Meeting Agenda

7:00 pm – Welcome and Introductions
7:10 – 7:40 – Presentation
7:40 – 8:30 pm – Discussions
What is the plan?

- A Guideline for the Future
- A Public Relations Tool
- A Living Document
WHY PLAN?

- To support the health and well-being of residents
- To ensure universal access to parks, recreation facilities, and recreation programs
- To preserve natural resources and protect the environment
- To improve the parks and recreation system, ensuring it meets resident desires today and provides a legacy for future generations
PLANNING PROCESS

- Inventory and Assessment of Existing Resources and Functions
- Opportunities and Conclusions
- Recommendations
- Action Plan
PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

- Determine community needs, interests, and values
  - Interviews
  - Mailed Survey
  - Internet Survey
  - Study Committee
  - Public Meetings
## WHAT WE HEARD

### Households Benefits from Public Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A Great Deal</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not at All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRPA</td>
<td>41%</td>
<td>40%</td>
<td>19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRPR</td>
<td>44%</td>
<td>48%</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Community or Region Benefits from Public Parks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>A Great Deal</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Not at All</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NRPA</td>
<td>63%</td>
<td>29%</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CRPR</td>
<td>77%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
WHAT WE HEARD

- What experience looking for when visiting CRPR parks
  1. Spending Time Outdoors
  2. Relaxation
  3. Experiencing Nature
  4. Enjoying Time with Family and Friends

- Priority recreation facilities to add or expand
  1. Trails for running, hiking, bicycling, x-country skiing
  2. Shade/tree areas
  3. Children’s play equipment/area
  4. Picnic pavilion
  5. Informal picnic areas
WHAT WE HEARD

- Priorities for parks and recreation in Centre Region over next ten years
  1. Maintain parks and recreation facilities
  2. Conserve open space and natural resources
  3. Develop walking/biking connections between schools, parks, trails and neighborhoods
  4. Develop trails and greenways
  5. Rehabilitate older parks
WHAT WE HEARD

- Level of satisfaction with CRPR areas and recreation facilities
  1. Cleanliness of grounds/environment
  2. Overall maintenance of park areas and recreation facilities
  3. Condition of paved walkways
  4. Condition of roads/parking areas
  5. Cleanliness of picnic facilities

- Level of dissatisfaction with CRPR area and recreation facilities
  1. Availability of restrooms
  2. Availability of seating
  3. Availability of shaded areas
  4. Cleanliness of restrooms
  5. Condition of restrooms
CENTRE REGION PARKS & RECREATION MISSION

We inspire the Centre Region to learn, play, protect and connect by creating diverse programs and experiences for all ages, backgrounds and abilities in sustainable natural spaces and places.
The Centre Region is a vibrant area that enjoys a tremendous quality of life through great parks and exceptional recreation opportunities. The parks and recreation system is part of daily life and shapes the character of the Centre Region. Natural, cultural, historic, and recreational resources cultivate outstanding experiences, health, enjoyment, fun, and learning for all people. Residents are stewards and supporters of an extraordinary, sustainable parks and recreation system. As the Centre Region’s population continues to grow, so does the demand for more parks, recreation programs, indoor and outdoor facilities, and interconnected bikeways and trails. To address these challenges, we work closely with our residents, streamline operations to be more efficient, maximize alternative funding sources, and place an increased emphasis on partnerships and responsible environmental stewardship.
Take Care of What We Have

- Strengthen park maintenance
- Identify parks that should be planned
- Identify park facilities, structures, amenities, and plantings in sub-par condition
- Clarify the responsibilities for park maintenance, repairs, purchases and capital improvements
- Return appropriate park areas into natural environments
- Develop a cohesive park system
Diversify Funding Strategies

- Establish a Parks Foundation
- Develop stable alternative funding sources
- Update the pricing and revenue policy to determine sustainable pricing methods
Strengthen and Enhance Recreation Program Opportunities

- Enhance the recreation programs and special events offered to allow everyone the opportunity and ability to participate
- Offer affordable local alternatives to travel-based youth sports
- Build on successful recreation programs and offer new programs
Promote Parks and Recreation Opportunities

- Develop and implement a comprehensive marketing plan
- Utilize a marketing classification for park areas and recreation facilities
- Consider referring to the agency as “Centre Region Parks and Rec’ rather than as CRPR
Address Indoor Recreation Facility and Program Space Needs

- Adopt a memorandum of understanding with the State College Area School District
- Complete an indoor recreation center feasibility study
Address Outdoor Recreation Facility Needs

- Develop Regional Parks
- Develop a strategy to introduce missing special use park facilities
- Develop an Action Sports Park
Expand Environmental Sustainability Opportunities

- Hire a Natural Resource Supervisor
- Expand environmental outreach
Design Parks that Promote Resident Health, Happiness and Well-Being

- Create park amenities that celebrate unique characteristics and features
- Enhance convenience of visiting parks
- Introduce technology to parks
- Accommodate special events and community celebrations
Expand and Connect the Trail Network

- Link parks to the regional trail system
- Support trail initiatives in the region
Strengthen Resident Involvement

- Establish a Friends of Centre Region parks group
- Strengthen communication between CRPR and the municipal parks and recreation committees
Eliminate the Governance Structure Confusion

- Define and document the roles and responsibilities of the Parks and Recreation Authority
- Amend the articles of incorporation of the Parks and Recreation Authority
- Take care of tasks associated with streamlining the governance of CRPR
Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships

- Develop and maintain effective public and private partnerships

Develop Benchmark Data

- Develop a system of data collection and analysis
- Benchmark with other parks and recreation agencies
Assess Level of Staffing

- Plan for the hiring of new staff positions phased over the next 10 years

Make Efficient and Effective Use of Financial Resources

- Implement recommendations that relate to Financial savings
YOUR THOUGHTS?
THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING!

CONTACT:

ANN YOST
anny@ysmla.com
717-812-9959

SUE LANDES
slandes@recandparkssolutions.com
717-475-0528