

Recap of 9-8-08 Park Visits
Updated week of 11-24-08

Note: all items listed as concerns will be dealt with ASAP even though they are not listed as priorities in the next 30 days.

Simon Moon Park (Mow time 1 ½ hours)

Scott's comments/concerns

- 1 ½ hours to mow site – weekly or as needed
- Sprays weeds around pavilion – as needed
- Blows off concrete – weekly
- Empties trash – weekly
- Would like funding to fertilize and use weed prevention on lawns in spring and fall (estimate \$3000 to \$4500 per year for three parks – Simon Moon, Quaker and Asa Bales)
- Talked about weed sprayer installed on truck, could also be used for a water truck – we have two tanks; would need pump and fittings
- Park needs trees
- Drinking fountains are closed down when weather turns cold
- Park department needs a better blower

Items of concern

- The “No vehicle traffic” sign is orientated to park entrance drive. Should be moved to be orientated to trail.
- Need to talk with Bryan Forkner about water fountain – does it have to be shut off?
- Need to perform a playground safety inspection at both play areas, hazards need to be addressed; and a policy needs to be put in place for inspections to take place on a regular bases
- Mulch levels in play areas are not adequate (major safety issue)
- Dip in side yard should be filled in and seeded – make sure there is not a drainage issue before doing so
- Along trail to Midland Trace Trail connection: weeds coming up in trail need to be sprayed
- Weeds along fence need to be trimmed back
- Need to identify property lines – a shed is sitting inches from the pavement
- Once property lines are known trail maintenance along east side needs to be addressed
- Need to determine future plans for “grave yard”, large dirt pile and old fence
- This park is highly visible and must be a show case, landscaping must be maintained
- Will consultant with Jeremy Miller, regarding planting

- Need to perform a playground safety inspection, hazards need to be addressed; and put in place a policy and procedure for inspection to take place on a regular bases
- Park department need to define a system for reserving shelters in the park
- Lawn maintenance

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Orientating the “No Vehicle Traffic” sign – Scott (done)
- Mulch for playground is a major safety issue, get estimates to determine when it can be done – Scott will provide Melody with 3 estimates (Scott provide measurements but cost is prohibitive at this time)
- In the mean time the mulched area should be raked to build up mulch levels under play equipment – Scott (completed week of 10-20) (done)
- Have Scott Thompson attend the playground safety inspection certification class and become certified – Melody will take care of enrollment (scheduled in March for both Melody and Scott)
- Lawn maintenance this fall and again in the spring – need estimated cost for chemicals to determine if work can be done this fall – Scott (done)
- Meeting with Bryan Forkner to identify water concerns (fall shut down) – Melody will schedule meeting (will be shut off on 11-3) (done)
- (Replaced spark plug- Blower is now working) Get existing blower repaired but if not feasible then get cost estimates on blower needed for park work – Scott (done)
- Additional dirt is being brought in at no cost to the City for the proposed sledding hill
- Street Department is working on the final clean up of the “Bone Yard” in preparation of building the sledding hill
- Two additions trees are scheduled to be planted in the park next week.
- System in place for reserving shelter

Asa Bales Park (Mow time 4 to 5 hours)

Scott’s comments/concerns

- Lawn maintenance – would like a fall/spring program put in place
- Restrooms cleaned every few days
- Trash emptied and pavilion pavement blown off

Items of concern

- On south side of park the planted area needs reworked and replanted then will need daily watering during growing season
- Lawn Maintenance
- Need to perform a playground safety inspection at all play areas, hazards need to be addressed; and a policy needs to be put in place for inspections to take place on a regular bases
- Mulch levels in play areas are not adequate (major safety issue) – Ask Scott to measure and give cubic yard estimate to bring it up to the proper level.
- Tree stumps in open lawn need to be ground down

- Split rail fence needs repaired
- Interpretive sign by Anti Slavery Cemetery needs to be moved so it is handicapped accessible or dusty limestone needs to be brought in to compact the area to make it handicapped accessible
- Wild grape vine needs to be removed from cemetery fence and treated so that it will die back
- All dead limbs and trees cleaned up
- Planted area where the trail splits is a maintenance nightmare – should consider planting a small flowering tree there and mulching the bed
- Fence around skate park need anchored to support poles (I spoke w/ Forkner and he was contacting a fence repairer that does a lot of work for us to give us a quote on repairing the fence. I'll keep you posted on that.)
- There is a drainage problem on trail near the skate park
- A railing needs to be added on the north side of the Anne Kendall Creek where the trail comes very close to the creek beginning point
- all planted beds on the north side need to be replanted with sustainable plants
- Irrigation is needed on the north side to include the lawn and beds
- Entrance beds that contain rocks – remove rocks, fill and plant grass
- Along trail where rocks has been placed – remove rock, fill and plant grass
- The property fence line on the east side of the park needs cleaned up, debris, weeds, limbs and dead trees
- Park department needs to define a system for reserving shelters in the park, shelters need to be numbered and reservation need to be posted
- Restroom locks – make sure there are further problems
- Restrooms remaining open year round
- Cameras not working
- Shelters need to be numbered

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Mulch for playground is a major safety issue, get estimates to determine when it can be done – Scott will provide Melody with 3 estimates (Scott provided measurements but cost is prohibitive at this time)
- In the mean time the mulched areas should be raked to build up mulch levels under play equipment – Scott (completed week of 10-20) (done)
- Perform playground safety inspection – Melody (completed week of 10-27) (on going –done)
- Lawn maintenance this fall and again in the spring – need estimated cost to determine if work can be done this fall – Scott provide Melody with 3 estimates (estimates have been received and lawn was treated week of 10-6)
- Ask Jeremy Miller for recommendations on plantings – Melody (met with Jeremy week of 9-29)
- Meeting with Bryan Forkner to identify water concerns (fall shut down) – Melody will schedule meeting (we met and water will be shut off on 11-3)
- Grapevine removal from fence – Scott (done)

- Split rail fence repair – Scott (to be completed again this week – already repaired in September) (done)
- East property fence clean up – Melody is working on volunteers to do on October 11th will coordinate with Scott (all went well, Scott will finish what volunteers did not complete) (done with help of street department)
- All dead limbs and trees need to be removed – Scott (Melody met with Judd Scott, Vine & Branch; they will give estimate for work that can be completed during the winter. Will mark trees Scott can take care of with help from DPW. This will take place in late fall.) (Met with Vine & Branch and have proposal review 11-25)
- Cost estimates for irrigation on north side (should include cost if we did the job ourselves) – Scott (still getting estimates)
- Make sure IT has the cameras working and recording – Melody (meeting with Stanley 10-28 should be working this week) (cameras are working, recording and able to observe on line)
- Vandalism issues (spray paint and restroom fire) still under investigation, should be wrapped up soon.

Quaker Park – (Mow time 2-3 hours)

Scott's comments/concerns

- Splash Park – maintenance; leaking valves and equipment
- Need benches around splash park
- Turf needs chemicals in spring and fall

Items of concern

- Planted areas need irrigation and replanted with sustainable plants
- Need to perform a playground safety inspection at play area, hazards need to be addressed; and a policy needs to be put in place for inspections to take place on a regular bases-
- Mulch levels in play areas are not adequate
- Water park – must meet with Rob Lambert and Bryan Forkner to discuss chemical monitoring; proper shut down for the season; leaking equipment; repairing valves and other issues related to the splash park
- Also, discuss restroom and drinking fountain – would like to keep them operating all year
- Need a way to identify the shelters – number them and have a covered bulletin board to post who has reserved the shelter
- Lawn Maintenance
- The park needs trees

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Mulch for playground is a major safety issue, get estimates to determine when it can be done – Scott will provide Melody with 3 estimates (Scott provided measurement but the cost is prohibitive at this time)
- In the mean time the mulched areas should be raked to build up mulch levels under play equipment – Scott (completed week of 10-20)
- Lawn maintenance this fall and again in the spring – need estimated cost to determine if work can be done this fall – Scott provide Melody with 3 estimates (estimates were received and lawn was treated week of 10-6) (done)
- Meeting with Bryan Forkner and Rob Lambert to identify water concerns (splash park & fall shut down) – Melody will schedule meeting (met and determine shut off date of 11-3; reviewed problems and permitting issues – Melody follow up with Hamilton County Health Dept.) (done)
- Cost estimates for irrigation of planted areas (should include cost if we did the job ourselves) – Scott (still getting estimates)
- Playground safety inspection – Melody (completed this week)
- Ask Jeremy Miller for recommendations on plantings – Melody (we met and walked park week of 9-29)
- Two Norway Spruce Trees were moved from the Public Safety Building location to Quaker Park. Five new trees will be planted next week.

Maple Glen Park (undeveloped) – (only mows the perimeter – 1 ½ hours)

Items of concern

- WYSA Soccer would like to use this 40 acre site
- need to identify any previous agreements and make arrangements for parking usage at Maple Glen Elementary School
- restroom needs
- If this can be worked out we will need to bush hog and rake the site

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Looking into all the above – Melody (There is no written agreements with any sport organization for this site; soccer may have another option so we are leaving this issue open at this time; we will be bush hogging the site this fall. Restroom would be needed and would ask for the sport organization to install; will try to work out a parking agreement with the school.)

Armstrong Park (undeveloped) – (this area is mowed by the water department)

Items of concern

- WYSA Soccer would like to use this site
- need to identify any previous agreements
- Parking issues

- restroom needs

This site is not a top priority and will be developed at a later date

Natalie Wheeler Trail – (mow time 3 hours)

No concerns at this time; the trail is kept mowed, clear of debris and trash routinely

Freedom Trail Park – (two mowers 8 hours)

Scott's comments/concerns

- Southwest corner of park extreme slope on berm; erosion, grass won't grow, impossible to mow
- Takes 2 people all day to mow
- Turf needs chemicals in spring and fall

Items of concern

- Parking
- Southwest corner of park extreme slope on berm; erosion, grass won't grow, impossible to mow
- Lawn Maintenance; including filling in ruts and seeding
- Small planted areas with 1 bush
- On south side dead bushes need removed and replaced
- South side - One isolated tree near a home with weeds and brush around it
- Not enough trash cans near playing fields should have a minimum of 2 per field
- Removed dead tree near bleachers
- Playing field berms – round up vegetation and plant tall fescue
- No railing on concrete bridge over Cool Creek
- All areas with trees and overgrowth need to be cleaned up as best they can; No trees removed but brush and weeds cut down. The wetland areas should be left alone
- In woods near the lacrosse field clean of debris – old wooden pallet etc.
- All dead trees and hanging grapevines should be removed
- The parking lot planted islands: remove grass and plant flowers – then they must be watered daily during the growing season
- Will need a water truck
- Wednesday morning is when the porta potties are serviced
- Had a report the gates are not closing on time (done)
- Emergency access plan
- Need shade near playing fields
- Future plans for the park: Concession stand/restroom/storage, parking, additional landscaping around playing fields, playground

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Lawn maintenance this fall and again in the spring; includes playing field berms; reworking (may need to add soil and or slope stabilizer) steep berms on south west side of park, removing small planting areas with only 1 bush remaining and plant grass - need estimated cost to determine if work can be done this fall – Scott provide Melody with 3 estimates (estimates received and lawn treatment done the week of 10-6) (done)
- Remove and replace dead bushes (same type) on south side - Scott provide Melody with 3 estimates (completed this week using bushes on site) (done using on site plantings)
- Add minimum of 2 trash cans to all playing fields – Scott (done)
- Remove debris from perimeter of woods near lacrosse field – Scott (done)
- Remove dead trees and grapevines throughout the park where ever in the proximity of park visitors – Scott (Melody met with Judd Scott, Vine & Branch; they will give estimate for work that can be completed during the winter. Will mark trees Scott can take care of with help from DPW. This will take place in late fall.) (meeting with Vine & Branch 11-25 to review proposal for winter project)
- Railing on concrete bridge – Melody is checking with school to see who is responsible for this bridge – if us we will need to construction a permanent railing – Chad design; Scott construct (Scott will need assistance; Will be done in late fall)
- Parking – Melody is meeting with school board members with ideas for additional parking on the Washington Woods Elementary School site; and with Silver Lakes HOA and Willow Creek HOA to review on site options including access points; will continue to follow up with plans with Community Development and Engineering to make sure options can be done. (Had 2 meetings with members of HOA; 1 meeting with school board members; several discussions with the WYSI; plan to follow up with all groups together. Meeting scheduled with everyone on Nov. 5ht) (continue to meeting is HOA's and sports group, next meeting Dec. 4th – plan to have additional options to discuss at that time)
- Scott has done a lot of plant removal in preparation of moving dirt on the southwest berm. As street department personal are available the three berms will be reworked this fall/winter)

Raymond Worth Park – (mow time estimated at 2 hours)

Items of concern

- This location is not being used
- Signage reads “future site of” – signage needs up dated
- Would like to publicize it is open to hiking and horse back riding on existing mowed trail
- Site is ideal for harvesting small trees for other City Parks – Tree Farm

Priorities and who will complete them (in next 30 days)

- Up date our website to show equestrian use is allowed at the park – Melody will get with IT (Met with IT on website – still need to find time to do updates)

- Take future site of off the sign – Scott (the sign is all one piece; it will require a new sign; not in the budget this year) (the sign is all one piece, will require a new sign)

Liberty Park (we did not get to visit this park but will do so in the next month)

Trail Projects Update
November 25, 2008
Submitted by Melody Sweat

Monon Trail – Phase I (146TH – 156TH)

- The construction project for this phase is ahead of schedule. If the weather holds Calumet is planning to have the trail paved (finish coat) in the next two weeks.
- Concrete work is finished
- Pavers will be installed next week at the trail head and parking lot.
- Stone will be installed in the parking lot so it can be used over the winter
- Guard rails will be installed within the next two weeks.
- Utilities are all completed except repairs of the fiber boxes, that should be done next week
- Erosion control will go down and seeding held off until spring
- Pavement markings will be done on next warm day
- Road signs will be installed as soon as they arrive
- Over the winter, electrical will be completed – lighting in parking lot, and flasher sign
- In the spring the ramp and stairs to the restrooms will be completed; all landscaping will be done; all remaining signage installed, parking lot paved; tail amenities installed and the trail will be official open
- Would like to shoot for June 6 (National Trails Day) to be a ribbon cutting for the Monon Trail from 146th to 161st Street.

Monon Trail – Viking Meadows

- Have proposed a management agreement to Doug Wagner, Precedent Development to construct and manage the trail project completing the Monon Trail in the Viking Meadows development. I am waiting to hear back from Doug.
- Some labor in this section will be done by Westfield Public Works staff – guard rails
- Estimated completion date: spring 2009 (in line with phase I project)

Monon Trail – Phase II (161st to SR 32)

- Survey work is almost complete
- Appraisals are being done
- ROW acquisition has begun – we are talking to property owners about donation – this will be a top priority over the next two months
- Trail must be constructed by December 31, 2009

Midland Trace Trail – East Leg (Gray Road to Union Street)

- Design work, engineering, surveys, and 80% of the ROW has been acquired.
- Working with Sanders Glen to acquire their property by donation
- Matt Skelton is preparing the paper work to acquire ROW from the properties donating through zoning commitments
- Next step determining funding for this project