



## FARMINGTON PATHWAYS COMMITTEE

7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

APRIL 10, 2024

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1. CALL TO ORDER 7:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Tim Prince, Maria Taylor, Chris Weber, Joe VanDerZanden, Sue Lover, Heather Davies, Jamie Palmisano

Absent: Bill Gessaman

3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve by Jamie and supported by Sue, approved unanimously.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. MEETING MINUTES, MARCH 13, 2024

Motion to approve by Maria and supported by Jamie, approved unanimously.

5. OLD BUSINESS

a. BIKE PARK, PUMP TRACKS, AND SKATE PARK IDEAS FROM AMERICAN RAMP COMPANY – <https://americanrampcompany.com>

Tim shared he visited the Hawthorne Ridge Bike Park on Hines Drive and described his impressions. He suggested both the pump track and the skills course there could fit within the considered space in Shiawassee Park, with the pump track being the smaller of the two.

Chris shared that there is approximately 80,000 sq. feet of space.

i. Discussion with Brandon Robinson of American Ramp Company

Brandon summarized their products, including: skate parks, downhill bike courses, skills course, bike playgrounds, and pump tracks.

10 crews between install and construction, bike and skate – one stop design and install/products.

Brandon suggested with the aim of a teen demographic and avoiding a skate park since there is one in Farmington Hills, a pump track would be the most appropriate for teens as well as being very popular and in-demand, also fits a wide demographic and can accommodate most wheeled things – bikes, skate boards, scooters, and can be made to be more ADA type accessible.

Shared that there are options for cheaper, modular tracks as well as asphalt, with asphalt having the advantages of durability, flexibility, good grip to be used in most weather conditions, highly weather resistant and needing very little maintenance or maintenance cost. Also have opportunities to rent modular features to set up a temporary course to show to the community.

Options, designs and features, costs and specifics were discussed.

Brandon sent over a list of grants they're aware of that have been used for their tracks in the past.

Following the call with Brandon the Pathways Committee discussed possibilities of renting a modular track for an event to introduce to the community and get feedback and gauge interest such as The Cares Duck Days and the opportunity to seek corporate sponsors to help with funding.

Planned for Chris to follow up with Brandon and ask what surfaces the modular track can be set up on to know options for placement.

- b. SOCIAL MEDIA POST RELATED TO CROSS WALKS  
Reviewed options created by Heather and refined for posting.
- c. BROOKDALE, SHERWOOD, SHAW SIDEWALKS  
Reviewed the conditions and placement of existing sidewalks, discussed connecting gaps and improving and suggestion that the city consider connecting the sidewalks on one side of each Sherwood and Brookdale to provide a complete path for pedestrians on each street.
- d. RESOLUTION REGARDING PLACEMENT OF RAPIDLY FLASHING BEACONS  
It was decided to wait until City Council has reviewed the annual budget and revisit this then.
- e. GRAND RIVER SPEED STUDY RESULTS  
Traffic study results suggested that an official study would not end in the speed being changed. Discussed revisiting if the law for how speed limits are determined does change.

Maria made a motion for the city to send a letter to state representatives to support the law change. The movement was supported by Sue and passed unanimously. Maria will reach out and see if letters are still being collected, before writing a letter for the committee to review.

- f. NEW DAY FOR BIKE PARK TOUR
  - i. Event to be covered by amateur city photographer.  
Meeting scheduled at the Hawthorne Ridge Bike Park for the May meeting, 5/8.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. ELECTION OF NEW OFFICERS  
Chair - Tim is to continue. Unanimously supported  
Vice-chair – Sue continuing - Unanimously supported  
Secretary – Joe continuing - Unanimously supported
- b. ANY NEW TARGET AREAS?  
Jamie suggested that Drake Park could use some accessible paths. 3 baseball diamonds with one far off in the field with no pathway to access it, far from parking lot, could use a path to access. Idea to consider for input for parks and rec plan, which considers redesign.

Chris – Grant opportunity – 3.5 million dollars from state in The Shared Streets and Spaces Grant. Due in June 7, 2024 for quick build projects to make streets more walkable. Up to \$200,000 dollar increments. It was suggested to apply for the art promenade project from Grad River across from Riley Park back to the future Maxfield Training Center condos as the project has existing plans.

Maria and Jamie said they would sit in on the scheduled talks April 15 and April 19<sup>th</sup> about the application requirements.

- c. ANY NEW CITY CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS?
  - i. 2024 Sidewalk Program

Reviewed map of planned sidewalk work for this year including the rest of the Bel-air Neighborhood, Raphael Street, and the sidewalk in front of Nail Bytes. Also an alley by Longacre is missing concrete. Book store on Thomas Street is planned to open this August. Reviewed DDA plan to create a visual pathway and eventually actual pathway back to the bookstore.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENT

None

9. ADJOURNMENT

9:12 pm

Next meeting: MAY 8, 2024