

Town of Farmington

1000 County Road 8
Farmington, New York 14425

PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN UPDATE COMMITTEE

Monday, September 9, 2024 • 6:30 p.m.

MINUTES—APPROVED

The following minutes are written as a summary of the main points that were made and are the official and permanent record of the actions taken by the Town of Farmington Parks and Recreation Master Plan Update Committee. Remarks delivered during discussions are summarized and are not intended to be verbatim transcriptions. Video and audio recordings of the meetings are available from the Town.

The meeting was conducted at the Farmington Town Hall and via remote video conference.

R = Attended via remote video conference.

Board Members Present: Susan Charland, *Committee Chairperson*
Julie LaRue
Adrian Bellis
Leah Thomas
Larry Potter
Sara Weidenborner

Board Members Excused: Julie Maslyn

Staff Present:
Eric Cooper, MRB Group, D.P.C.
Ronald L. Brand, Town of Farmington Director of Development and Planning
Tim Ford, Town of Farmington Highway and Parks Superintendent
Dan Delpriore, Town of Farmington Code Enforcement Officer

Staff Excused: Steve Holtz, Town Board Member
Mark Cain, Town of Farmington Recreation Director

Attending Public: None [either in person or online]

1. OPEN MEETING

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Chairperson Susan Charland.

2. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 5, 2024, MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Cooper asked members if they had any changes or alterations to the August Meeting Minutes as provided. No changes were requested, and the Committee approved the minutes.

3. STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS UPDATE

Mr. Cooper notified the committee that stakeholder meetings are ongoing. He said Mr. Sousa met with the Town and Village of Victor and plans to meet with the Boughton Park Commission and NYS OPRHP.

Regarding the Planning Foundations Report, Mr. Cooper stated that all relevant plans have been reviewed, and he sees opportunities for alignment with NYS plans. Additionally, as the Genesee Transportation Council Regional Trails Initiative plan is nearly 10 years old, he said that it is likely to be updated in the near future which presents an opportunity for the Town of Farmington to suggest new trail opportunities.

Finally, regarding the Existing Conditions Analysis, Mr. Cooper said he added disability data and median household income as requested by the Committee. He also stated that he has been adding comparable agency reports from the National Recreation and Parks Association (NRPA) so that the Town can evaluate the amount of parks per capita and other similar measures. He stated that, initial review shows the Town in relatively good position, and he would provide those updated documents to the committee at the next meeting.

4. PARKLAND VISION AND IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Cooper reminded the Committee that the Town Board established the Committee with a goal of having a draft document provided to them at the end of 2024. With that deadline and with a public meeting required in between then and the meeting tonight, he said the committee should plan to go to that public meeting with potential improvements the public can review and evaluate.

With that in mind, he presented the committee with aerial images of each of the Town's Parks and images of Town Conservation Areas, lands of interest to park planning, and trails. (*Secretary Note: These maps along with notes from the committee are appended to these minutes*). The images also included the prompts:

- We've Got It and Want to Keep It
- We've Got It and Want to Get Rid of It
- We Don't Have It but We Want It
- We Don't Have It and We Don't Want It
- General Comments

He said that he also provided documents to guide their review like the previously conducted public survey, the goals from the park master plan, and other documents reviewed at prior meetings. He divided the committee up into two groups to review these areas to produce some suggestions and

strategies to improve these facilities. He said the two groups should work together and the full committee would reconvene in 45 minutes to review strategies. The groups then began working through the maps.

60 minutes later the committee reconvened to discuss. The strategies from the combined committee are shown below.

- Farmington Grove Park
 - o Possible Multi-Use Field
 - o Possible New Basketball Court
 - o Add walking Trail around the Park
 - o Add connection to the Auburn Trail
- Beaver Creek Park
 - o Generally, in good condition. Continue maintenance.
 - o Address Geese nuisance
- Mertensia Park
 - o Add more parking for Auburn Trail and Park generally
 - o Add Clear signage for bathrooms so that the public doesn't use the reserved lodge bathroom
 - o Add more shade
 - o Improve the Mud Creek Trail
 - o Connect the adjacent sidewalk to Route 96
- Town Hall Park and adjacent 50 Acre Town Land
 - o Add an additional baseball field
 - o Add a mountain biking trail
 - o Add more parking or fix parking shortage
 - o Add a camping area
 - o Add a sledding hill
 - o Add a walking trail
 - o Create indoor recreation space in the existing barn or tear down and rebuild
 - o Possible space to rent equipment from the barn.
 - o Connect to Hickory Rise
 - o Revisit the plan created by Syracuse University students
 - o Redesign entirety of Town Hall Park and adjacent lands
- Meeting House Park
 - o Maintain as park
- Hickory Rise Conservation Area
 - o Add a sidewalk connection to the Town Park
 - o Needs connectivity to surrounding areas
 - o Create a direct connection to future Lehigh Valley Rail Trail
 - o Improve the crossing at Hook and Collett Roads
- Farmbrook Park
 - o Add tennis and pickleball court
 - o Add full size basketball courts
 - o Ensure camera placement
 - o Create a walking trail in the park
 - o Existing but unused office space should be converted to something usable.
 - o Address the vandalism issue

- Unlock the bathrooms
- Add landscaping
- Improve Accessways to park
- Improve intersection and safety for pedestrians on streets surrounding the parks.
([Possible Speed Table demonstration project?](#))
- Pumpkin Hook Park
 - Add more parking
 - Add cameras
 - Potential opportunity for dog park
 - Ensure bathrooms are ADA accessible
 - Provide ADA paths to upper soccer fields
 - Improve access from Bittersweet Dr.
 - Possible acquire adjacent vacant land and prepare a park master plan
 - Parking is too far from the fields
- Town and Regional Trails
 - Sidewalk connection between Hickory Rise and Town Hall Park
 - Create a North/South connection between Town Hall Park and Route 96.
 - Create a bike route to Pumpkin Hook park and further to Erie Canal Trail
 - Create connecting trails from existing and new neighborhoods to trails.
 - Connect all Town parks to regional trails.
 - Connect Hickory Rise to Auburn Trail
 - Connect Farmbrook Park to Auburn Trail
 - Connect Town Hall Park to future Lehigh Valley Trail

5. OPEN DISCUSSION - COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND TOWN STAFF

Mr. Cooper asked if the committee had additional comments. Mr. Brand expressed his concern regarding future development across the border into the Town of Canandaigua if park demand is not addressed and those new residents begin using Beaver Creek Park in greater numbers.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

The next Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, October 7th at 6:30 p.m., in the main meeting room at the Town Hall. Notice will be provided to the Daily Messenger and posted on the Town's Website (September Calendar).

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Cooper