

**ADA ACCESSIBILITY REVIEW BOARD
MINUTES
January 26, 2010
Human Relations Conference Room
10:15 A.M.**

Disclaimer: The ADA Accessibility Review Board is a citizen board volunteering their time to give necessary feedback on projects of the City which may have an impact on Title II of The American's with Disabilities Act. The intent of the review is not to evaluate complete compliance with an accessibility standard, but to ensure overall programmatic accessibility. The Board is not presented all the information and is not given sufficient time for a thorough review. The Board's review is merely cursory and should only be considered a recommendation of the Board. The Board recommendation should not be considered a certification that the project meets ADA standards. The Board only reviews the project based on The American's with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines and other U.S. Access Board guidance and does not address any local codes, such as any building codes or fire and safety codes. Any conflicts in local codes should be addressed by the appropriate parties.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Hoy called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Board members present: Sarah Aldinger, John Faundeen, Matt Cain, Doug Hoy, Denny Theel and Page Hudson.

Board member(s) absent: Eric Kritzmire

Staff present: Colwill and Garry

Guests present: Tory Miedema, SF Parks & Rec, and Andy Wagstrom and Mike Patten, Stockwell Engineers.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Theel moved to approve the minutes from the October 27, 2009, meeting.
Faundeen seconded. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Theel moved to re-elect the current officers - Hoy, Chairperson, Aldinger, Vice Chairperson, and John Faundeen, Third Officer. Cain seconded, the vote was unanimous.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

At the February meeting we will be using the projector and will review the Orpheum accessible seating renovations.

Hoy asked if anything further has been done regarding the downtown accessible parking that was discussed at the October meeting. Staff has not heard anything further.

NEW BUSINESS

Bike Trail – Falls Park to Great Bear – Tory Miedema and Andy Wagstrom -They will present the whole project today to eliminate the need to come back with every additional section for review.

The plan is to develop a new connection to the existing trail with the goal to bring in new neighborhoods on the way to Great Bear. The project is currently working on land acquisitions – also for the railroad switching yards in this area – the project will expand as land is acquired. First phase is Falls Park to Lien Park (on the east side of Cliff Avenue bridge over the river.)

The first phase starts in the north Falls Park area, northeast of the Farmer's Market Pavilion. It breaks off the trail that leads to the top of the hill and continues north along the river, crosses the spillway and runs east on top of the levee until the Cliff Avenue bridge, where it drops to go under Cliff Avenue and remains along the river to Lien Park. The bid is expected to go out within the next few weeks. The SD DOT is a funding partner and some delays have taken place as the DOT & the City get the agreements and funding in place.

Plans include a small courtyard/plaza area where the existing trail continues up the hill and the new section continues north across the spillway. There will be a short wall with accessible seating and trail signage. The bridge over the spillway is 150' span similar to the other bridges used on the trail system – weathered steel, wooden planked. Trail lighting will extend to where the trail goes on top of the levee. Lighting will also be under the Cliff Avenue bridge for safety/security reasons.

The trail will be 12' wide asphalt. There were some challenges to meeting ADA requirements for grade/slope. The design does meet all ADA requirements as planned. Phase two and three depend on the land acquisitions, if all goes well phase two could also start this year. The intent is to remain along the river to Great Bear. Eventually this could be a possible route to connect to Brandon.

A trailhead is planned near Rice Street – a park & ride location- to provide accessibility to the trail. This is where the trail would cross back over to the south side of the river. The trailhead was placed here is because the area is lower lying and the land owner was open to providing the needed land (donated by Sweetmans - \$284k gift).

The intent is to keep the trail along the river and to avoid having to cross roadways. Spurs are planned to connect to developing neighborhoods. The added length to the main trail is roughly 3.5 miles; it could change with land acquisitions.

Faundeen asked how they plan to cross Rice Street. Because of the grades in the area, they will likely be at grade connections, crossing on the street surface – due to the high water table in the area, going under isn't possible. Other options may be possible with

the railroad yard moving into this area. A pedestrian bridge over Rice Street isn't an affordable option.

Theel moved to recommend approval of the project as presented today with expectations of updates as the project progresses. Faundeen seconded; motion passed with unanimous vote.

Judee Estates – Master Plan – Mike Patten

The Parks department has owned this land for awhile. There is an existing protected wetland area covering two thirds of the park (25.5 acres total park area.) The protected wetland comes with restrictions as to how it can be developed. Parks purchased additional land on the north side. There are railroad tracks on the eastside, 69th Street to the south, residential housing on the north, and currently undeveloped land on the west. The only road access is on the west side from North Star Lane made possible through a joint access easement. Parks met with neighbors for input and also received some feedback on their website. It hasn't yet been included in a CIP plan, but plan to get it in this year's CIP. Once this board approves the master plan, the Park Board will review.

There are two pedestrian accesses; a sidewalk along the entrance road and an entrance on the south end at 69th Street. The residential area north of the park was not interested in having direct access through the development. The railroad doesn't allow at grade crossings but in the future 69th Street will be built to go over the tracks and provide access from the east along 69th Street.

This will be a typical neighborhood park with a picnic shelter, play structure, swings, drinking fountain, a sport court, and a large open area for neighborhood sports teams to use for practice.

There will be berms and trees for screening and a broken split rail fence to designate the boundaries of the park from the rest of the neighborhood. The playground structure has not been decided on yet, but they will be using the rubber tile underneath. It is better maintenance – wise and user friendly and the wood fi-bar will be used under the swings. Because this is a neighborhood park (services a radius to .5 mile), there will be no restrooms. It also keeps the cost down. If there is a program at a neighborhood park where a greater number of outside the area participants will be attending Parks will bring portable restrooms.

A trail system goes through the park with accessible seating locations scattered throughout. The proposed trail in the non-wetland area is concrete. The trail in the protected wetland area will be a granule material – recycled concrete/asphalt, similar to the Outdoor Campus trails. Hard surface trail is restricted from the wetland area. Northern Prairie Land Trust oversees developments that impact wetlands. A couple of concrete pads have been approved to provide accessible seating in the wetland area. There are also railed, planked boardwalks because a lot of this area is wet all of the time and it is impossible to use recycled material in these areas.

Faundeen asked what kind of access will be used in the parking area, curb cuts/ramps, dropped curb throughout? There will be dropped curb cuts at the accessible parking areas. He also wanted to know how the area adjacent to the parking lot will be developed. He's concerned neighboring apartments will use the area for their parking. Plans show multiple housing with parking lot – the buildings will surround it. There will also be no parking signs on the street to the park lot.

Faundeen moved to recommend approval of the Judee Estates Master Plan as presented. Hudson seconded and motion passed by unanimous vote.

Prairie Meadows Master Plan- Tory Miedema

Prairie Meadows is at Journey Elementary School, which is in the Harrisburg School District – it is a joint park/school site. This has been done at several locations in the Sioux Falls School District and this is the second one with Harrisburg. Joint ventures allow for sharing the cost of development with twice the amount of usable land.

The perimeter sidewalk was put in with the school's construction so there is access from the neighborhoods. Fifteen parking spaces were paid as part of the City's share of the cost and also one of the two playgrounds which has already been installed.

Parks & Rec are planning a climbing feature. They hope to get a diversity of play structures installed at all of the City's parks. There will be a paved trail through the back side of the park that will tie into a bike trail spur on the City's south side that will connect to the main trail. The planned trails will create a walking loop for the neighborhood to use.

There will be an area of flat open ground to be used as practice area for neighborhood sports teams. This helps with maintenance of the specialty parks – gives them a break to do maintenance and provide a break for the turf to recover.

There will be a drinking fountain, an accessible route to the picnic shelter and all of the play areas. The access to the climbing feature will come from the picnic shelter area due to difficult grade issues from the school side. The picnic shelter will be the typical 20x40 accessible shelter. The exact climbing structure has not been determined yet.

The accessible path will be 8' wide and the sidewalks are 5' wide. Parking lot grades are not a problem.

This project was in last year's CIP but fell victim to the economy and was held back. They will try to get it in this year depending on revenues or with savings from other projects. If not it will go on the 2011 CIP.

Aldinger moved to recommend for approval the Prairie Meadows Master Plan as presented. Theel seconded; the motion passed with unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Cain announced that Prairie Freedom Center for Independent Living is now Independent Living Choices. Open house will be February 22, 2010, 4:30 – 6pm

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Aldinger moved to adjourn; Cain seconded and with all in favor the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carol Garry