

meeting summary:
parks & open space

September 25, 2017

attendees Jeff Bezold (Chair)
 Brian Sand (Co-Chair)
 Brian Schwalback (Co-Chair)
 Holly Collinsworth (Co-Chair)
 Kat Disney (Staff)
 Katie Spicer (Staff)
 Sara DiLandro (Tech. Advisor)
 Jim Millar
 Heidi Neltner
 Jeffrey Sackenheim
 Jeff Mohr
 Chris Rust
 Kendal Fields
 Lelia Wendel
 Teresa Hill
 Jan Haas.

Discussion Items:

- Group would like task milestones/deadlines outlined on a calendar to help direct focus.
- Group would like access to the 2001 Parks & Rec Master Plan
- Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 4th at 7 pm. Meet at Highland Park Shelter #1, weather permitting. City Building can be the backup location.
 - o Regularly scheduled meetings: 1st Wednesday of the Month, 7 pm. Location: TBD
- Group is interested in an inventory of existing parks, recreation areas, open spaces.
- Why residents want to participate in this group:
 - o Parks are a staple of our City
 - o Want to make parks better for our children
 - o The Renaissance Board sees Tower Park as the Crown Jewel and catalyst of NKY and a great location to program events.
 - o Highland Park has a lot of potential but it has some traffic safety concerns
 - o Parks attract new residents
 - o Parks are an integral part of the community.

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- o Parks serve as a backyard for many who choose smaller Ft. Thomas lots.

- o Want NaturePlay to be incorporated into parks
- o Opportunity to condense athletic facilities so users don't have to drive all over the city to access different fields.
- o Opportunity to bring people to Ft. Thomas
- o Great locations for events, birthday parties
- o Need to market trails so users can find them and feel safe
- o Opportunity to pull user data to determine what facilities are used the most/least
- o Opportunity to improve existing assets, make them safer and more accessible
- o Opportunity to market amenities in parks
- o Ft. Thomas Moms Club use the parks for daily outings and play dates. They routinely visit Cincinnati Parks- Washington Park and Ziegler Park- because of the shade and water play available. They want those amenities in the Ft. Thomas parks!
- o Opportunity to incorporate "all-needs" play options
- Several themes emerged as opportunities for sub-committees:
 - o Trails
 - o Programming
 - o Athletics
 - o Park Design
 - o Gateways
 - o Hillsides