

Public Meeting and Stakeholder Findings

Precinct 4 Needs Assessment Meeting Results:

March 11, 2008

Lunch Meeting (Pct. 4 Building/Brazoria) –

This meeting was not attended by citizens, instead two park board members and two staff members were present.

- Group discussed the following issues:
 - Brazoria County holds one of the highest number of horse owners in the state, but has no place to ride them
 - A new park could possibly be used as an ATV park part of the week and as an equestrian park the rest of the week
 - Perhaps we should build a trail system for these activities instead of a park (more of a linear park along old highways or railroads)
- Group discussed the following improvements to existing parks:
 - Quintana Beach County Park – boardwalk must be replaced, possibly with Trex boards since they last longer (made out of recycled sawdust and plastic). They would be layered on top of existing boards (1”).
- Priorities as expressed this meeting:
 - Land Acquisition
 - Existing Park Expansion
- Possible Partners for future projects:
 - Not discussed

(Present: Ron McCulley, Parks Board Chairman; Jack Taylor, Parks Board Member; Mark Hansen, Brazoria County Parks Director; Lydia Garcia, Brazoria County Parks Planning and Development Specialist)

Evening Meeting (Pct. 4 Building/Brazoria) –

- Citizens have expressed the following opinions regarding the need in their area.
 - New Park located West of San Bernard River (25 acres for sale north of Sweeny, 10 acres available for donation 1.5 miles from Sweeny on FM 524, several patches of land available on FM1459)
 - Between 50-70 acres of land
 - New Park to include: pavilions, playgrounds (preferably surrounded by baseball/softball fields to watch younger children), soccer fields, football fields, volleyball court, basketball courts, horse shoe arena, fishing availability, lighted walking nature trails with for bird watching, possibly RV sites (camper sites)

- Possible park themes: Multi Use/Sports Complex (must also provide activities for retired persons and for younger siblings to athletes, example: Brenham and West Columbia).
- Citizens would be willing to drive as far as 10 miles to use complex, but would prefer outskirts of town instead.
- Citizens have expressed the following opinions regarding existing parks in their region.
 - Hanson Riverside County Park –Bends in trail and lack of lighting poses safety issues, more large pavilions needed, more water access needed (possibly for canoe launch), expansion of park needed (possibly for ATV usage and RV sites, requiring full staff which may help with safety issues listed above)
 - Boat Ramps on FM 2611; FM 2918 and under FM 521 Bridge (as well as all others on San Bernard River): Boat Ramps need to be more family/fisherman friendly. People without boats need places to fish safely with their families as well. Lights for night fishing are needed, better handicap accessibility is needed, clean restrooms are needed, and picnic tables are needed. (example: Sargent Beach Ramp) Additional land acquisition for boat ramp/fishing is needed on Buffalo Camp Bayou and Oyster Creek
- Priorities as expressed by citizens:
 - Land Acquisition
 - Multi Use Complex
 - Existing Park/Boat Ramp Expansion
 - Boat Ramps made family friendly
- Possible Partners for future projects:
 - Sweeny ISD
 - City of Sweeny
 - Bird Watching Organizations
 - Local Sports Leagues
 - Conoco Phillips/Subcontractors (Tom Rich)
 - City of Lake Jackson (for boat ramps)

(Present: Ron McCulley, Brazoria County Park Chairman; Neal Scogin; Jan and Roy Edwards; Robert and Tena Azbell; Gavin and Christie Myers; Corey and Laticha Dike; Chris Behan; Bryon and Dawn Nallie; Douglas and Michelle Cady; Mark Hansen, Brazoria County Parks Director; Lydia Garcia, Brazoria County Parks Planning and Development Specialist)