



Visioneering Wichita
Regional Comprehensive Recreation Plan
Preliminary Strategic Alliance Meeting
November 21, 2008
Meeting Notes

Attendees: Jean Orton, Judy Morris, Robert Mendoza, Janet Miller, Matt Stiles, Sommer Miller, Karen Walker, Elizabeth Bishop, Allison Hamm, Neal Owings, Eldon Miller

Leadership Team: Allison Hamm, Andy Solter, Debra Foster, Elizabeth Bishop, Glen Dey, Irene Hart, Janet Miller, Karen Walker, Larry Ross, Robert Mendoza, Scott Wadle, Sommer Miller

Next Regional Comprehensive Recreation Plan Strategic Alliance Meeting: To be announced.

I. Purposes of the Meeting

1. Data Sharing Presentation & How to Join the Team
2. What's Next Discussion
3. Local Accomplishments/Project Updates

II. Data Sharing Presentation & How to Join the Team

Leadership Team representatives Robert Mendoza and Scott Wadle made a presentation illustrating a parks and recreational amenities information-sharing opportunity. The presentation included information on: 1) the needs and benefits of information sharing among regional municipalities; 2) current parks and recreational amenities web resources provided independently; 3) how parks and recreation resources information can be shared using GIS data; and 4) how a centralized, searchable, map-based database of regional parks and recreation resources can be accomplished and accessed via a centralized website.

III. What's Next Discussion

Key next steps for the Alliance were presented and discussed, which include:

1. Data/information sharing partnership and support for the regional recreation website
 - Data sharing presentations will be made around the region in the near future. It was recommended that the Alliance consider presenting to collaborative groups, where multiple municipalities are represented
 - Emphasize the "what's in it for me" in presentations made
2. Budget and Community Improvement Plan (CIP) information sharing
 - Consider possible partnership resource-sharing opportunities for future recreational amenities development plans

IV. Local Accomplishments/Project Updates

Valley Center:

- 1st parks master plan last year
- Diverse ages of citizen representatives involved on planning council
- Community input in plan key ideas included trails, a new recreation center, etc.
 - Possible new projects are being considered (e.g., school park designation)
- 3 big projects associated with master plan:
 - Swimming pool upgrades and new activities (rock wall, etc.)
 - A splash park
 - A new neighborhood park

Sedgwick County:

- Arkansas River Corridor Access Planning (ARCAP) update was provided
 - Adopted/ Implementation
- New Coordinating Group
 - Development Continuity
 - Signage
 - Public information
 - Web data
 - Site development
- Grant work/ applications for construction / development
- Sedgwick County Park
 - Master Plan
 - Stake holder meetings
 - Opportunities (e.g., ATV/ off road, BMX bikes)

Bel-Aire:

- In planning phase for a comprehensive parks plan that is hoped to be completed by the end of next year
 - Plan includes new possible recreation opportunities (e.g., recreation center, trails)

Young Professionals of Wichita (YPW):

- An online survey of young professionals was recently conducted
 - Recreation programming in the community was a key finding of the survey, including:
 1. Approximately 1/2 of survey respondents reported that they plan to leave Wichita, and of those, 1/3 plan to leave to communities with different amenities
 2. Almost 50% of survey respondents reported that the amenities in our regional are good but could be built on. Key issues related to this include:
 - a. transportation
 - b. environmental concerns

Greenway Alliance:

- Considering transitioning organization into a non-profit partner that would support regional recreational efforts in partnership with regional municipalities

City of Wichita:

- Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces (PROS) Plan now in adoption phase
- Next steps for the plan include obtaining plan approval from the park board, city council and county commission, with the plan fully approved by the end of December
- The plan can be viewed online at www.wichitaprospan.org

Visioneering Wichita Updates:

- www.Rokict.com
 - Arts and culture web site
 - Launched last week
- Cessna Plant Groundbreaking

III. Next Steps

Next steps will be to make the information-sharing partnership presentation and talk to other municipalities in the region in order to increase information-sharing partnerships. These efforts will help to: 1) further develop the centralized, searchable, map-based information database for a future website; and 2) advance the launch of the Alliance in the community at large.

No date was set for the next meeting of the Regional Comprehensive Recreation Planning group.