meeting summary: parks & open space

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.
Meeting Summary: Parks & Open Space

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

- Want NaturePlay to be incorporated into parks

- Opportunity to condense athletic facilities so users don’t have to drive all over the city to access different fields.

- Opportunity to bring people to Ft. Thomas

- Great locations for events, birthday parties

- Need to market trails so users can find them and feel safe

- Opportunity to pull user data to determine what facilities are used the most/least

- Opportunity to improve existing assets, make them safer and more accessible

- Opportunity to market amenities in parks

- 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!

- Opportunity to incorporate “all-needs” play options

Several themes emerged as opportunities for sub-committees:

- Trails
- Programming
- Athletics
- Park Design
- Gateways
- Hillsides