

## Summary of 5-18-09 Public Meeting Issues

### Natural resources

- Mark streams, springs, and natural "highlights" better with signage with history etc. The park is very pristine and I would like to see it as unchanged as possible. (This does not include changing parking which is a hindrance).
- Canoe/Kayaking friendly on the water from springs than park under highway to Cherokee – parts now are difficult to navigate.
- Canoe potential – Token Creek Conservancy to Cherokee Marsh.
- Keeping definition of Parks separate from Conservancies such as Culver's & Big Hill.
- Big Hill separate from Parks in respect to signage – A sign for Big Hill off Hwy 19 or Portage Road could/would attract negative rendezvous meetings. Keep separate from school/youth science and ecology.
- Set boundaries between park and landowners bordering park – i.e. proper fencing – get rid of the old barb wire.
- Possibly berm to cut noise
- Reduce chemical spraying around trees
- Protect back wetland treed area for wildlife that have been moved by present uses.
- Preserve prairie habit established
- Please buffer waterway and allow it to be natural
- Please add signs to educate park users of importance of T.C. waterway, efforts to improve it & how people can help.
- Please add signs re: trout, birds, insects, land types in park. Teach people about environment co-depending, etc.
- This is a beautiful piece of land with lots of kinds of land – design it to educate people about various land types and their importance.
- Big Hill
  - 62 acres – owned by Town of Windsor (approx. 28 acres) and DeForest Area Schools (approx. 34 acres)
  - Designated school forest by the WDNR & must adhere to its guidelines
  - Specialized environmental learning center/outdoor classroom
  - Acreage at north end of property is farm land that is lease to support Big Hill operations
  - Established wildlife refuge – no dogs, no picnics, no camping
  - Access currently is very limited to discourage non-education use and/or activities.

### Trails/signs/education

- I would like to see trails connecting the park with watershed area, both for hiking and cross-country skiing
- Indian Trails worked in with plan for trails thru conservancy.
- Trail between Token Creek Conservancy and Big Hill – adjacent not thru Big Hill School forest.
- Want to see horse trails continue very few places to ride that is in this area other than roads
- See equine trails blended in with hiking trails that connect other parks or corridors.

- REALLY work on connecting surrounding community trails
- Connect to Token Creek Conservancy
- Local area parks connecting with trails
- Interpretive signage along fabulous boardwalk
- Educate value of cold H2O resource. Not well known. Another interpretive need.
- Trails from Culver's Conservancy to T.C. Preserve – Windbrook side of Token Creek
- Encourage the present frog breeding and heron breeding – don't destroy their habitats – don't use chemical pesticides and herbicides.
- Please pursue changes to ponds/culverts to restore the T.C. waterway for trout.
- Upgrade back trails to open & move more often from campground to dog park.
- Design trails to take people through this bio diversity
- Trails between Patrick Marsh to T.C. Conservancy to T.C. County Park.
- X-C & shoetrails
- Could winter hiking trails be added?
- We can't walk on ski trail
- Can ski trail go into Natural Resources area (not part of park) in winter?
- Will snowmobilers still have a place to park & snowmobile?
- Bridal paths – Dane County w/parks alienating the rich rural economic resources of numerous stables in area. Trails focus on cyclist/hikers. Data should look at need and expand paths parks to park for equine users.
- Winter trails
- Connect to T.C. Conservancy with trails
  - Extend nature trails
  - Informational signs
- To watch for: fish info, birds, insects
- land history, importance of preserving this area
- pictures of interdependence
- Sign w/contact info – who plans, maintains site, how to volunteer to preserve this area.
- Access to Token Creek headwaters with canoe?
- I would like to see trails connecting the natural resource area with the existing park. It would also be great to see the Token Creek opened to canoe traffic. Watershed could have a great input with this.

#### New entrance ideas

- Anderson Road currently not set up for park entrance. Dead End.
- Certainly support moving entrance from Hwy 51 due to safety concerns.
- Support a different entrance.
- Support removing Hwy 51 entrance to City Park
- Bring new road off Portage along side of dog park & not Anderson. End parking on Anderson but put inside park at turnaround on south end.
- Change entrance to new road off Portage thru side of dog park & close Anderson entrance – parking area inside park – not along Anderson = 1 monitored entrance

#### Disc golf ideas

- Parking for the disc golf start is dangerous! People are always going into their trunks while cars travel by too fast – Dan Madden
- Frisbee golf seems to be taking over park green space
- We would like to see an expansion of the disc golf portion of the park. 18 more holes would be perfect for long term. – Madison Area Disc Club “Madcitydisc.org”
- We really need a disc golf expansion. The current course is getting a lot of use with waiting time to play. The park has the space – lets put it to use.
- From MADC (Madison Area Disc Club – “madcitydisc.org”) Expansion of the Disc Golf Course to 36 holes.
- Please expand the disc golf portion of the park to include 36 holes (18 more). This would really suit the long-term demand for the rapidly growing, popular sport.
- Disc golf, restrooms @ kiosk area & safer parking options, 9-18 new holes

#### Dog park ideas

- Keep larger buffer between use areas and private property. Enforce the dog leash rule so dogs don't continue to enter private property.
- Dog Parks in long term plan
- Solar lighting in dog park
- Addition of a “water” area in the dog park for swimming.
- Keep equine use. Dog park is the best in the area. Could expand.
- Maintain or expand dog park
- Addition of water spout for water for dogs would be great!
- Have bathrooms open year-round near dog exercise area.

#### Safety/ illegal use comments

- Have monitored 51 entrance like a state park. Too much Anderson Road, bad activity.
- If unsavory activity air issues use technology to record license plates and activity not appropriate. Don't close 51 entrance. Perhaps dual entrance at certain times of year. If 51 close, Northside is isolated from park.
- Staff 51 entrance w/entrance fees & license purchase of dog park, equine, Frisbee, camping/day use or to purchase county sticker.

#### Partner opportunities

- T.U. Trout unlimited.
- Dane Conservation League
- Madison Audubon
- Contact Town & Village when meetings are scheduled.
- Set up park commission member from Towns & Villages to help plan
- The Big Hill Committee and Dr. Jon Bales, DeForest Area Schools superintendent, do not want the continuous trail (proposed link Token Creek Park to County C) to go through the Big Hill Environmental Learning Center and School Forest. We propose that it come from Token Creek Park and stay south until it

crosses Portage Road at Hwy 19 toward the old mill pond and stay south of Token Creek.

- The Big Hill property is maintained solely by volunteer members of the Big Hill Committee and children of the DeForest Area School.

#### Camping

- RV Campground expansion area try to make more private than the Lake Farm Park.
- Existing RV camp unique in space & trees – need leveling and grading.
- Reduce existing camping days to only 7 at a time
- Limit RV camping
- Please design park so water & great natural areas are not abused – primarily camping.
- Provide natural camping experience where people can connect with nature
- Please limit RV camping – RV Campers (people) can be more taxing on environment.
- Please offer walk-in, remote campsites that offer privacy so people can experience nature rather than loud camping neighbors.

#### Miscellaneous

- Lighting: use lowlight so more of evening sky is seen
- Can parking ramps be incorporated saving green space. Up, not out. Increase trail space.
- Support the camping plan at North end of Park & Winter sports & dog area & disc at Southern End.
- Group dog park, golf, bathroom, and kids playground.
- Build new facilities
- Continue diversity of site – continued development is a major threat; We need a “central park” on this side of Madison in the country for education use and nature exposure
- Don’t isolate the neighborhood. Entering on Anderson would create burden to local plowing. The Hwy 51 entrance is usually open to get to the hardy dog park users.
- New fencing buffer on Anderson & east boundary
- Playground equipment near disc golf & dog exercise area will help people use park for multiple reasons w/in one visit.
- Limit snowmobile use – too noisy and conflicts with cross-country skiing & hiking in winter.