

## Meeting Sign-In Sheet

### Outagamie County

### Plamann Park

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***Outagamie County Meeting Minutes  
Plamann Park  
Rettler Project No. 18.022  
Monday, June 25, 2018***

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Brief project introduction about the existing park site and its uses. Discussion about the Plamann Park planning process, goals and objectives.

**Public input**

What do you like about the park?

- Prepared statement from member of the public read (see attached)
- Natural lowland areas and preservation of natural areas.
- Protecting and enhancing single track, biking, running and hiking trails. Connections to existing systems in the community.
- It is a quiet park, trails, safe, no bikes, pool (pond), and children's farm. Like the current structure, maybe too big, and should have more available to community.
- Maintenance is better recently (Loren, great job).
- Nature, natural.
  - Accessibility and use is down. Specifically Chris Brandt Shelter area, informal use in the area. Beautiful area
  - Invasive species control needed.
- Appleton public Montessori partnership with student groups and park projects.
- Contour of the park, bike, cross-country ski, telemark skiing, hiking, hills, paths, wildflowers all should be accentuated in master plan.
- Accessibility (ADA and access to the park site).
- Quiet, peaceful setting, sanctuary, place to take a break, take a walk, swimming hole, petting zoo (children's farm).
- Good play equipment has dwindled. Strollers struggle on the current paths and path improvement is needed.
- Quiet shelters popular.
- Plamann Park Lake, sand beach, birds, nature, sledding hill, serene, wildlife haven.
- Proximity to Appleton and connectivity through trails to Appleton area communities.
- In the past the warming shelters had wood burning fires, and hot coca for sale, very nice experience.
- Northwest corner wetland, should stay open.
- Pavilion is popular and key to park use, the building should be replaced, and modernized. Modern efficient design.
- Preservation of wooded open space.

- Disc golf course preservation.
  - The current course is clean, well maintained, room for improvements.
- Like the designated trails.
- Topography, natural space, diversity, size of park.
- Interaction of generations through disc golf, well maintained.
- Accessibility: carriages, ADA, access to the water with beach mats.
- Police presence.
- Woodland wildflowers.
- Fitness trail on west wide (past) would be nice.
- Birding.

### Improvements

- Seating benches.
- Help, staff.
- Utility sewer and water upgrades.
- Improve old Apple Creek entrance.
- Erosion on trails, storm water management.
- Designated trails with wayfinding and signage.
- Bike team, single track trails (17 bike shops within 30 miles of Appleton). Partnerships for trails to be maintained by groups.
- Dark sky designated area. Lighting improvements.
- Stream bank restoration, bridge restoration (throughout park).
- Disc golf, the sport has grown. New distances and challenge options on the current course layout, recreation and quality of course. More T pads, angles and pin positions. Not expansion – improvements. Combine 27 holes to be pro level.
- Disc golf erosion safety concerns, bridges and drainage improvements.
- Storm water management and drainage improvements on disc golf.
- Health: Meditation areas for people to achieve 20 minutes a day, roof structure with rubberized floor for yoga, etc.
- Bike trails, designation of trails and trail signage.
- Old tennis courts? Hard court space, basketball, tennis, pickleball and the accessibility to them. Current position of the hard courts is difficult to get to, needs to be adjacent to parking.
- Pickleball.
- Site security: vandalism prevention.
- Prefer forest areas quiet by Chris Brandt. Southeast corner improved access.
- Maintain trails, trail types, screenings, wayfinding (vehicle, paths, and bikes).
- Deer control for increased biodiversity.
- New main pavilion, multiuse, connection to open spaces. Rentable for group and general use.



- Limit hours of use.
- Leashed dog area would be nice.
- Separate hard surface multiuse trails, likes using the roads for running walking etc.
- New layout for separation of vehicles, bikes and runners.
- Connecting to Buboltz?
- Improve incoming storm water form Meade Street. Water backed up to west.
- Pool area (pond) water quality (possible bioremediation), hose off area.
- South facing roof opportunity for solar panels for hot water showers.
- Trail running group looking for challenges.
- Children's farm development improvements family draw.
- Grow the park (acreage).
- Trail connections from north side to Bubolz.
- Mountain bike skills/amenities.
  - Fish Hatchery Trail head, Hartman's Creek, etc.
- Bike and running single track, 3-5 miles would be great.
- Improved public restrooms, building facilities in general (current buildings are obsolete).
  - Serviced by holding tanks, utility and budget issue.
- Why not sewer and water extensions from the City of Appleton?
- Heated pool?
  - Memorial and Labor Day weekend swimming non-existent.
- Lake is popular.
- Fat tire bike winter use.
- Connections to other major trail systems.
- Speed along Broadway is high, consider lowering speed limit.
- Funding, public and outside sources?

**OUTAGAMIE COUNTY**  
**COMMENT CARD**  
*Plamann Park*

**What do you like about the existing park?:**

1. I like the quiet aspects that allows you to feel you have left the city. I'd encourage the forested areas to remain relatively undeveloped – foot traffic, but no bicycles.
2. Many things to do, well used by public.
3. Plenty of space for various activities - mature trees, disc golf, farm, swimming pond.
4. Proximity to Appleton, overall size of the park, topography, natural spaces (woodland, prairie, open spaces), winter use.
6. Nature - please don't fill the quiet space.
7. The feeling of natural sanctuary. Quiet places to hike, run, walk and encounter nature.
8. Cross country ski trails, children's farm, miss the swings at base of shelter and slide by bigger shelter.
9. Variety - trails, open area. We need something for dog owners on the south and/or east side. It is 6 miles from my home to current dog park, one way.
10. Children's farm, play areas, pond, winter snowshoe and ski trails, pavilions.
11. That we actually have a park, location, shaded area.
12. Serenity, and topography but untapped potential.
13. I love the variety of the park in general. The disc golf course has so many "memorable" holes.
14. The woods, the wildflowers, the hills and natural area trails. The roadways for walking, biking and roller skiing. Swimming pond for kids and families.
15. Nature and nature trails, variety of activities, quiet.

### **What improvements would you like to see at the park?:**

1. No bike trails, no dogs. Dog owners like to think they are responsible but not many are. Modernize the shelters if you can.
2. A campground! Playground equipment needs improvements. Swim lake looks old and stale. We live a ¼ mile from the park, but we think a campground would really enhance the park!
3. A campground is desperately needed in Appleton! Playground equipment.
4. Multiuse single track trails with a focus on mountain bike access (including groomed fat bike trails).
5. Keep the vulnerable, wooded areas natural – or at least protected from mountain bikes and running competitions. But improve the walking trails. Connecting to Bubolz would be wonderful.
6. If mountain biking - please segregate trails. I'm ok with mountain biking, but don't let the squeaky wheel distract from the experiences of the current users.
7. Maintain walking and hiking trails in north and southeast woods. A rope pull for the sledding hill.
8. Cross county trails not tracked with snowshoe prints. Groomed cross county trails in winter. Repair/replace tennis courts. Ice rink/shelter. Keep small bridge on trail in good order. Keep it natural - less is often better. Pedestrian entrance not at all attractive anymore. Access to tennis courts, often have to walk through boggy "swamp land" to get to it. Not a fan of bike trails, woods were made for walking. Roads are fine for them, not high traffic (I love to bike). Loud speaker too loud.
9. Paved parking lot, north lot mowed. Better ADA trails. Bridges of some type by the creek. More than 1 container for dog waste throughout the park.
10. Trail reconstruction to include multiuse sustainable trails for mountain biking.
11. Running water in summer, improved walkways - less mud, better way to navigate hills. Need paved parking. S/B larger - too crowded during peak hours. Implement user fee for improvements. Get rid of oldest fencing, regular waste pick up.
12. Mountain biking, mountain biking, and mountain biking. Untapped potential is huge.
13. Possible improvement to current disc golf course with additional tee pads/bridges for 6,7,8. Don't think there is as much issue with bike/hike trails as was brought up. Out in Colorado I went to a mountain bike skill/terrain park. It seemed to consist of flow trails, dirt jumps, single track, sand pits and other obstacles for

riders to “test” out skills on their bikes. I don’t remember this taking up to much space either. The park was near Boulder, CO, maybe Longmont Bike Park?

14. More resources devoted to invasive species removal in the wooded areas (Buckthorn and Garlic Mustard are devastating to wildflower populations). Personal safety concerns: I have several times experienced being followed by men in vehicles while I was walking early morning or at night in park. Need to prevent vehicular traffic except during daytime hours. Also, the sheriff/Grand Chute officers have not been patrolling as they used to. I do not feel safe using park alone early a.m. or evening. Streetlights make it worse.
15. Maintenance has improved, trees in area of old entrance need care and better grass cutting there. Fresher water for pool or replace with pool. Push button faucets reduce chance of water left on. Cut the grass in the area that we reclaimed several years ago, near old entrance (now closed) to the park from Applebrook Road. Playground equipment!! Pickleball added (like Erb Park) and plastic flooring. Garbage buckets at old entrance.



June 20, 2018

Plamann Park Master planning suggestions- as a neighbor, Joy Hagen, 55 Meadow Row Ct 54913

1. The main shelter could be replaced with a building that can be used in all four seasons. Folks would love to be able to rent out a quality building for gatherings, including weddings, and have a place to warm up while sledding and skiing in the winter.
2. Water issues associated with Plamann Lake could be improved, such as the availability of a water fountain and a source of water for hosing off after leaving the sandy beach and before going home. This is a common concern that I have heard about this summer.
3. Water management needs to continue to be addressed, though I know that work has begun as resources have been available. There is standing water behind my home and those of my neighbors who live along the park. Years ago, it would dry up during the summer. In more recent years there is standing water all summer, including thriving cattails.
4. Increased signage for activities and trails throughout the park would be helpful. I often get asked for directions while walking through the park. It has been suggested that we have maps pointing to "you are here" to help orient those unfamiliar with the park.
5. The roads and parking lots need to be rebuilt. Most of the roads are full of potholes and deep cracks.
6. I have enjoyed living adjacent to Plamann Park for over 28 years and I am very thankful for it. Thank you.

Re: Citizen input for the future planning of Plamann Park

I have lived across the street from Plamann Park for 23 years. The park has a special place in my heart as I wander into the forest trails or walk the pavement if the trails are too muddy. I think the green space of the park is truly a gem in Outagamie County and I would like to see it preserved for our citizens and our future generations.

I have some suggestions regarding the use of the green space in the park. First of all, I know there has been some discussion about giving mountain biking a try on the trails. I think this would be a mistake because of the type of dirt soils, especially when wet. There was a 50 K foot race this spring in Plamann Park and the trails have not yet recovered from the deep grooves that were caused by foot traffic. Some of these grooves are "ankle-turners" to hikers. It is my belief that bike tires are more destructive to dirt trails when wet. Bike trails benefit from a sand mix for recovery – like the ones at Hartman Creek SP, where I like to mountain bike; even then, they need to be re-enforced with a stone/sand mix in critical areas by the park service. Mountain bikers often like to bike in muddy terrain and that would accelerate the destruction of the trails. Plus, the use of mountain bikes on the trail will discourage people, especially families with children, from hiking the trails with mountain bikers approaching at fast speeds from the rear. It is a pretty small system to accommodate both activities.

I would also like to address the winter use of the trails. I love to cross-country ski and do so several times a week when we have skiable snow. Even though I live across the street from Plamann Park I do not ski in the park. I find the trails unsafe for the most part. There are dangerous turns at the bottoms of the hills and I find the tracks are quickly 'wiped out'. Without frequent grooming the trails quickly become icy adding to the danger. I would like to suggest that it be considered to turn the trails into snowshoeing trails. Cross-country skiing is an expensive sport in relationship to snowshoeing. XC-skiing requires skis, boots and poles that are quickly outgrown. Snowshoeing is almost one-size-fits-all and only requires a good adjustable binding to fit most personal snow boots. It is something the whole family can do together or with friends. The Park might also even generate some revenue by renting snowshoes.

The pavement of the roads around Plamann Park have deteriorated making it difficult for roller activities - roller skating, roller blading, and roller skiing, or biking for that matter. There are deep grooves and potholes, some of which have been patched but not smoothly, which can easily catch a wheel. There are drainage problems at certain areas of the roads keeping them wet longer. I hope there is consideration to repair and resurface the road within Plamann Park.

Four years ago several local citizens and I formed a Friends of Plamann Park group. We did several projects in the Park with the help of local school and service groups. We chipped the trails by the Chris Brandt Pavilion and the trail nearest to Broadway and Ballard. The work remains evident still today. We did not get the support we anticipated by the park staff or administration and were left to do projects without direction and oversight. I thought I was placed in a compromised position a couple times and decided not to pursue any further projects. I recognize that the staff was limited at that time and that the administration has now changed. I believe that involvement and oversight with the park staff is necessary to have a viable Friend group. There remains a Friends of Plamann Park Facebook page, which is still live but not actively managed and needs to be assumed by another volunteer.

I have hope that Plamann Park will become a haven for citizens, families, and visitors of the Fox Cities, providing recreational activities and green space for all to enjoy. Thank you for giving me this opportunity to express my concerns and give input to the future use of Plamann Park.

Rita Menet  
920-659-1428

To: Outagamie County Board of Commissioners; Property, Airport, Recreation Economic Development Committee

From :Amelila Rugland , 1225 W. Cedar Street, Appleton, Wi, 54914

Re: Plamann Park Master Plan

Date: June 25, 2018

I am submitting this to request that when considering the master plan for Plamann Park, and/ or any improvements to the park that consideration of the impact on the natural heritage be a priority.

Please consider the retaining the creek that runs through the park with plans that prevent erosion and even consider restoration of stream banks . Please also consider maintaining a significant amount of the natural forest so that our residents can enjoy the physical, emotional and recreational benefits of a walk in the woods.

Thank you for your work in caring for one of the jewels of our county; we are so fortunate to have this amazing park.

## New Plamann

NE Section of Plamann is a natural wetland with one of the headwaters of Apple Creek flowing through it. It often has flooded areas following heavy rains, melting snow and thawing of the cross-country ski trail. This stream is augmented by several similar streams originating in the park area including the water now harnessed in ponds in Glacier Ridge development. The creek contains small fish, frogs and several species of water insects showing it is a healthy environment for these species and should be protected. We try to protect such tributaries of the Fox River which flow into our Great Lakes. This small area is home to several animal species: red fox, raccoon, opossum, deer, red and grey squirrels and chipmunks etc. It is a sanctuary for many species of birds and has a returning population of bluebirds in the field area leading down to the wetland.

The present trail is currently used by many groups. During the school year North High School uses it for cross country practice, other schools also use it for running even outside the school year. Montessori school, which is located in Plamann Park, often have the entire school body including teachers and parents walking this trail and using the creek in their nature studies. Many races take place on this trail and individual runners use it from about 6 AM to dusk in summer and cross-country skiers during winter daylight hours.

It has proven difficult to maintain a good surface because bicycles cause ruts in this trail which is exclusively defined for "on foot" recreation. One of the bridges is constantly sinking down into the water and needs a support span that does not catch and hold debris causing the water to rise and wash out its base support.

In order to repair and maintain the park trails and facilities, hiring of additional workers is long overdue. Expensive plumbing repairs are needed in the swimming lake building in order to maintain cleanliness during its current popularity following the new inflatable installation. This should be undertaken before we envision new uses in the future.

## Version 2 Plamann:

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