

City of Hillsboro Parks and Recreation Parks System Planning Project Community Advisory Committee: Meeting 1 August 10, 2023

Notes compiled by Jamie Stamberger

ATTENDEES:

- 13 CAC members: Alma, Marco, Trang, Krishna, Diane, Calim, Lev, Liza, Shan, Tina, Yasameen/Izzy, Michael, Nezar
- Ryan Stee (City of Hillsboro) – Meeting Lead
- Ping Khaw (PKS International/CELS) – Meeting Facilitator
- Jamie Stamberger (Stamberger Outreach Consulting) – Meeting Facilitator
- Deb Meihoff (Communitas) – Observer, City of Hillsboro Team

SUMMARY:

This was the first meeting of the group. The first part of the meeting centered on welcoming and getting to know one another through a land acknowledgement, introductions, and an icebreaker. Then Ryan Stee and Jamie Stamberger gave presentations to explain the Parks System Planning process and equity focus to present the intended purpose and role of the CAC. Many CAC members were happy about the community and equity focus of the project and are happy to be involved in the CAC. The group agreed to a set of agreements about how to participate in the meetings that will be revisited at each meeting. Quite a few CAC members said this is their first time participating in a group like this. CAC members gave great feedback and ideas about how to best promote the community-wide survey, including methods and modes as well as locations for posting flyers with QR codes. Some are able to help by sharing the survey link to their contacts via email, text, and social media. Jamie asked the CAC to take the survey as a test and email any feedback to Ping by August 14th. Ryan introduced some possible dates for the next two CAC meetings. He will follow up with the CAC with some possible dates by email.

AGENDA AND NOTES:

1. Introductions and icebreaker 5:30-6:00 (All)

2. Overview of the Hillsboro Parks & Rec System Planning project 6:00-6:20 (Ryan)

3. What is the CAC and group agreements 6:20-6:35 (Jamie)

Group Agreements:

The group agreed to the proposed group agreements Jamie suggested. The agreements will be revisited at each meeting of the group.

Agreements included:

- Be present and actively participate
- Turn your video on (as much as you're able)
- Mute yourself until you want to say something.
- Use the chat to add your comments and opinions (please keep on topic)
- Remember there are no right or wrong answers. We want to hear from all of you, so if you haven't said anything in a while, I might call on you.
- No representatives (don't expect a person to represent all of their group)

Diane - likes the ground rules, no right or wrong answers, I would want other people to have an open mind, heart, and ears to at least hear my idea, in return I'll do the same for them, that's how I would think the groups might work really well is if people really heard other people out and give them a chance.

Questions or comments about anything we've covered so far?

Many CAC members positively received the purpose and mission of the CAC and the Parks System Planning effort to engage in a transparent process and meaningfully include diverse communities in the planning effort unlike what the city has done before. Two specifically spoke about this:

Marco -really cool City of Hillsboro is actually considering the community's opinion. Feel honored and privileged to be able to share as part of the community, really cool angle to take. I want to say thank you for listening and giving us a chance as well and working together with all of us as a whole.

Diane - echo that this is a refreshing approach, Ryan said he's not used to doing things the normal dominant community way, I didn't realize that we would have a voice, so this is really nice, a voice heard by the people developing it, sometimes it feels empowering, and it is an honor, so thank you for taking that different approach and acknowledging how diverse our community is. It's awesome that we can all come together and work together and make a beautiful place for us and future generations to live.

Specific recommendations about parks:

One CAC member had a specific request for Hillsboro Parks:

Yasameen - I want to ask or have a complaint about recreation in Hillsboro: it's too crowded, is there a plan to create or divide new one? (for the pool specifically) we had to wait for families to leave so we could get in the pool. Hopefully in the plan you can make to add a new [aquatic center]. I tried to go to another one, but it's too expensive, Hillsboro is very nice, but it is too crowded, we can't swim, we can't move in the pool. The service is great the popcorn is great, the problem is too crowded, especially after 7, that's why we always go early morning and sometimes it's cold.

4. BREAK 6:35-6:40

5. Questions and discussion 6:40-7:20 (All)

Jamie asked the group several questions to gather their initial ideas and opinions.

Have you been part of advisory groups like this before? What has worked and what doesn't work? How would you like to be involved in this group?

- Quite a few had not been part of a group like this before
- Thumbs up from Alma (about how group will work generally)
- Trang – has been in FGs before about products, appreciate what you are doing for community.

We are hoping to get the online survey started soon. What is the best way to encourage your community to take this survey?

- Flyers with QR codes
- Group said QR codes are easy for people to use).
- Hillsboro Hops have them announce it get the mascot to participate
- Text messages and emails from friends and neighbors (some CAC members are willing to share out a text or email with the survey link if we can provide it to them)
- Ryan idea (some agreed): Also use Community Center Passes as incentive
- Social media works well (Facebook, etc)
- One person suggested something similar to the Home Depot survey on receipts

Where should we put postcards and posters?

- Food Cart PODS
- M&M Market Place
- Tree Lighting
- Hillsboro School District (send home with kids to parents)
- Health Fairs
- Events
- Intel: Krishna will check
- Libraries
- Dog Parks
- Signs in Parks
- Coffee Shops

6. Scheduling future meetings 7:20-7:30 (Ryan) Just an introduction to possible date windows. Ryan will follow up by email to schedule next groups.