

Greenough Park Advisory Committee
Minutes
October 3, 2011

This meeting was held in the Currents Meeting Room.

Present: Bill Burnett, John Pierce, Barbara Stanley, John Horrell, Morgan Valliant, Donna Gaukler. Also present: Jim Habeck.

Minutes: The minutes of the August meeting were accepted.

Public comment: Jim questioned the jurisdiction of the north and south sections of Greenough Park. Morgan clarified that the northern part of the park is considered as a public natural area.

Greenough Park Survey Update: Donna Gaukler reviewed highlights of the park's history in relationship to the survey. The Tillotson Survey conducted in 1963 is being used for boundaries and landowners on the northwest bluff and adjacent to the park signed off on this survey at that time. Steve Niday and Morgan will contact property owners on the west side of the park who have structures or improvements encroaching upon park lands. Encroachments can either be vacated (with all improvements removed) or a one-time assessment to acquire a permanent encroachment may be pursued. The encroachment conveys to subsequent owners. The fees assessed will go toward paying for Greenough Park survey costs or improvements. In finalizing the survey, the question has arisen whether Rattlesnake Creek is navigable. The city legal decision is that Rattlesnake Creek is navigable to the northern terminus of Greenough Park. Thus the creek will be surveyed as navigable.

Discussion of GPAC Roles, Responsibilities, Vision: Donna led a brainstorming session with the following topics being addressed: greatest accomplishments of GPAC, vision if time and money are no object, community perceptions of the park, the Greenough family's intent for the park in 1902, and moving forward. A summary page with the points brought forward for each topic appears at the end of the minutes. The committee ranked removing invasive and noxious weeds, stream restoration, and landscaping and installing a kiosk in the lower parking area as the most important vision points. Donna asked how we were doing achieving the vision points and consensus was that efforts ranked from four to seven on a scale of one to ten with one being poor and ten being great.

Donna addressed how GPAC can move forward. She suggested that a master plan for Greenough Park be developed with a focus on vision. A narrative would be presented with guiding principles, a baseline, goals, implementation, monitoring, history, and ecology with all these aspects honoring the deed and 13 points. The most important features include a plan, communication, and shared vision. John Horrell asked what the future of GPAC is in regard to CLAC. Donna answered that GPAC members should figure out who needs to be on the committee to develop a plan, write a plan and implement the plan. Who has vision? She suggests making specific recommendations of individuals who can fill these areas of expertise--history, landscape design, restoration ecology-- as well as brainstorming to invite individuals to join subcommittees to address

the most important features. Nominating and inviting individuals could also be addressed through the Parks Board.

Donna stated that GPAC could spend one meeting a year following the Greenough family's intent and the 13 points and that the remaining meetings could be utilized to form a task force to develop a vision plan. Bill asked whether it would be necessary to have the Greenough family accept the master plan in place of the 13 points. Donna said that the Greenough family could be included in formulating the master plan if they wished to do so. Donna said that the city web site has a "planning for Missoula's future" section which is a good resource. The roles and responsibilities for a revised GPAC would need to be addressed. Donna will send members some other plans and guidelines to study.

The following options for GPAC were reviewed:

- Continue GPAC as it has been
- Disband GPAC and forward a resolution to the Parks Board to honor the resolution and 13 points through CLAC
- Revamp GPAC with new initiatives for vision, funding and political support on the city council
- Continue GPAC by meeting once a year in a stewardship role and requesting that the Parks Board and Parks and Recreation staff develop a vision plan for Greenough Park
- Disband GPAC and oversee the park through a Friends Group

John Pierce recommended that the membership consider the options and that the committee meet in November to make a decision. After a decision is made, new membership can be discussed. John Horrell and Morgan concurred that old members whose terms have expired are members of the committee until their vacancies are filled.

Brochure: Ed Jenne is willing to prepare the map for the brochure. John Pierce and Morgan will coordinate getting the data and files to him. There is \$450 in the GPAC bank account which could be used to pay him. The committee will vote on using Ed's services after we receive an estimate of charges.

Next year's management unit: It was suggested that unit 15 (the control unit) on the west side of Monroe Street be targeted. There was discussion about selling the felled trees for lumber. Morgan recommended that the slopes of unit 3 at the entrance to the park be included in next year's work. Barbara moved to begin working on units 3 and 15 as management units for 2012. John Horrell seconded and the motion passed.

The next Greenough Park Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 7, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. in the Currents Meeting Room.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Stanley, Secretary

Greatest Accomplishments

Removal Norway maple
Restore east channel
Brochure educational/natural
Kept sewer out
Continuity of management
Trees as habitat
Shelter bridge
Weed control (noxious/invasive)
Centennial celebration
Survey
Interpretation of natural

Vision (time/money no object)

Remove invasive/noxious
Resurface trails/trail repair
Stream restoration
Public outreach (how to enjoy)
Support management/protect desired species
Stop dumping
Answer: where will Rattlesnake Creek meander natural vs. man-directed
NEED a plan
New/additional restrooms (upper & lower)
Landscaping/kiosk lower parking area
Historic interpretation
Restore 1970s disturbed area unit 13
Picnic shelter replace
Restore park How? What? Need a plan

Community Perceptions

Native communities
Passive use
Close to nature
Connectivity—trails, convenient, social, access
Dog walking
Picnics
Trout habitat

Greenough Family Intent

Preserve native communities at that time (1902)
Use it
Supported a greenbelt of parks along creek
Took back Alpha East Apts. area for dance pavilion so they could run dances
Concern for overuse by active recreation such as sports and pools
River to stay in channel?? 12th point

Moving Forward

Guidelines based in restoration ecology: restore, reclaim, inventory native and desirable
Understand what is achievable
How to get there
Monitor progress adjust and adapt
Continuing toward guiding principles
What is acceptable
Baseline measures
Determine vision/goals with priorities
Develop tasks, process, budget