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**Memorandum:**

**To:** Whitemarsh Park Master Plan Steering Committee  
**From:** Jacob Clark, L/KLA  
**Cc:** Elisabeth Lardner, L/KLA  
**Date:** June 30, 2010  
**Subject:** Minutes from June 30, 2010 Steering Committee Meeting #3

**Attendees:**

Harlan Tucker, Chairman, City of Bowie Community Recreation Committee (CRC)  
Charlie Jacobs (CRC) member  
Sally Hein, Assistant Director Community Services  
Leslie Wood Mummert, City of Bowie Environmental Advisory Committee (EAC) member  
Matt Reno, Project Manager, City of Bowie  
Annette Esterheld, Arts Specialist and Bowie Playhouse Manager  
Frank Stevens, Planner, Department of Planning, City of Bowie  
Nick Spurgeon, Parks Operation Manager, City of Bowie  
Alan Forney, Engineering Assistance, Department of Public Works  
Ed Hall, Superintendent, Parks and Grounds  
Paul Meador, BBGC Baseball League  
Peter Cipolla, Bowie Sport Fit, Programming and Facilities Manager  
Mark Vilee, Kickball League of Bowie  
Jacob Clark, L/KLA  
Elisabeth Lardner, L/KLA

**Invited, but not in attendance:**

Dwayne Grey, Bowie Boys & Girls Club Football Commissioner (BBGC)  
Jason Craddock, BBGC former Football Commissioner  
Gary Hahn, BBGC, Lacrosse Commissioner  
Ray Smith, St. Pius X CYO, Baseball Commissioner  
Dan Servi, Grace Christian, Baseball Commissioner  
Joe Bechtel, BBGC, Baseball Commissioner

**Items for follow-up by Steering Committee members:**

1. User Groups need to provide any missing information to update the Whitemarsh Park User Matrix.

**Items for follow-up by Consultant and City:**

1. Determine parcel shape, size and ownership in potential crossover location on Crain Highway at existing entry.
2. Locate the plat for the property description of the nine-acre parcel that abuts the southwest corner of the park and contains a trail segment linking the park to the western boundary. Research Conservation Plan and identify any additional tree cover / replacement requirements that may be in the works and soon to be adopted.
3. Investigate if drain fields can be irrigated.
4. Determine reserve dimensions for drain field.

5. Explore potential for adding parking on south side of entry drive adjacent to football game field.
6. Determine requirements for football storage area; determine if on-site lacrosse storage is needed or if lacrosse storage is adequate off-site.
7. Determine requirements for Lacrosse rebounding wall.
8. Consider noting future sledding hill on lower practice field – any reason to preclude such?
9. Meet with M-NCPPC to review environmental regulations related to historic property and to clarify need for FSD and its base (five-year window).
10. City to provide consultant team with plans delineating current drain field for Sport Fit.

## **Meeting Summary**

### **Steering Committee Meeting #3, Concept Alternatives**

- Elisabeth Lardner and Jacob Clark reviewed the Issues and Opportunities analysis that included existing site resources: natural, cultural, circulation, parking, utilities, and built facilities and presented two Concept Alternatives for Whitmarsh Park (Concepts A & B). A third concept, generated by City staff was also presented.
- Matt Reno presented a sequential series of events that would be necessary to relocate the existing 90-foot baseball diamond to another park site within the City.
- Discussion held as to whether to present two alternatives to Community Workshop, or given the similarities in the two, to compile into single, recommended Concept. Group agreed to combine into a single Concept, although retain and graphically illustrate four potential points of park access: 1) Develop a cross-over on Crain Highway at current entrance (look at option of form of signalization with SHA); 2) Provide secondary entrance from Forest Drive (would require some form of signalization due to poor sight lines); 3) Provide secondary entrance from Spur Way (although this would traverse environmentally important resources, a western entrance would connect the park more directly to Bowie proper); 4) Provide secondary entrance from Route 405 – Racetrack Road and Annapolis Road.

The Steering Committee agreed to develop a single concept with elements incorporated from Concept A and B, as well as from the City staff generated scheme.

## **Elements to Incorporate in the recommended Concept Plan**

### **Circulation and Access**

- Graphically include four alternatives for vehicular access
- Forest Drive access at 90 degree angle

### **Natural Resources**

- Tree mitigation on site or within the Bowie City limits may be challenging as little land is available to accommodate such – approx. six acres available in the City
- Stream mitigation should be considered at any stream crossings and along the proposed access drive from Spur Way

### **Recreational Fields**

- Long-term, assume baseball field relocated to another site – graphically show footprint on Master Plan for rectangular fields with baseball field footprint dashed as current use until new site located Show field orientation as in Concept A

- Keep existing lower practice field as field, consider incorporating lacrosse rebounding (similar to one at Crofton Park or Cardinal Field) wall at northern end, sledding hill and 'natural' playground elements on western side .
- Illustrate two rectangular fields at 220' x 380' (includes 10' run-out) to accommodate men's/women's lacrosse and football at eastern and western sides of field complex (both fields can be synthetic turf in the future)
- Place two practice fields between the game fields - perpendicular to the game fields
- Illustrate an additional practice/game field in the wooded area west of the field complex at the current location of the pavilion
- Relocate basketball as a half court to paved pedestrian area near concession stand

### **Parking**

- Explore option of adding parking south of entry drive abutting game field
- Adjust parking shown on northern side of entry drive to reflect drain field location
- Show two parking areas adjacent to the Playhouse, one behind the building and one off the entry drive (west side) to the Playhouse – approx. 100 spaces total
- Leave the five-acre plus William Plains property overflow parking area unpaved
- Master Plan should recommend the use of pervious pavers, bioinfiltration areas, sheet flow, and wet swales in and adjacent to parking areas

### **Restrooms**

- Show one restroom/concession facility aligned with field complex and a second restroom near the picnic pavilion on the western side of the field complex
- Explore potential of using lower practice field and natural turf fields drain fields – challenge, particularly on lower practice field, will be to see if the soils perk
- No dressing rooms for referees will be programmed, assume use of restrooms or Sport Fit facility is adequate

### **Play Areas**

- Play areas should accommodate multiple age groups
- Provide shade through plantings or structure (solar shade, etc.) for playgrounds
- Propose use of 'natural play' equipment

### **Pavilions**

- Two pavilions in Master Plan, locate in conjunction with parking and restrooms

### **Fire Circle**

- Relocate fire circle to pavilion west of field complex

### **Storage**

- Football equipment storage requires double what is currently provided
- Lacrosse storage is off-site. Verify if on-site storage is needed; if so include with football storage facility.
- Rangers need structure for storage of cones and small vehicle such as a John Deere gator – locate abutting parking or drive access to minimize traffic mixing with pedestrians

### **Concessions**

- One centrally located concessions stand; locate in conjunction with restroom facility

**Press Box**

- No preference given

**Scoreboard**

- No preference given

**Additional Comments**

- Master Plan will support that focus of athletic fields is football and lacrosse, with ability to accommodate soccer practice and kickball practice and game use
- Athletic fields will be lit
- Designate area for horseshoes, volleyball court, etc. near pavilion(s)