

Logsdon Yes, they have.

Stehr They have? So then I, if there's no, not any further questions, no further questions, I would take a motion to approve those contracts and give our Superintendent the authority to sign.

Wollenberg For us?

Stehr Would anybody like to make that motion?

Wollenberg I would motion to approve the EcoLogic contracts.

Stehr John Wollenberg makes a motion. Do I have a second?

Salewicz/Moore Second. I'll second.

Stehr John Salewicz has gotten the second on that so we're going to go ahead and take a roll call vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well so that passes unanimously. All right, the next item is Mulberry Fields.

Mulberry Fields Sport Field Use

Logsdon Mulberry Fields. So, Mulberry Fields has been a fantastic multi-field facility that can invite organized sports and those in the

community to come gather and utilize that open space for those traditional sports you think of, the soccer, football and things like that. So, in 2021, we did enter into an agreement with the high school Rugby Club and we were happy to house them for their season as they performed and competed out at Mulberry Fields. Well, as you heard earlier, kind of the vision is to re-engage that demographic of teenagers and bring organized sports back to Mulberry Fields. So, we have been in contact with the high school Rugby Club as well as the middle school Rugby Club, newly formed, and Zionsville's Little League so Zionsville Little League is a well-established program in Zionsville. Anytime you walk by Lions Park, you're going to recognize that there is youth baseball going on in there. So, they have outgrown that space and they are continually looking for new spots to play baseball so with over 800 students registered, they need to find locations. So we are happy to also house them this year and we're working on an agreement with them. We do charge \$5 per instance for field usage and we utilize the agreement that Roger Burrus developed years ago with that contract. So, I have an example of how the fields will be utilized between March and June this year so we will have a very busy Mulberry Fields so you can see the Little League and the two Rugby Clubs utilizing almost all of the fields exclusively in the evenings during the weekdays and also Saturday and Sunday mornings from about 9:00 a.m. to 2:00-3:00 p.m. So, with your recommendation and approval, I would like to pursue these three agreements and execute them upon receipt of a Certificate of Insurance listing the Town of Zionsville as additionally insured that meets all the requirements stated in the agreement we use for field reservations and upon receipt of the \$5 per field use instance.

Casady

Is a baseball field a grass field?

Logsdon

So it'll be tee-ball coming out. So a much smaller footprint. We are talking about offering storage for them so they don't have to lug all that equipment between dozens of coaches. So tee-ball games on Saturday in those two identified purple locations and practice throughout the week Monday through Thursday. So really just reactivating and getting people back to Mulberry Fields for organized sports.

Wollenberg

No change is required in terms of backstops or fences for Little League?

Logsdon

For Little League I believe all of the equipment is mobile so they put up kind of temporary fences and put out the bases and that's what we'll be storing for them, bats and things like that.

Wollenberg They know it's not going to go far.

Stehr And do we anticipate not having to use the lights?

Logsdon Correct. These will all be daytime practices and in the evenings they will sunset, as the sun sets, around 7:30-8:00 p.m.

Stehr \$5 a game doesn't cover the lights so that's --

Logsdon It does not cover the lights.

Stehr Right, so that's a good trade. Okay. Do we need to make a motion on that?

Logsdon Motion to enter into the agreement with Zionsville Little League, Zionsville High School Rugby Club and the Zionsville Middle School Rugby Club upon receipt of payment and Certification of Insurance.

Stehr Well I'm going to go ahead and move that we do accept these agreements. Yes?

Nooning I would also just say make it subject to legal review --

Logsdon Subject to legal review --

Stehr Right.

Nooning Just in case we need to tweak any of those for special circumstances.

Stehr Assuming that the I's are dotted and the T's are crossed and legal review comes back okay, I think it would be great to get Mulberry Fields active again so I would move that we accept what Jarod is proposing for Mulberry Fields. Do we have a second?

Wollenberg Second.

Stehr John Wollenberg, was that you?

Wollenberg Yes.

Stehr John Wollenberg seconded that and let's take a roll call vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Aye.

Stehr And I say aye as well making it unanimous. All right Jarod, thank you.

Golf Course Accessible Cart

Logsdon All right, the Golf Course Accessible Cart. So currently the golf course paving project is underway and we're hoping to wrap that up very early in this first quarter of 2022 and invite the public back out to the course with smoother rides and just a prettier course out there. And, again, with the mission of the Department, it is to make sure everybody gets to play these sports so we did want to explore accessible carts making sure everyone can get around the course. So this is a rather specialized piece of equipment and, unfortunately, we can't find one within our current lease of the other carts that we own so we can't rent it and truly as we made phone calls, Mike Wall was busy on the phone with multiple companies and they all kind of deferred to this one company that offers this specialized golf cart which is ADA compliant so we would like to purchase this and house it at the golf course and have it available to those that need it in the future. So the cost of that cart is \$12,600. This was anticipated and budgeted in the 2022 golf course budget and we look forward to your consideration of adding this to our golf course.

Casady Is this a part of the packet? Is that --

Logsdon Yep, it should've been --

Casady The \$12,000 piece of equipment. I wasn't sure if that was a maintenance item. So this could be used for tour, giving people tours of the golf course?

Logsdon Absolutely. So --

Casady Kind of a long, long rider? Is that what it looks like?

Logsdon Yeah. I believe --

Casady I think I've seen them at some golf courses.

Logsdon Yeah. They can accommodate a wheelchair and just have the ADA requirements for accessing that vehicle. And it is electric so we can charge it in house and continue to let it sit there and be available as clients need that.

Wollenberg Has Mike ever mentioned how often something like this has been requested? Or has --

Logsdon He has not.

Wollenberg Is it a need?

Logsdon But just to have it and to advertise that, we have that now, you know -- that doesn't mean someone won't speak up.

Wollenberg Right.

Logsdon I've actually done a little research on this and there's a, I guess I don't know the right way to say it -- there are devices that can allow people to help stand so they can enjoy the game of golf just like everyone else, so, truly golf is kept up and try to allow everyone to play as well. So, a lot of neat innovations to get everybody out there to play.

Wollenberg Is it something we can get the word out to current members if this does go through, that we now have this?

Logsdon Absolutely.

Wollenberg Is there a way to, I can kind of spearhead that effort?

Logsdon Yeah. Mike, uh -- the Town did invest in the foreUP software which allows us to direct email golf course clients at any time with ease so I think this is an absolute wonderful topic to bring up in

one of those emails. And we would also have advertisements at the golf clubhouse letting people know that that is available same rate as the golf cart.

- Stehr And given that this would be our most expensive golf cart, would we have a place to house it?
- Logsdon Yes --
- Stehr So it's not outside?
- Logsdon So this one will stay inside the garage. They would move around a couple of things. It's historically just been used for storage so --
- Stehr Do we have to change the electricity to charge it or can we just use a standard outlet?
- Logsdon I believe it's a standard outlet for these golf carts.
- Stehr Okay. Any other questions? All right, would anyone like to make a motion that we go ahead and purchase this cart?
- Casady I move we purchase the uh, the uh special golf cart for, to make our golf course totally accessible, or more accessible to disabled folks.
- Stehr We have a motion from Tim Casady to purchase the accessible cart. Do we have a second?
- Casady I'll amend that to say as per the "submitted with our packet."
- Stehr Okay. Do we have a second?
- Pack I'll second.
- Stehr Jill Pack seconds. Now let's take a vote. Jill Pack?
- Pack Aye.
- Stehr Tim Casady?
- Casady Aye.
- Stehr John Wollenberg?
- Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Aye.

Stehr And I vote in favor as well so that passes unanimously. And the next topic, one that we've been really looking forward to -- the change order at Overlay-Worman Park.

Overlay Worman Park Change Order

Logsdon Another Overlay-Worman Park change order. So, as you can imagine, well, as you've witnessed, we have ran into several scenarios while developing the Overlay-Worman Park from a clean fill site into a public park and this most recent change order is in response to walking the disc golf course and kind of the proposed paths and just realizing that there is some additional work that needs to be done to make this a safe public amenity. So within the packet there were two pages, one of them is for additional clearing and that is to clear up the fairways so that the tees can get to the posts without a lot of brush and trees and things in there and the much larger page on that was for additional clearing, grading and installation of rustic steps. So utilizing the rubble that is on Overlay-Worman Park we want to use those large pieces and safely implant them into the side of some of these slopes which are just too steep to ask the public to traverse for a game of disc golf so --

Wollenberg We've almost got three levels out there, don't you? I mean, so if you throw your frisbee down one level instead of, you may have a safer way to get down to the next level, right?

Logsdon Just some of those ravines are, you know, the grades are beyond what we would want to safely ask the public to walk down, especially as rains in the spring come. So, this would navigate some of that and allow for a bit of safer travel. We did something very similar early on by moving stones to the back of the park where the rustic trails are to be a little bit higher up on the water table as you cross over one of the low sections. So, again, using the site to improve the site but, unfortunately, it does require a change order and additional work.

Wollenberg So do you and Trish think that the additional clearing is over and above what we recently asked HIS to do in the first place? It is something that we have looked at and now desire?

McClellan We added some fairways so when John was out there walking it with us, we figured we could make it an 18-hole course instead of just a 9 by adding just a few changes in a few fairways so we did add a few fairways and then a couple of new tee boxes to have so each tee has --

Wollenberg A double.

McClellan Yeah, two.

Logsdon There was a third page to this change order and that was to install those two tees. Speaking with our Director of Maintenance, we're confident we can install those so we'll work with HIS to remove that from this change order and just present the grading and then the clearing of the fairways and the steps.

Salewicz Also I'd like to add as we walked through the original section we were supposed to go over a swamp which was completely unable to do such a thing. So it required a change of the course. So --

Logsdon The layout.

Casady Swamp? It's just a water hazard.

Salewicz Well you couldn't even get to the basket. So it was not a good place to have a hole, so.

Logsdon Unless we're inviting the ACE League to try to hole in one it.

Salewicz Yeah.

Logsdon So these two tasks, the additional clearing and the rustic step installation and grading comes to a total for this change order of \$38,730.18. With the recent credit from the previous change order, that would make the overall change to the total approximately \$25,913.91. So, recall, we did receive a credit as we revised the boardwalk into two fishing piers so that is kind of benefiting us in our overall total as we introduce, hopefully, this last change order.

Stehr So where are we on our contingency fund then?

Logsdon Desperately low. We will need to strategize with our available preparations to complete this project. We have surpassed where the bond is but there is available funding through other resources so we do have \$900,000 allocated for the Starkey Bridge and our early quotes of the Starkey Bridge were only \$585,000 so just utilizing a little bit of that extra appropriation to complete this. And, recall throughout this project we have made concessions with HIS, steel prices did go up three times before the contract was actually signed after bid so we did work with them to meet them halfway on those steel prices and, again, we've had multiple challenges of having to revise our plans to make this project successful.

Stehr Does anybody have any more questions? Comments?

Wollenberg Can we ask HIS to take our snow removal approach and just while they're out there just move some dirt around? Or does that not work?

Logsdon They are currently moving Mount Eleanor, that very large stack of dirt that we had changed last time, so -- they are moving around plenty of snow and dirt.

Stehr All right, do we have a motion to accept the latest change order at Overley-Worman Park?

Salewicz I'll make a motion of the change order.

Stehr John Salewicz has made that motion. Do we have a second?

Casady I second that. Are there two change orders submitted in the packet, I believe?

Logsdon The original change order was three different projects. We are going to do the tee boxes in-house, form those up and pour those so it is two pages out of that three, so those two projects together, each project was isolated with the price is that \$38,000.

Casady So the change orders just for John Salewicz's for the motion can --

Salewicz Approve both?

Casady How should he -- how do we want to admit it --

Logsdon One change order for approximately \$38,730.18 for the installation of rustic steps, additional grading and clearing of the fairways.

Stehr So that's the motion that we're voting on, right?
Salewicz Yes, correct.

Casady Is that right, John Salewicz?
Salewicz Yes.

Casady I second that motion.

Stehr Tim Casady seconds. We'll take a roll call vote. Jill Pack?
Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?
Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?
Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?
Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?
Moore Aye.

Stehr And I will say aye as well. That passes unanimously. All right, moving on to the Carpenter Nature Preserve presentation. Tricia, you want to join us for that?

Carpenter Nature Preserve Presentation

Logsdon So introducing again Tricia McClellan of REA, Runsdell Ernstberger Associates, who has been assisting us with the Carpenter Nature Preserve master planning. Stakeholders have been meeting to create a vision and conceptual layout for the Carpenter Nature Preserve in which we will talk more about that tonight.

McClellan So that's Phase 1 and this will be on the screen so you can see back there, so. This is a hard copy to have in your hand and then this is Phase 2. So Carpenter Nature Preserve, we've been talking about

this for a little while. Again, this is private property that the Carpenters have purchased with the intent that this will be a Nature Preserve. We had a charrette, when was that? November? Does that sound right? Sometime last year we had a charrette and this was a team, we had a team, it was us, DELV Design and EcoLogic and as a part of that charrette, we did several focus group meetings, talked to, you know, the Carpenters themselves as landowners but also to several department heads and staff members in the Town just to talk about the project and what it could be, envision what it could be, and the overarching which you'll see, you know, with everything that we've proposed, we came up with this -- the park needs to Inspire, Attract and Preserve. So, anything we do out here we want to be sure that it does meet that mission that we want it to Inspire, Attract and Preserve.

We did a large inventory, looked at utilities, looked at topography, looked at drainage, you know, all the usual, but EcoLogic was part of our team so they did a very, very thorough ecologic study and then came up with this Proposed Restoration Plant Communities and this, again, was a major driver for all the layouts. It's hard to see but with these different hatches these elements like the prairie grass and the reforestation, those, the layout that we have kind of goes around those areas and really incorporates those areas. You know, one of the basic things that the Carpenters have said from the beginning is this needs to be a Nature Preserve, you know, this needs to be a place for habitat, for native plants and for people to come out and enjoy nature, so, no ball fields, no concert venues, nothing like that out here. As a part of the charrette, and I'll go ahead and run through this pretty quick and then we can come back to the slides if you guys have questions on any of them. As part of the charrette, we had three concepts that we came up with, trying to show some different ideas and looking at the site and considering different things.

With concept A we kept the nature center in roughly the same location that the clubhouse is today and the intent was that could be a new building or that could be using the existing nature center, or clubhouse, that's out there. The parking in this one is very close to where the existing parking is. You'll see, again, those areas of ecology so the grassland and the reforestation and expanding the wetland, those are all incorporated in here and then a trail system that would wind in and around that. A big part of that is a boardwalk -- I should've brought my little red pointer, the boardwalk which is down the hill from the nature center and would go over that expanded wetland to get people kind of out into the wetland area. This one included several wildlife blinds, so that's

just a structure where people can sit and kind of be hidden from wildlife, whether it's birds or other wildlife that would be out on the side, outdoor classrooms which are the pink dots that are spread around the site, again, thinking of the nature center as out here that that would be a part of that learning would be, you know, taking kids and classrooms out to these, and classes out to these classrooms. We do have some paved paths and some natural paths so there would be a large amount of the trail that would be accessible. This one also includes expanding the existing pond that's there towards the top of the sheet making that into a fishing pond and you'll see, I think, all three of the concepts had a secondary entrance or a potential future entrance which goes north there out to 32. That's school-owned property, so, Carpenters don't own this property, the Parks Department doesn't own this property, so we're just thinking big, you know, thinking conceptual because this is still a master plan. This is, you know, nothing that's being built here today.

Concept B, again, looked at the nature center in the same location as the clubhouse. This one actually had a unique feature and it is towards the front of the property and it's called White Oak Commons and White Oak Commons would be, think like a restaurant and some, we've got a detailed plan which I can show you but some, also some sort of smaller outfits for it might rent cross country skis or might rent fishing poles. So it's sort of commercial but in a state park kind of way. Think about a lodge in a state park is how it -- and the idea here is, again, one of the things that the Carpenters have said is "we want to capture not just the people that are going to come out here because they love nature, we want to capture people that don't think they want to be a part of nature." Get them out here, draw them into the site and they figure out, hey I do have a place here and this is, you know, important to me. So White Oak Commons, you know, again, is you think kind of a quaint restaurant or a unique restaurant that would draw people out to the site and then further on in to the preserve. So there's a nature center there, so you know, we're still attracting all those people with the nature center. This one does have the white and red dash as a cross country course so this would allow cross country meets or cross country practice but it was laid out so that it needs that 5k distance that you need for cross country. Again, this one has outdoor classrooms. Another unique part of this one is behind the nature center it's a canopy walk, so like a boardwalk, up in the top of the canopy of the trees. So, treehouses that would come up and then a canopy walk that would connect those treehouses, so just a different way to experience the canopy out there.

Concept C looked at the nature center in a completely new location so it's located against that middle pond, looked at not utilizing the clubhouse or existing buildings that are out there but this one would be much more, it would embrace the pond, the nature center would, which would be really nice for the nature center to have that as its front door. Still do have the secondary entrance going out to 32. It's got outdoor classrooms. Another unique feature from this one was the spiral there towards the bottom of the page, so that's just a big mound that would have a walk that would spiral up to the top of it, another way to get an overlook, you know, looking out over the site.

So we took those three concepts and we actually had a couple of different meetings to talk through those and what everybody liked about, and this was the Carpenters and Jarod and Mindy and Tim and John were also part of this smaller committee that we had and pulled out the pieces that we liked from each of those three concepts and came up with this Preferred Concept which is what you have there in front of you. So, it has the nature center in the same location as the clubhouse. We're proposing a new building. A part of this work we did an assessment of the existing building that's out there. I should take you all to the basement. One of the main outer walls of the basement there's a foot that you can actually see outside and when we were out there was water coming in it, so it's not in the best shape. HVAC has been ripped out, so, we did an assessment to see, okay, if we did what we needed to do to use this building, how long would it take to, you know, get your money back out of it and I think through our conversations we came to the conclusion that it made more sense to build a new building that is, you know, sustainable, that has, you know, the lead certification elements in it so it meets the purpose of the Nature Preserve, has erg-friendly glass, you know, those types of things.

So this is a new building that we're proposing here. It's about 12,000 square feet is what we're proposing and I'll show you some precedent images here in a minute to give you an idea of what that is. That was the size that we determined we needed to be able to do the nature center, to grow the nature center like we know how successful it can be but then to also have some smaller community spaces inside the building so you could have a gathering room with a, not a full kitchen, but a small like catering kitchen that could be a part of it so to be able to incorporate all of those uses it ends up being that 12,000 square foot building. This one incorporated that spiral overlook. Right beside the spiral is what we're calling a

cross country green and I may need to flip to the next page just so you can see the more detailed look at it but the spiral will then, you know, allow people to go up and see the start, you know, if you've got cross country meets, you'll see the start and the end, it does end there at the same place. We kept the canopy walk and the treehouses. We incorporated that larger boardwalk that goes over the wetlands and expanding the wetlands. Those outdoor classrooms which are big pink dots in this rendering, three of those, one of which is actually there's a beautiful overlook which is up high and looks out over Eagle Creek, so one of those outdoor classrooms would be there at that overlook. Shelter with restroom, we also had camping. This would just be primitive camping for Boy Scouts is what we're thinking so it's not a campground or anything like that. It would just be the Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts could come out here and have the camping so there is a shelter/restroom that's there close to that camping area. Secondary entrance going out to 32 but you can see this works without that secondary entrance so if that property acquisition doesn't take place, you know, the layout still works with that. This one does include a dog park. We've put it kind of to the edge of the park so that it has less of an impact and you'll notice that with most of the activities, they kind of stay on the outer edge and then as you get closer to Eagle Creek, it's more natural and more of the preserve.

Phase 2 then would be that White Oak Commons, so Phase 1 would keep the existing barns that are out there and Maintenance would have some storage and buildings out there and then Phase 2 would relocate and rebuild the Maintenance area and it would incorporate White Oak Commons. It also includes, it's a little hard to see on this, but a building expansion that could grow the nature center because we do see that it will likely grow. Habitat zones, again, that first dashed/hashed exhibit that I showed you, we still did incorporate those habitat zones and worked very closely with EcoLogic. There were a couple of places where we had what we're calling our tree alley, we had it angled a little bit different and they said well it makes more sense to do this because then you won't be disturbing the, you know, the prairie land where you know the birds are going to be to maintain that habitat and really preserve where we can. Trails, again, there's a combination of the rustic or the soft trails, paved trails which stay, you know, from the nature center, kind of go up to that campground area, stay on the top part of the property and provide that accessible route to get to the classrooms, the two major classrooms that are there, and then the cross country course which, again, is shown in that white dash. That's just a close up -- outfitters, that's the word I was trying to think of earlier -- so you can see the restaurant, the market or the

shop outfitters which, again, could be, you know, in our mind it could be somebody that rents cross country skis or, you know, something that somebody might not bring with them to come out here or it could be, you know, more of a mom and pop shop that's out there too.

The story behind White Oak Commons, there is this beautiful white oak tree right as you go into the entrance, hundreds of years old, it's huge, so that is the idea with this whole, you know, access that goes in and focuses on that white oak at the entrance of it so, we're just trying to highlight that because it is such a beautiful piece of the property. Then also just trying to enhance those waterways that are out there. A part of this project, there's the very real potential that DNR is going to invest some of their mitigation dollars in stream and wetland restoration out on the property so that's huge because that's a, they not only fund to do the installation but then they maintain it for 10 years after that and pay for the installation for 10 years after, so, that is a huge -- so that dash, that black dash that you see going around the waterline there, that would be a DNR easement. And a look of closeup of that, you know, looking at the nature center, there you can see a little bit better the treehouses behind the nature center with the canopy walk again that would be way up high ending with a wildlife blind. You can see the serpentine graphic looking boardwalk that goes across the wetlands. This one does also include nature play. I don't know if anyone has been to Bernheim down in Bardstown, Kentucky. Bernheim Forest has a really cool example of nature play so if you get a chance, you know, Google that and see what they've got out there. It's a lot of natural, you know, logs and boulders and that type of thing using natural elements for play.

Again, this is a master plan so we haven't, you know, done architectural drawings or anything like that but this just gives you an idea of the aesthetic that we're thinking of in terms of a nature center and, again, thinking about that size that we were talking about with that 12,000 square foot building. So this one is actually in Pittsburgh. It's 15,000 square feet and this one cost \$19 million to build and that was in 2016 so keep in mind that these numbers are going to be a little bit, we know how out of whack costs are or our new reality of costs, I guess I should say, but you can see how it fits into the land, you know, it really does exist with the land, it's not, you know, an architectural piece that calls a lot of attention to itself and that's the idea of what we see that this nature center would be. Newport Beach, again, just another example. Lots of glass, you know, lots of bringing outside inside but also a very natural look and really being compatible with the outside. This one

is in San Antonio. It's 11,000 square feet, how, because of how it's designed it really does not look that big either. This one's in Ohio. Again, it kind of sits down into the ground, very natural, lots of glass, bringing the outside in and then this is Bernheim's which is a much smaller facility but you can see it, it kind of mimics the trees so that idea was whatever building that does occur out there that's really going to be something compatible with the nature preserve. So our next steps are to, let me back up -- are there any questions? I just threw a lot at you.

Casady

I think it's great. So, as we move forward, you know, again, we have to remember this is Eagle Creek, this is our signature natural feature of our Town, this is our heritage and it's our drinking water as it happens to be. So, so many exciting things here and it's been amazing how much we have been in general agreement with the, all of the constituent parties including the Carpenters as we move forward. The one thing as we move forward though to think about as a Parks Board is that what's not here and what was agreed to not be here and that's playing fields, mountain bike trails -- I mean, it's -- and I don't know if the Carpenters will have restrictions, they very well might, but again, there's been no issue so far but keep in mind what's not there as we go forward and approve this, but the flipside of that is it's super exciting and positive, I mean it's phenomenal.

McClellan

Very exciting.

Stehr

And I think another part of the discussions that we've had that's important to mention is that the dog park that's here, in addition to giving us another dog park in the park system, it's also sort of a trade off with dog owners because much of the park will not be accessible to dogs because of the sensitive ecological areas that we're going to be getting into, so, I don't know -- Jarod you might want to talk more about where dogs are not going to be able to go and how the dog park is going to be hopefully something that will help placate the people that want to bring their dogs out there.

Logsdon

Absolutely. So, even if a dog is well behaved on a leash, you know, as habitat and wildlife are around, they are still disturbed by the presence, you know, it's hard to not watch a dog go after a squirrel or, you know, just you hear nesting birds quiet down as you pass by with your dog. It's just part of being a dog owner and regardless of how responsible you are, there is still an associated impact with wildlife. So, as a caveat, we do want to embrace the natural landscape and develop this dog park within the trees, within the grasslands at the edge of the property so that they can

have a unique experience out at the park as well and also limit the trails that dogs would be allowed to be on so then our Park Naturalists and our Nature Resource Technicians would actually enforce where that dividing line is between dog friendly trails and pedestrian only. So, truly allowing dogs to explore and enter the property but also limiting their involvement with the rest of the site.

Stehr That secondary entrance Tricia did mention that we don't own that property but the school district does and that's where Union Elementary used to be so, you know, perhaps they'll be some discussions with the school district on, you know, maybe allowing for that entrance to be there. I know an entrance coming off of 32, I think, and we've had this discussion, in my mind, if we're going to be bringing in buses, if we're, you know, if a lot of traffic is going to be coming into the Nature Preserve eventually it's going to be better coming off of 32 than off of 900 East there or 200 South? That's 900 East, right?

Logsdon Yeah.

Stehr It's a country road. It's not, you know, not really great for buses and not really great for a whole lot of traffic to come in. So –

Wollenberg When you said the idea of being no fields but it is prepped for possible cross country route. I've been to a number of cross country meets and I know they can be somewhat disruptive in terms of not only the herd of kids running the trail but the parents criss crossing to try to watch said kids. So, with the goal being for this to retain the original nature setting, is that, I mean is that something that's going to disturb that? Or --

Logsdon We did discuss that and that is partially why there is the spiral overlook in the cross country green to kind of hone in where that most excitement and activity would happen -- the start/finish lines -- and then also, you know, another viewing area would be limited to around that restroom, another developed portion of the park so, with cross country, you know, it is kind of that single file, rustic pathway that they most often travel, so we are trying to minimize the actual disturbance and crowd and gathering to the immediate entrance to the southwest.

Wollenberg Well say some parents will not be deterred by some wetlands, I mean --

Casady How about ravines?

Wollenberg It's not just, you know, it's not just the start/finish that they --

Logsdon Congregate at?

Wollenberg If the people want to see, they want to see throughout and then the teams that aren't running also gather at various routes along, so I've just --

Logsdon Perhaps we --

Wollenberg We need to tread carefully with that.

McClellan Yeah, this one's a little harder. All the light greenish that you see there on this screen is going to be, you know, it's tall grass, really tall grass. So it is going to be harder. I know what you're saying about, I've seen plenty of crazy cross country meets but it would be harder to do some tromping through that taller grass than, you know, a typical mowed park like you might see. And there are several pathways, so, you know, and the paved pathways even, again, are more on the upper part of the site which is where those parents would tend to stay rather than going down hillside. So, with those being a much clearer, easier path, you know, we would hope that they would stay on those. We had conversations about we need to limit, you know, it's not going to be a big three-way meet. It may just be a two-way meet. It may just be, you know, there may be some limitations that you have to put on those meets or it may just be cross country practice that happens out here. I think that's something that could be determined once you get a little further along with the design.

Casady There was some discussion, if you recall, about fall being a better time to have runners through there rather than spring, in terms of habitat and birds, especially.

McClellan There would be limitations and we wouldn't have any of those meets during nesting and breeding season.

Casady The Carpenters have had the cross country coach and team out there, and they're excited about it --

Wollenberg But probably no invitationals.

McClellan No.

Wollenberg Well, who knows?

Casady Yeah, yeah -- the start and finish is obviously in more of a field, you know? At some point it gets narrowed down, so --

Logsdon And you know, that is the challenge with all parks, the balance of conservation and development but obviously with this park in particular we do want to outweigh conservation with any impact we do have on the land because ultimately the mission is to conserve this, this large of an acreage as natural habitat and restore that.

Casady But I think the Carpenters were really, and I think everybody on the committee was really, believed that, you know, cross country is a great way to get people out in the woods, be in training in the woods, that's just a, I speak from my personal experience as a high school country, that's when I got out in the woods and we would find any little track or woods spot in our little suburban area we'd go plow them with our, with my teammates.

McClellan We'll just figure where the cutoffs are and you could just stand out there in front of it when the parents try to come out there.

Casady No parents came to meets when I was a kid.

McClellan They do now.

Casady I bet.

Pack I have a question about the parking. So it looks like there's a couple of areas. None of them look particularly large which is good except we do think that this is going to be a fairly big regional draw for people and do we have enough parking spots and I just, park in back to Starkey Park where we have, there are signs posted all over "Do Not Park on the Grass" and you go through there and there are people parked on the grass constantly. And that's certainly not doing anything to save the environment in the natural beauty of it. So, I don't want to see big parking areas but is there enough?

McClellan So there are parking areas and they're a little hard to see, it's that darker grey strip that you see going alongside the road, so there's one up there by the dog park, there's one by the spiral and then the main, big parking lot behind the nature center and we did look at, in fact, a lot of the nature centers that I showed you some examples that were about the same size and made sure we had as many parking spaces as they did and I'm trying to remember, I think it

was, oh, 60-80 that are available in that block that you see out there.

Pack Okay.

McClellan So, it actually would not be like that. There would be some islands of trees and wouldn't be, you know, a blank sheet of asphalt like it is but it is a lot of cars that you can accommodate out there.

Pack Okay. I just would hate to see somebody just pull off to the side of the road and crush something.

McClellan Yeah. And I'll go back and look at preserves that are similar size in terms of acreage and see, I was looking, you know, concentrating more on the nature center but I'll look at preserves and see what their parking counts look like and be sure we're in that same range.

Salewicz This is a little more higher use preserve than if you look at just a standard preserve though.

McClellan Can be, yeah. If you start looking, they have such a wide range of what you call a preserve.

Salewicz A preserve, exactly, yes. I kind of see there's a park that's in, a newer park that's in Fishers out toward the country by that --

McClellan Flat Fork Creek.

Salewicz What's that?

McClellan Flat Fork Creek.

Salewicz Yeah, yeah.

McClellan We designed that one.

Salewicz Okay. But the spiral and those other things, the treehouses --

McClellan Yes.

Salewicz I see that, that's a lot of what's out there too --

McClellan Yes, the same character.

Casady Were you going to say there wasn't enough parking?

Salewicz No, there's -- I've only been out there once but seems like there's decent parking, so --

McClellan The guys that are doing the mountain bike trails at Overley-Worman did mountain bike trails out there, actually.

Salewicz Okay.

McClellan Feel free, as you guys know, email me if you have any questions or concerns. I know it's 200 acres of stuff I just threw at you, so, take the time to digest it and we can share the presentation with the Board if you guys would like to see that too. Real quick, because I know you've got lots of other stuff to get to -- the next step is to hold our virtual public meeting and it really is to share, you know, the mission of what this property wants to do and to give a little history of how we got where we are but also to share again this is a master plan, it's, it's, we're still thinking high level. We're not doing construction drawings or anything like that at this point. So these are just a few of the questions that we plan on asking as a part of that virtual public meeting, you know, just getting people excited about it but also asking, you know, have you seen a unique feature in another nature preserve that you think we should incorporate here, but also focusing on the nature center. This is going to be pretty neat for the nature center in terms of the room they're going to have and the programs and we've seen how Mindy just continues to grow, you know, all the programs but especially the nature center too so the opportunity here is really exciting and then a few of the normal funding questions, so asking people, you know, what they think in terms of funding for purchasing the property but then also for how we might fund for construction and then future maintenance of the property.

Again, we'll share this with you and if when you're looking at that if there's something else that pops into your head that you think "hey we should ask this question" just let us know, email either one of us and we'll be sure and include that in there. So, virtual public outreach we'll plan to start that here fairly soon in probably the next week and then the draft master plan finishing that out so it's taking this and actually producing the document to show you all the inventory and all the meetings and, you know, how we got to where we are. The final master plan book after we've had that public input will be at the beginning of March and then it's time to go to work. Find the money.

Wollenberg Great, thank you Trish for sharing this with us?

McClellan Yes.

Wollenberg Okay.

Logsdon Thank you, Tricia. I also want to thank Mayor Emily Styron for finding this opportunity, thank Jim and Nancy Carpenter for seeing what this property could become and purchasing that while we work with them, thank the Park Board for entering into the Letter of Intent with them last year and continuing the path forward in this process. I also want to thank the Town Council for allowing this master planning process to go forward and thank Zionsville for allowing 20 years of nature education to culminate and potentially have a permanent home here in Zionsville.

Old Business

1. Rail Trail Southern Extension

2. Starkey SP-3 Staircase

Stehr All right. Moving on to Old Business.

Logsdon Old Business. Southern expansion is first on there, right?

Stehr Yes.

Logsdon All right. So the southern expansion they are making progress on the Starkey Avenue bridge every day, pouring footers and preparing to place the bridge. So, we are anticipating that placement within the next week, inspecting the road and the bridge and then getting that back open to the community. From there, HIS will be able to continue to work on top of the bridge and then ultimately we will pave the southern portion as well as Overley-Worman in the spring as the asphalt plants open back up. So please bear with us just a little longer while we finish up the bridge and get Starkey Avenue back open. Any questions concerning the southern Rail Trail expansion? Moving on to the Starkey Park SP-3 staircase -- the staircase has been built and the aluminum handrails are being fabricated and should be installed next Tuesday and we are anticipating a final walk through on Thursday to complete the project. So being the time of year it was there is a lot of mud on the site so we do want to keep that closed for a little bit longer after the project is complete to allow that seed to begin to take root. So we will communicate when that staircase will be open to the public this spring and we are looking forward to that dog friendly route for our visitors to Starkey.

Casady Take a dog to the final walk through?

Logsdon I think that would be appropriate wouldn't it?

Stehr Our dogs are looking forward to that, too. Is there going to be a bike rack associated with the new staircase? Is that part of the plan?

Logsdon There was one placed earlier this year near the parking lot so those that do choose to pedal into the park will have a place to stash their bike while they traverse the park on foot. Remember Starkey is not open to bicycles but if you want to get there on bike, we welcome you.

Stehr There's also an opportunity with the Boy Scouts. That's a good Eagle Scout project if we need more capacity there for bike racks.

Logsdon Absolutely.

Stehr Any further comments on that? All right. Any other Board-related items? Sarah are you still with us?

Moore I'm here.

Claims

Stehr Okay. Just take a look at claims. Has everyone had a chance to look over the claims and are there any comments or questions about that? All right, do we have a motion to accept the claims as presented?

Wollenberg I make a motion to approve claims.

Stehr John Wollenberg makes a motion to accept the claims as presented. Do we have a second?

Pack I'll second.

Stehr Jill Pack seconds. Take a roll call vote. Jill Pack?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John Wollenberg?

Wollenberg Aye.

Stehr Tim Casady?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John Salewicz?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah Moore?

Moore Aye.

Stehr I say aye as well. Anything else that anyone would like to discuss? We're all set? All right, so then I would call for a movement or call for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

Casady So moved.

Wollenberg Second.

Stehr All right. Tim Casady moves, John Wollenberg seconds. Because we're splitting between live and virtual, we need to take a roll call vote. So Jill?

Pack Aye.

Stehr John?

Wollenberg Aye.
Stehr Tim?

Casady Aye.

Stehr John?

Salewicz Aye.

Stehr Sarah?

Moore Here. Aye.

Stehr You got an aye?

Moore Aye.

Stehr

Okay, good enough. I say aye as well. Thank you very much. The meeting is adjourned, and we will see you again on March 9 right here at 7:00 p.m. Thank you very much everybody.

John Stehr, President

John Wollenburg, Secretary

Respectfully submitted,
Bonnie Black
Parks MAC Professional