

Harnischfeger Master Park Planning Project  
Meeting Summary  
Meeting #1, Wednesday, March 19, 2009

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**Meeting Date and Location:**

March 19, 2008; 6:30 p.m. @ Harnischfeger Park (Clubhouse)

**Dodge County Staff:**

Bill Ehlenbeck, Manager of Parks and Trails  
Nate Olson, Senior Planner

**Advisory Committee Members in Attendance:**

Arnold Bashynski	Delbert Maas	Holly Stehling
Dean Becker	Lori Naylor	LeRoy Tietz
Glenn Daily	Glenn Roberts	Deanna Winkelman
Jim Koebel	Ginny Seaholm	Frank Winkelman
Ed Martin	Craig Stehling	

**Advisory Committee Members Absent:**

David Carpenter  
Glenn Welles  
Mary Welles

**Public in Attendance:**

Approximately 34 members of the public were in attendance.

**Progress by Agenda Item:**

1. Introductions  
Dodge County staff members were introduced, as well as all the members of the Harnischfeger Advisory Committee.
2. Harnischfeger Master Park Plan Accomplishments, Objectives, & Process  
Bill Ehlenbeck reviewed the process of the planning project and the need to create a master plan for Harnischfeger Park. The planning project steps were outlined. Bill stated intentions to incorporate more public input than previous master park plans, due to the park's exceptionally high interest level, donations and volunteer efforts. The final plan will be adopted by The Dodge County Board of Supervisors.
3. Park Survey Results  
Nate Olson discussed the purpose and reasoning for the park survey. A general report was given on the survey results. Complete survey results were made available for meeting attendees and will continue to be available for review. Survey results are available online, on the parks website ([www.dodgeparks.com](http://www.dodgeparks.com)).
4. Idea Generation Exercise  
In order to help create recommendations for the plan, an idea generation exercise was done. This exercise was done to gain input for the future of the park, in regards to park development, administration, facilities, services, and maintenance. Everyone had a chance to document ideas for the future of the park, or solutions to existing problems. Once all ideas/solutions were recorded, everyone was given a chance to vote for the top

5 issues they thought were important. A total of 155 votes were cast, indicating voting by 31 people. Voters were instructed to vote for an idea only once to provide a fair representation. However, it was noted that some voted several times for one item which skewed the results. Below is a list of issues and the votes they received.

- 1) Remove disc golf (17 votes).
- 2) Don't expand until better manage existing facilities (13 votes).
- 3) Better security presence (11 votes).
- 4) Close gate during closed hours (8 votes).
- 5) Add more campsites (7 votes).
- 6) Expand / improve Clubhouse in rustic manner / more appealing for weddings (7 votes).
- 7) Expand mini-golf to 18 holes (7 votes).
- 8) Expand vegetative buffers along property lines (6 votes).
- 9) Add more canoes/kayaks (5 votes).
- 10) Add periodic fishing stations along river (5 votes).
- 11) Purchase NEOS game (5 votes).
- 12) Restroom building with showers (5 votes).
- 13) Attract privately run festivals (4 votes).
- 14) Don't expand horse trails and no horse camping (4 votes).
- 15) Expand revenue sources (4 votes).
- 16) Improve park patrol - foot patrol - physically patrol park 9 p.m. - 3 a.m. (4 votes).
- 17) Develop boardwalk to river (3 votes).
- 18) Add / Improve directional signage from Hwy 67 & County Road R to the park (2 votes).
- 19) Add more vending machines (2 votes).
- 20) Better management of existing facilities (2 votes).
- 21) Expand camping to 20 sites (create horse trail camping) (2 votes).
- 22) Expand horse trails (2 votes).
- 23) Fence property – cyclone fence (2 votes).
- 24) Improve handicap accessibility (2 votes).
- 25) Increase park staff for certain park activities / facilities (2 votes).
- 26) Reduce park hours (2 votes).
- 27) Restore house, rent, to generate money (2 votes).
- 28) Access drive to south side of Clubhouse (1 vote).
- 29) Buy a decibel meter & use it (ASA standard) (1 vote).
- 30) Create historical preserve area by north barn / house - highlight park history (1 vote).
- 31) Cut noise to county code (1 vote).
- 32) Dog show, family activities (car show) (1 vote).
- 33) Dump station (1 vote).
- 34) Host seminars - education, nature, wildlife, raise funds (1 vote).
- 35) Improve traffic control - Highview, Crawfish, County Road O (1 vote).
- 36) Increase park interest / awareness (1 vote).
- 37) Increase park volunteers (1 vote).
- 38) Increase staff presence / establish security patrol to add law enforcement coverage (1 vote).
- 39) Interpretive farm display at barn (1 vote).
- 40) Longer operating hours (10 p.m.) (1 vote).
- 41) Low impact wilderness (hike-in) camping (1 vote).
- 42) More tent camping sites (1 vote).
- 43) North barn function rentals (1 vote).
- 44) Remodel barn for rental use - specifically horse functions (1 vote).
- 45) Remodel house for nature center (1 vote).
- 46) Restore house for office or other use (1 vote).
- 47) Stress more family activities / orientation (1 vote).
- 48) Build executive 9-hole golf course (0 votes).
- 49) Construct a toilet building at north trails parking area (0 votes).
- 50) Construct a toilet building near north pavilion area (0 votes).
- 51) Create a fitness trail (0 votes).
- 52) Create a group camping area (0 votes).

- 53) Create age restriction (If under 17, need an adult) (0 votes).
- 54) Create more fishing opportunities (0 votes).
- 55) Expand horse trails off-site (0 votes).
- 56) Focus on Clubhouse direct sales / hire sales manager (0 votes).
- 57) Ice skating rink (0 votes).
- 58) Increase cross-country ski trails (0 votes).
- 59) Install a compass course throughout park (0 votes).
- 60) Install additional speed bumps (near Clubhouse and camping area) (0 votes).
- 61) Install concrete tee-pads for disc golf course (0 votes).
- 62) More native tree / vegetation in north end (prairie) (0 votes).
- 63) Periodic winter event days for specific activity (dog sleds, etc...) (0 votes).
- 64) Plan with issues solved, then build with local input (0 votes).
- 65) Sporting tournaments (fundraisers) (0 votes).

\*\* 31 people voted with 5 votes each (155 votes total)

6. *Where Do We Go From Here & Next Meeting Date*

The next advisory committee meeting was set for Wednesday May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm in the clubhouse at Harnischfeger Park. Tables will be setup for the advisory committee to gather around to discuss the input received to date. Staff will tabulate information received and distribute materials to committee members for discussion and review. It will be an open meeting with audience seating separate from the advisory committee. To keep on task and keep the meeting around 2 hours in length, discussion will be limited to the advisory committee. An opportunity for others in attendance to make comments will be provided at the end of the meeting.