

November20, 2007

MEETING MINUTES

Subject: Fort Smallwood & Weinberg Park Master Plan

Date of Meeting: November 14, 2007 / Meeting #8

Location: Downs Memorial Park Visitors Center

Attendees: **Committee Members:**

Jerry Ackerman	Master Plan Committee Member
Jay Albright	Master Plan Committee Member
Eleanor Bentz	Master Plan Committee Member
Richard Brown	Master Plan Committee Member
Denise Caldwell	Master Plan Committee Member
Brenda Hodgson	Master Plan Committee Member
Terry Moritz	Master Plan Committee Member
Mike Rafferty	Master Plan Committee Member
Sue Ricciardi	Master Plan Committee Member
Deb Yeater	Superintendent, Ft. Smallwood/Harry & Jeanette Weinberg Parks, Dept. of Recreation & Parks
John Marshall	Chief Park Operations
Rocky Glendinning	Heery International, Inc. (for Joan Viennas) Department of Public Works, Project Manager

Consultants:

Sally Malena Human & Rohde, Inc.

This was the eighth meeting of the Fort Smallwood & Weinberg Park Master Plan Committee. John Marshall opened the meeting with the announcements that Andrews, Miller & Associates, Inc. are going to do a site investigation for a boat ramp facility at Fort Smallwood and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) have been contacted to do a hydrographic study of the area around Fort Smallwood. John also handed out copies of the Deed the County has on the Weinberg Property that was requested at the previous meeting. The Deed states that the property shall only be used for public recreation and open space.

The meeting was then turned over to Sally Malena from Human & Rohde Inc. to go over the 'wish list' of facilities / uses for the parks that the committee had developed to determine the support from each member. Following is the list of facilities/uses and the votes for and against. The members of the committee that were not in attendance will need to vote and send in to be tallied.

List of Activities	For	Against
Swimming	0	9
Boat Ramp	7	2
Kayak & Canoe Launch	9	0
Sailing School	2	7
DNR Police Station	9	0
RV Camping in Fort Smallwood	1	8
Birding Stations	9	0
Hiking/ Biking Trails of various lengths	8	1
Nature Trails	9	0
Historic Buildings Restored	9	0
Including Earth embankment at the Hartshorne Battery & marking the Sykes Battery. Add replicas of guns.		
Storyboards along History Trails & Nature Trails	9	0
Increased opportunities for Children's Playground	9	0
Group Supervised Camping	9	0
Concession Buildings	9	0
Bring back the character of the earlier Park (Merry-go-Round)	2	7
Education/information /Nature Museum	9	0
Overlook Tower (5 Fort Overlook)	7	2
Improve Maintenance Facility	9	0
A Water Spray for the Playground	9	0
Keep Weinberg Park natural	9	0
Clean-up the fresh water pond at Ft. Smallwood	9	0
Provide Storage & a Platform for the Hawkwatch	9	0
Provide Reforestation	9	0
History Exhibits	9	0
Water Trails & linkages to Ex. Trails	9	0
Natural restoration of the East Beach	9	0
Picnic Tables & Pavilions	9	0
Parking Areas & Restrooms near Facilities	9	0
Connector Trail between the two Parks	9	0
Disc Golf	8	1
Equestrian Trails	0	9
Wildlife Rescue Center	0	9
Wildlife Viewing Stations	9	0
Dog Beach	9	0
Kiteboarding Area	9	0

A couple of items came out of the discussion:

1. The committee didn't want any jet skis at the park
2. It was also suggested that an area where people could sit in their cars and look at the water be provided. (Jerry suggested an area facing Wall Cove between the existing

marinas).

There were several suggestions that were made by the committee when we developed the 'wish list' that are programming desires. Those included:

- Park hours extended and open every day
- Label tree species
- Create a Friends Group
- Provide plastic bags for dog waste
- Provide a Hawkwatch Pamphlet
- Maintain Vegetation
- Provide Exhibits of Migrating Birds
- Provide a Paid Hawk Counter
- Advertise the Hawkwatch beyond A.A. County
- Erect & maintain Bird Nest Boxes
- Conduct wildlife forays for monitoring wildlife
- Maintain a checklist of the Birds in the Park
- Maintain a Reference Library on Wildlife
- Have binoculars and telescopes available for visitors
- Direct people to the Hawkwatch area during the season
- Provide Orienteering experiences.

Human & Rohde Inc. will develop a schematic plan based on the uses that received the most votes for the next meeting.

The next meeting will be on January 9th at Downs Memorial Park at 7:00 P.M.
There will not be a meeting in December. Happy Holidays to Everyone!

Sincerely,

Sally Malena
Human & Rohde Inc.

CC. Attendees
Committee Members