



Leddy Park Disc Golf Working Group

January 12, 2009

Minutes

Present: Abbi Jaffe, Warren Spinner, Harry Wendt, Patrick Kearney, Joanne Hunt, Matthew Hogg, Nick Hinge, Dan Herman, Greg Jenkins, Brendan Bush, Peter Hess, Lisa Coven.

Desired Outcomes:

-Goal by the end of this meeting series, we will have: gathered input and made solid recommendations (in the form of a document) for the Parks and Recreation Commission. These recommendations will then be taken into consideration.

-3 meetings, 2 hrs each

Meeting One: Jan 12 (3 weeks till next meeting)

Meeting Two: Feb 2 (2 weeks till next meeting)

Meeting Three: Feb 17

Reserved: March 23rd

-The first two meetings are to address the issues and consider recommendations. At the third meeting we will decide on our recommendations. A fourth meeting time has been reserved if needed.

-Goal by the end of this meeting, we will have:

Knowledge about the issues concerning disc golf at Leddy Park so that we can ask questions, and make a plan for getting our questions answered.

Park User Numbers:

Average of 65 users/day for field use from April to the end of October. These numbers were derived from field reservations.

A traffic study was conducted for three weeks in August and counted an average of 500 cars/day entering into the park.

Group members quickly introduced themselves again.

Review the Agenda:

Review the Ground Rules

Review Public Input

It was suggested that a short article be placed in the North Avenue News giving a status update on the group. The group is responsible to communicate back to their

wards/neighborhoods and collect feedback from the issues discussed within the group. Members of the public may also submit written comments to lcoven@ci.burlington.vt.us. It was suggested that Group Members utilize their NPA Steering committee members, the NPA meetings and the Front Porch Forums. NPA information can be found at <http://www.cedoburlington.org/neighborhoods/npa/npas1.htm>

Minutes accepted from organization meeting.

Issue Topics

I. Evaluate park-wide issues that may be exacerbated by the increased number of park users:

- Access to bathroom facilities
- Traffic problems (including parking)
- Littering
- Noise

Alcohol use/ Littering Issues-

- Littering
- Not a 'cooler' sport → active walking
- Tailgating?
- I already hear partying in the park (disc golf has playing *codes*)
- More traffic traveling through might break up current issues with noise and transient camps

Alcohol use/ Littering Suggestions-

- Sign at beginning of course – no glass, littering, keep voice lower, courtesy rules, ethic of pick up trash
- Research other Disc Golf Courses and ask about alcohol use (Brandon has information)
- Recycle Cans
- Goal of Disc Golf must align with Park goals (expectations of using course)
- Disc Golf Group walks course once/week during operation (officially charged?)

Alcohol use/ Littering Questions-

- Is there a current issue with alcohol use already?
- Is there a littering issue?

Access to Bathroom Facilities Issues –

- Don't use the woods → 2 bathrooms open ___ hours
- More people using woods to pee not using facilities
- Pee diluted across '18' holes
- Its going to happen → lets address their issues

Access to Bathroom Facilities Suggestions –

- Signage for bathroom locations
- Rules on websites (parks & BDG)
- Score cards with rules about course/use designated bathrooms
- Pick up score cards at the Arena
- \$ → sell dies and have score cards

- Nature of course design takes you by the bathrooms many times

Access to Bathroom Facilities Questions –

No questions at this time.

Traffic Problems and Parking Issues –

- Parking does not seem to be an issue
- What if a tournament?
 - have to have permission from Parks and Recreation
 - sign up before
 - less people because the course will be closed to casual users
 - have to have 18 holes
- No sidewalk from North Avenue → no room
- Increased traffic makes it unsafe for pedestrians, bikers and other cars
- Peak use → per day in August 200 Waterbury
- Burlington course will be used more than Waterbury
- Noise caused by increased traffic will be heard by people who live near
- Hard to get in and out of Leddy
- Booth ended because it did not cover the cost of the person in the booth
- Increased traffic at shopping center.

Traffic Problems and Parking Suggestions –

- Increase bike parking – hole 1
- Better signage on Leonard Street
- Promoting alternative means of transportation – locals will bike
- Review in a year?
- Pull baskets if needed? } Who will do this? Parks? BDG?

Traffic Problems and Parking Questions –

- Number of car spaces at Leddy
- Reach out to other courses in Urban areas for parking space numbers

II. Evaluate Disc Golf Impacts:

- Impact of the disc golf course on the natural environment (specifically the impact on the forest and the potential erosion problems)
- Impact of the disc golf course on private property
- Impact of the disc golf course on other park users.

Natural Environment Issues –

- County Forester’s letter state that it is not good for the environment to have Disc a Disc Golf Course
- Need to pay attention to the environmental issues
- Compaction of soil
- Damages to tress by discs

- Issues with ravine and erosion (holes 1, 2)
- A lot of run off exists already at holes 14 and 15?
- If this is a rec use park, how do we balance nature and park use → primary use is recreation yet let's minimize impacts
- Alters what the area looks like → Aesthetics/ what are the resources
 - Does adding activities take away from mellower use
- Soil compactions near baskets and tee's
- Lots of flexibility with course design
BDG on board to have disc golf and a healthy forest

Natural Environment *Suggestions –*

- Take photos and reevaluate in a year
- Control and manage on timely basis (who)
- Multiple pin locations (rotating placement)

Natural Environment *Questions –*

- Is Leddy Park at its capacity? (for recreation)
- Define 'active' use (NRPA)

III. Evaluate Disc Golf Benefits:

- Recreation benefits
- Health and fitness benefits
- Economic benefits

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.