

Community Services Advisory Commission

May 13, 2014

Minutes

Commission Members:

Present: Mindy Carr, Derek Graham, Marilyn Baker, Ann Bohman, Mel Ehrlich, Warren Fishman, Christine Gawronski, Stephanie Hall, Kelli Lynn

Absent: None

Staff Members Present:

Matt Earman, Director of Recreation Services
Fred Hahn, Director of Parks & Open Space
Christine Nardecchia, Volunteer Resources Administrator
Kyle Kridler, Management Assistant

Guests:

Eric Krause, 8606 Kirkhill Ct., Dublin

I. Call to Order

Vice Chair Derek Graham called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

II. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

Resident Eric Krause was in attendance at the meeting but was present to provide input on an agenda topic, so this was deferred until later in the meeting.

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Copies of the April 8, 2014 meeting minutes had been distributed by email to CSAC members for review. Mr. Graham asked if there were any revisions to the minutes, and there were none. Ms. Gawronski moved to approve the minutes as submitted, seconded by Ms. Baker. All in favor, the minutes were approved.

Ms. Carr joined the meeting in progress.

IV. Selection of Chair and Vice Chair

Ms. Baker and Ms. Gawronski expressed an interest in serving in either role, and Ms. Carr also expressed interest in continuing her role as Chair, but said she would support the opportunity for others to serve. Mr. Graham moved to elect Ms. Gawronski as Chair and Ms. Baker as Vice Chair, seconded by Ms. Carr. All in favor, the motion was approved.

V. Volunteer Resources Overview

Ms. Nardecchia, Volunteer Resources Administrator for the City of Dublin, provided an overview of her division's activities and the City's volunteer program. She noted that she had reviewed CSAC's proposed Items of Interest list and found that several of the projects overlap with what the Volunteer Resources Division already accomplishes. Ms. Nardecchia explained that Volunteer Resources basically serves as the human resources office for about 3,000 volunteers who perform approximately 50,000 hours of service per year and stated her goal of actually decreasing the number of volunteers and increasing the number of hours served. With only a two person office managing all the volunteers/projects, the goal is to work smarter. Ms. Nardecchia stated that it is not common to have this level of volunteerism in municipalities in the state of Ohio, but more so in coastal regions due to emergency disaster preparedness. However, Kettering, Ohio does have a similar set-up. Dublin strives to be a national model for engaging volunteers throughout the country, and Ms. Nardecchia does spend a lot of time teaching and developing other organizations to model what we do.

Ms. Nardecchia provided a PowerPoint presentation (attached) and provided an overview of Dublin's Volunteer Resources program. She noted that it is not the intent of volunteerism to simply engage but to ensure there is an impact, outcome and purpose; so Volunteer Resources job is to match people to purpose, provide training and prepare them to be ready and involved. We have a learn-and-serve engagement philosophy so that volunteers take greater pride and ownership of the projects they impact. Dublin's volunteers serve in a variety of roles throughout the year including anything from assisting with special events, plantings, river clean-up and water quality measurement, honeysuckle removal, community gardening benefiting the Dublin Food Pantry, or even projects such as testing a new computer program with a citizen interface. Volunteers also engage in numerous days of service throughout the year such as Martin Luther King Day activities and a Community Service Day where volunteers assisted with cleaning up about 50 sites around the City, most of which were the homes of senior citizens, as well as stripping the City-owned former Events Administration house/office of all useful items for donation to Habitat for Humanity before it is razed.

Ms. Nardecchia completed her presentation and opened the floor to questions.

Mr. Fishman stated his confusion about the idea of reducing the number of volunteers and said he would prefer to see more volunteers doing less work. Ms. Nardecchia further explained that it is the intent of Volunteer Resources to train and maintain volunteers and also to share resources or serve as a referral to other agencies. Ms. Nardecchia explained the importance of having leaders for all the volunteer projects, and the Volunteer Resources office with only two full-time staff also has a limited capacity to manage. Ms. Nardecchia also clarified that volunteers who apply are not rejected, but instead they are matched with the best fit even if it involves referring out to another agency.

Ms. Baker asked about the shared resources concept. Ms. Nardecchia provided several examples in Dublin such as the Welcome Warehouse, Dublin Food Pantry, CASA (advocates for children in the court system) and the Special Olympics to name a few.

Mr. Graham referred to the proposed Items of Interest project list and asked how available volunteers are to assist with these. Ms. Nardecchia responded that more notice is better, and the goal would be to establish a service calendar a year out for ideal planning. This helps to avoid conflicts with various projects on the same day.

Mr. Fishman asked about volunteers assisting with projects like locating pianos and delivering them to a storage location. Ms. Nardecchia responded that moving pianos would more likely be a staff role due to it involving heavy lifting, use of vehicles, etc. Planning and implementing such a project would require not only volunteers but also a strong steering committee in a leadership role, such as CSAC, then Volunteer Resources could assist with providing volunteers who are interested in the arts.

Ms. Carr noted that at the last CSAC meeting it was discussed that the role of CSAC has changed in that it would take on more ownership of not only selecting projects for the City to take on, but participate in how they are planned and implemented. After further discussion about the roles of CSAC members, staff and volunteers, Mr. Earman explained that each project will have at least one CSAC member who takes ownership and that person would coordinate with a CSAC staff liaison, define volunteer needs and project implementation, but the specific needs of each depends on the nature of the project.

Ms. Carr thanked Ms. Nardecchia for her presentation on the City's Volunteer Resources.

VI. Determination of Proposed Projects to Forward to City Council for Approval

Mr. Earman stated that resident Eric Krause was in attendance and would like to briefly overview some project ideas for CSAC to consider as part of its Items of Interest list. A detailed description of each had previously been provided by Mr. Krause and emailed to CSAC members for review prior to the meeting

(Eric Krause – Exhibit 1). Mr. Krause was introduced and distributed a summary letter to CSAC members (Eric Krause – Exhibit 2) previewing several projects he believes best serve Dublin residents based on their input. Projects proposed by Mr. Krause included improved Scioto River access and usage as it moves toward Water Trail status; climbing opportunities and options to include a climbing wall and bouldering areas; and specific criteria for an obstacle course to accommodate all ages and ability levels. Mr. Krause also added resident interest in more dog parks or park amenities catering to dogs. Mr. Krause asked that CSAC give consideration to these project suggestions because he believes they are the desires of the community based on his verbal surveys with residents. Mr. Krause questioned what is the best forum to gain assistance from the City in implementing these projects.

Ms. Carr explained CSAC's role with City Council stating that City Council does assign specific projects to CSAC for additional review and recommendation. CSAC also generates ideas and proposes them as its Items of Interest list covering issues or projects and it is submitted to City Council for approval and assignment of CSAC's involvement. Mr. Krause's questioned how much research is done by CSAC to seek the desires of the community and represent that to City Council. Ms. Baker stated that their interview process focused on the importance of CSAC members bringing forth new ideas and believes that process is supported.

Further discussion ensued regarding various climbing structures/ideas including liability issues. Ms. Carr asked how some of Mr. Krause's proposed ideas fit in with what Dublin is currently undertaking. Mr. Hahn provided a status report on several projects noting that the bouldering area was funded for design in 2014, and the project will be submitted in the CIP budget for implementation for 2015. He clarified this is not a "climbing wall" but a bouldering area that does not require ropes with the highest part being 12 ft. tall and includes a special fall surface. The preferred location will likely be in the Coffman Park expansion that will include parking. The planned obstacle course does have design funding in 2014. An additional fishing pier is funded in the City's CIP budget and will be installed at the pond in Brandon this summer.

CSAC members thanked Mr. Krause for his impressive effort and the information compiled for CSAC's consideration.

CSAC members reviewed the Items of Interest list (memo dated October 31, 2013), reviewed status of some existing items and summarized their desires for additional projects as follows:

- Mr. Hahn stated that Ms. Crandall has an intern researching ideas on the River Trail as a starting point for that project.
- Mr. Earman stated that Recreation Services staff is currently working on the Baby Boomer Strategic Plan for completion by late June, and it will be brought to CSAC for review and input.
- Mr. Earman stated that he had hoped to have a preliminary draft of the DCRC Programming/Space Needs Analysis for this meeting, but perhaps it will be ready for the June CSAC meeting.
- Outdoor Fitness Equipment is funded in 2014, and a site selection is underway.
- Mr. Hahn noted that the City did have an intern doing some initial work on the Geocaching Mapping and Registration project in 2013 who is no longer employed at the City, so this project is back to CSAC for any further action.

- CSAC was emailed the Bicycle Friendly Community Feedback Report for Dublin – Fall 2013, that designated the City as a Bronze status and outlined measures to improve cycling, and no further action is required on Bicycle Friendly Community initiatives by CSAC at this time.

CSAC members reviewed the list of additional projects proposed for consideration by Councilman John Reiner (attached C.S.A.C. Projects). Ms. Carr suggested CSAC start by reviewing and ranking items of interest and perhaps deleting others.

Some of the items CSAC felt had already been addressed or did not want to move forward with as follows:

Kick Butt Dublin – Ms. Nardecchia had provided information about how this concept was molded to better fit Dublin needs and was an event that took place with volunteers in Dublin parks this past spring so was removed from the list.

Old Dublin Annual Planting – several ideas were discussed about the intent of this idea. It was noted that Old Dublin has brick paver sidewalks with large planters, as well as lots of landscaping along the roadways. The City does a good job of maintaining these, and it would be difficult to make this a volunteer project. Another idea of creating a flowering tree-lined boulevard, perhaps along 161 west of Sawmill, was suggested, or having an extensive length of roadway planted with flowers. Mr. Hahn stated the City is looking at its Gateways and noted that the Bridge Street District streetscape plan will include 161 as part of that plan. CSAC members did not agree on defining a specific project at this time.

Public Signage in Downtown for Dublin Events – the idea of adding public signage to the future pedestrian bridge in the Bridge Street District was discussed as well as on the existing 161 Bridge. However, given the stringent City guidelines on signage, it was noted that staff are better informed to make such decisions, and CSAC may be wasting its time getting involved. CSAC members agreed to remove this project from its list, but noted that consideration should be given by the City to expanding the existing banner signs used in Historic Dublin into the east side of Dublin.

Ms. Carr asked if there were suggestions for any additional items to add before reviewing and prioritizing the remaining items.

Children's Science Center/Discover Place - Mr. Ehrlich noted the need for both outdoor and indoor activities. Mr. Ehrlich reiterated his idea for a "science center" as he presented at the October 8, 2013 CSAC meeting.

Fishing Education - Ms. Lynn suggested the idea of expanding fishing education and training programs and perhaps even partnering with local sporting goods stores. Mr. Hahn noted that there are approximately 52 ponds in the parks system, and Dublin does not require any licensing to fish. As a point of clarification, he stated that Dublin ponds generally have a base stock of blue gill, bass and cat fish and some ponds may have other fish as well, but there is no "theme" that separates one pond from another. He also noted that Dublin is funded for a fishing pier for the pond in Brandon this year, but there is no current plan beyond that. Mr. Earman added that the Dublin Recreation Center does offer various fishing programs in its camps, but something less structured may be of interest. It was noted that classes have been offered by both Dublin and Washington Township, and the focus may need to be on getting the word out to various HOAs and to the schools to the degree possible. Mr. Earman added that a "communication" element is included as part of the Baby Boomer's Strategic Plan. Ms. Gawronski stated that when promoting fishing programs consideration must be given to whose land the pond is on due to liability issues, but classes could be limited to utilizing City-owned ponds. The concept of respecting the environment and the importance of not leaving anything behind in the parks could also be instilled as part of the educational component. Ideas for promoting the sport were also discussed

such as posting pictures of the biggest catch, etc. CSAC agreed to add the item of working with the City to look at existing fishing education/programs and brainstorm on how to improve and/or promote them.

Given the updated list of proposed Items of Interest, Ms. Carr suggested that CSAC members state their interest in projects they would lead:

- Kelli Lynn – Dog Park and Climbing Opportunities
- Marilyn Baker – Bicycle Improvements/Rentals & River Trail (recreational improvements to the riverfront)
- Stephanie Hall – Dog Park
- Derek Graham – Bicycle Improvements/Rentals
- Ann Bohman – Fishing Education and Children’s Science Center concept
- Warren Fishman – Bicycle Improvements/Rentals, Pianos and Climbing Opportunities
- Christine Gawronski – Pianos and Climbing Opportunities
- Mel Ehrlich – Children’s Science Center concept and River Trail (recreational improvements to the riverfront)
- Mindy Carr – River Trail (recreational improvements to the riverfront) and Geocaching

Ms. Carr suggested that CSAC members do some brainstorming and come back to the June meeting with a brief synopsis on each project. She asked that staff email out the list of who was interested in each project as a reminder.

Mr. Fishman expressed concern that some of these projects could take years and suggested that volunteers be utilized to implement them. CSAC members agreed that the first step would be getting the Items of Interest list to City Council for review and assignment on preferred projects. Ms. Carr also requested direction on whether it is appropriate for sub-committees of CSAC to be meeting outside of regular CSAC meetings with respect to public meeting regulations. Mr. Earman responded that he expected that once CSAC had approval on the Items of Interest from City Council that much of the work, including identifying challenges and creating a strategy to complete the project, would take place in the sub-committees outside of the meetings, then each group would bring back their project reports, including identifying needed staff and/or volunteer resources, to the CSAC meetings.

CSAC members requested that staff present an updated Items of Interest list at the June 9 City Council meeting for approval prior to sub-committee members getting too involved in any project. Ms. Carr requested that this memo to Council also be sent to CSAC members for review.

CSAC members agreed that they would review the approved Items of Interest list at the June 10 CSAC meeting and be prepared to rank projects in terms of scheduling, identifying timeframes to complete, etc. Staff is to provide appropriate materials to assist with this process.

VII. Other Business

Ms. Bohman had been contacted by a resident requesting information about preservation efforts of the natural environment along I-270 where Emerald Pkwy, Ph. 8 is being constructed in Dublin. Mr. Hahn responded that anything within the ROW of the Emerald Pkwy project is being bulldozed. However, on the Holder-Wright earthworks adjacent to it there are land enhancements planned as part of the park development. In addition, he noted that Emerald Pkwy, Ph. 8 post development must comply with all regulatory issues such as EPA clean water controls, etc. Ms. Nardecchia noted that the City did consider plant salvaging at this site and conferred with Dr. Steve Rissing??? at The Ohio State University who conferred with his colleagues about plant salvaging, but when this project was started the ground was too frozen.

Mr. Hahn explained that both last year and this year during the month of May that OSU archeological students are doing field work at the Holder-Wright earthwork exposing them to proper archeological practices in the field. This site is within the Emerald Parkway, Ph. 8 construction zone so artifacts that may have been lost forever are being recovered and become the property of the City of Dublin.

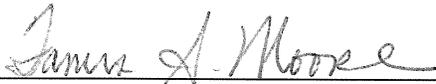
VIII. Next Meeting – June 10, 2014

The next CSAC meeting will be on Tuesday, June 10, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. at Council Chambers. CSAC will plan to review the draft DCRC Space Needs Analysis as well as review and prioritization/ranking of the approved Items of Interest list.

IX. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Tamra S. Moore
Tamra S. Moore, Administrative Specialist



City of Dublin

Office of the City Manager
5200 Emerald Parkway • Dublin, OH 43017-1090
Phone: 614-410-4400 • Fax: 614-410-4490

Memo

To: Members of Dublin City Council
From: Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager 
Date: October 31, 2013
Initiated By: Michelle Crandall, Assistant City Manager
Fred Hahn, Director of Parks and Open Space
Matt Earman, Director of Recreation Services
Re: CSAC – Proposed Items of Interest

Summary

During the Community Services Advisory Commission's (CSAC) October 8 meeting, the Commission discussed items of interest to bring forward for City Council's review and approval. The Commission currently has only one prior assignment yet to be completed. The following are CSAC's proposed items of interest.

River Trail – River trails provide directional and informational signage highlighting points of interest for those canoeing and kayaking along river corridors. Several areas along the Scioto River provide an opportunity for this type of amenity. As part of this assignment, CSAC would research, discuss and bring forward recommendations regarding the establishment of a river trail along the Scioto River.

Baby Boomer Strategic Plan – City staff has been working on the development of a strategic plan focused on recreational programming and volunteerism needs/wants of Dublin's Baby Boomer population. This plan would be brought forward to CSAC for review and input.

DCRC Space Needs Analysis – Staff will be engaging a consultant to complete a space needs analysis of the DCRC, looking at current and future community demographics, current programming statistics, alternate space availability within the community, and local, regional and national programming trends. A portion of this analysis will involve community input and focus groups. CSAC would participate in the community feedback process and also would provide input regarding the final report findings.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment Site Selection – Included in the current five-year CIP is one set of outdoor fitness equipment. Placement of this equipment in an area that will ensure routine use is important. CSAC would provide input regarding site selection.

Geocaching Mapping and Registration – Geocaching is a popular outdoor treasure hunting activity where participants use GPS-enabled devices to navigate to a specific set of coordinates and attempt to discover geocached containers at that location. Numerous geocaching sites currently exist throughout Dublin's many parks and open spaces. As part of CSAC's assignment, the Commission would research mapping/registration best practices and recommend a process and associated policies.

Bicycle Friendly Community Initiatives – Staff is in the process of reviewing feedback from the League of American Bicyclists related to the City's recent Bicycle Friendly Community application. This internal working group plans to draft a multi-year plan to continue the City's efforts related to creating a bicycle friendly community. Input for this plan would be gathered from former Bicycle Advisory Task Force Members, Bicycle Ambassadors and Consider Biking. A final draft of the plan would be brought forward to CSAC for review and input

Recommendation

Staff is recommending approval of the Community Services Advisory Commission's proposed assignments. Should you have questions regarding this memorandum, please contact Fred Hahn at 410-4706 or Matt Earman at 410-4568.



Community Services Advisory Commission

October 8, 2013

Minutes

Commission Members:

Present: Mindy Carr, Mel Ehrlich, Derek Graham, Christine Gawronski, Todd Keiner, Steve Stidhem

Absent: William Sherman

Staff Members Present:

Michelle Crandall, Director of Administrative Services

Matt Earman, Director of Recreation Services

Fred Hahn, Director of Parks & Open Space

Guests:

none

I. Call to Order

Ms. Carr called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

None

III. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Copies of the June 11, 2013 and the September 10, 2013 meeting minutes had been distributed by email to CSAC members for review. Ms. Carr asked if there were any comments or revisions. There being none, Ms. Gawronski moved to approve both sets of the minutes as presented, seconded by Mr. Keiner. All in favor, the June 11, 2013 and the September 10, 2013 minutes were approved.

IV. Review Items of Interest List and Discuss Potential topics to present to City Council

Ms. Crandall explained that the commission has already completed all of the assignments on the 2013 Items of Interest list, except the topic of reviewing public art guidelines. This task was assigned by Council and Sara Ott is the staff liaison assigned to this project. Sara will provide more information as it is available. This project has not been high priority at this time, so it is not ready for the commission to review at this time. The task of reviewing the public art guidelines will be carried over to the 2014 items of interest. The commission needs to start thinking of new assignments for 2014 to work on. Staff has discussed a few topics for the commission.

Baby Boomer's Strategic Plan

Mr. Earman notified the commission that staff has been working on a strategic plan to better engage the baby boomer's age group. Staff has been working on the demographics, focus groups, programming and marketing. Once the strategic plan is complete, staff would like to bring it to the commission for review and comments. The boomer's age group consists of those born from 1945-1965.

River Trails

Mr. Hahn said the City is working towards a river trail. It has yet to be determined if it will include only City landmarks or areas outside of the City limits. This river trail will include various points of interest that will be identified throughout the City to easily access and visit while on the river.

There will be various landings and put in/take out points along the Scioto River. One location will be along Riverside Drive in the park under I-270. Another area, which is in the planning stages, will be constructed next year within Amberleigh Park. This commission will be asked to provide input and ideas for the river trail.

Bicycle Friendly Community

Ms. Crandall said the City of Dublin has tried three different times to obtain the designation for a "bicycle friendly community" and this last time we were approved a designation at the "bronze" level. Staff will be announcing this at the October 14th Council meeting and the media release will be on October 15th. There are still some recommendations from the Bicycle Advisory Task (BAT) Force that need to be discussed and implemented. Staff will continue a work plan for the next few years so that we can resubmit for a silver status next time. We still have some work to do as far as infrastructure, connectivity, racks, repairs, etc. This commission will provide input and review the work plan also.

The question was raised as to why there are some locations that have paths and bike lanes. Ms. Crandall said some cyclist want to be able to ride on the roads instead of a path. This is also a part of the criteria in becoming a bicycle friendly community.

Ms. Crandall said there is no longer a BAT Force in existence, but there are still some participants that are interested in helping when needed. We may ask some of these individuals to work with CSAC when topics of discussion come up in this group.

Community Recreation Center Space Needs

Mr. Earman said staff is working on a comprehensive feasibility study for the Dublin Community Recreation Center. This is to identify the future space needs for the recreation center to include the demographics, trends of the industry, etc. over the next 10-15 years. Staff will also look at what the private sector is doing. This will be an opportunity for this commission to provide valuable input and also to review the draft report once complete.

Outdoor Fitness Equipment

Mr. Hahn said funding has been approved for the outdoor fitness equipment in 2014. Mr. Hahn passed around a brochure with information regarding different types of equipment and also an example of what Circleville, Ohio has added in their park system. The outdoor fitness facility in Circleville is comparable in cost to the funding approved by the City. Staff would like the commission to think of suggestions for possible locations. Staff is looking more at a cluster of equipment similar to Circleville, rather than having it spread out. Some of the desired criteria for the first set of fitness equipment would be to have it in a high visibility location, with parking already in place and access to bike paths. The surfacing would more than likely be a loose rubber surface rather than poured in place, due to the cost.

Mr. Stidhem commented that Kaltenbach Park has a great facility and seems to be used often. He asked if staff has any locations in mind. Ms. Crandall also commented that Washington Township has added some fitness equipment in Homestead Park also. Mr. Hahn replied that staff has discussed the area by the recreation center where there is overflow parking. It is very close to one of the most commonly used bikepaths.

Mr. Graham asked if that would help or hurt the idea if the recreation center is so close. Mr. Hahn replied that there are many path users that are not recreation center members. He was not really

sure how the rec. center would affect the outdoor equipment usage. Mr. Earman commented that one thing to keep in mind with placing it so close to the recreation center is that instructors may be more likely to want to schedule usage of the equipment for classes. We want to encourage the public to use it for everyday use rather than programming it.

Ms. Gawronski commented that Avery Park would be a great location. There is already parking available, heavily used bikepaths within the park and it would be nice for parents to be able to use this type of equipment while their children are at soccer practice, etc. They will be in the same location as their children. Mr. Hahn commented that Avery was a good location also because there is already a built in user group.

Mr. Ehrlich said the fitness equipment in Circleville is considered a specific destination point. People go there specifically to use the equipment.

Mr. Stidhem also added that this type of feature would be great to put in a park with a climbing wall. When the commission discussed obstacle course, fitness equipment, etc. we discussed that it needed to have the "fun factor" and the equipment itself doesn't sound like it would be exciting, but add a climbing wall and it would make it a fun destination point for people to go to.

Ms. Carr commented that the Bridge Street Development would be a great location. Mr. Hahn said it would be, but staff has it in the budget for 2014 and that development won't be ready for a few more years. If this idea is well received, staff could look into adding it there also when it is developed.

Mr. Hahn also commented regarding the Bridge Street Development Plan, there will be an open house for the public on October 22nd at OCLC regarding the public improvement along with developer's proposals. Mr. Stidhem asked if staff could provide a brief overview for the commission at the next meeting.

Mr. Stidhem also commented that M.L. Red Trabue would be a good location for fitness equipment. There seems to be some open space available with a bikepath and available parking.

Ms. Crandall commented that staff would provide a map for the commission and we can further discuss locations at another upcoming meeting.

Mr. Hahn also added that budget will not be available until January 2014, so we still have some time to make decisions on locations. He asked the commission to think about some other locations and we can bring the topic back up for further discussion.

Discovery Place

Mr. Ehrlich provided photos and brief presentation on the idea of the City partnering with COSI to build a Discovery Place in Dublin, Ohio similar to the one located in Charlotte, SC. Charlotte built one in 2010 and it has such a positive outcome they constructed another one in 2013. He encouraged everyone to visit the website: <http://www.discoveryplace.org/>. It is a two-story building which has many different elements for children including gardening, fire station, automotive center, arts/crafts, shows, doctor office, brick plant, Nascar section. He would like to see something like this in Dublin. Businesses could help fund it. Fees are \$8.00 person, including children and there are memberships that range from \$100 - \$130 (For one location or both). There is not food at the Discovery Place and free parking.

Ms. Crandall said staff could approach COSI and see if they have any interest in something like this. She does not feel the City will move forward with this type of project, as it seems to be more of a private based business. She also commented that Mr. Earman works with COSI regarding programming at the recreation center also.

Mr. Earman added that staff has been working with COSI and there have been some very successful programs. He said adding more programming through COSI could also be a part of the feasibility study recommendations also.

Geocaching

Ms. Carr said her husband has been working with Mr. Hahn on geocaching. She wanted to know if the City was interested in pursuing this and if so, this could be a topic for this commission to provide input for.

Mr. Hahn said the City is interested. This is a topic that needs to be further explored and there needs to be some formalized guidelines regarding this. There has been an interest in this and staff often gets requests to place items in our parks, but we really need to set some guidelines and restrictions for safety reasons. There are some great unfamiliar areas within parks to place items, but there are also some dangerous areas such as cliffs, etc.

Ms. Crandall commented this also could be worked into the recreation programming also. The Dublin Arts Center has had great response to the Riverbox program.

Mr. Earman commented that the City needs to provide permitting for it and keep an inventory so it doesn't get out of control.

Mr. Hahn concurred with Mr. Earman. There need to be controls in place and restrictions for safety reasons. A good example is Indian Run Falls. We don't want someone placing it in a dangerous location and have others venture in these locations looking for it. We need policies in place and we also need to promote it. This commission could help develop policies and guidelines.

Water Quality

Ms. Gawronski said a few years ago CSAC discussed water quality on the west side of the river. She has heard there are issues with the properties on the east side of the river. She thought maybe this commission should revisit that topic.

Mr. Hahn commented that there has been stream analysis done on the east side of the river. In the near future there will be some type of presentation on water quality including the stream analysis. The City is revisiting the strategies of the surrounding areas. Not sure when the presentation will be ready, but there could be new information sometime soon on current analysis. Ms. Carr asked if we have available time if the commission should revisit this topic. Ms. Crandall said she is not sure if Council would want to re-open this topic for discussion.

Ms. Crandall said she would get the compiled list out to the commission. She plans to present to Council at the October 28th Council meeting for approval.

V. Next Meeting – November 12, 2013

The commission discussed assigning specific items of interest to commission member. If there is some research involved it works well to assign to a specific person to get the research done, but

everyone can provide input on the topics. The commission will discuss in more detail at the November meeting.

Mr. Earman said the soccer field use policy will be present to Council at the November 4th Council meeting, so staff is planning to present to the commission at the November meeting. Mr. Stidhem asked if staff has requested input from the public. Mr. Earman commented that these are similar to the agreements already in place for soccer. These policies are consistent with the City's policies regarding other services. The objective is to accommodate the recreational needs and Dublin residents first.

VI. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:



Marja Keplar, Administrative Assistant

J. Reiner

C.S.A.C Projects

1. Piano's Downtown:
 - Find Sites (get approval from property owners.
 - Select pianos off of craigslist.
 - Inspect pianos
 - Deliver to site
 - Contact Warren Fishman
2. Dog Park Improvements:
 - Inspect Dublin dog parks.
 - Analyze improvements –Bark Park catalogues or equal.
 - Make recommendations.
 - Presentation & Council Funding
 - Call Erin Gibbons 563-3655
3. Kick Butt Dublin
 - Follow Columbus format (change name).
 - Get council fundraising.
 - Purchase grabbers, bags and shirts for volunteers.
 - Contact: Kick Butt Columbus for details and operational specifics.
4. Bicycle Improvements:
 - Analyze what will move us from bronze to silver status.
 - Read follow up report on our last entry.
 - Contact: Michelle Crandall.
5. Old Dublin annual planting:
 - Analyze potential for annual plantings down High St. (Charlevoix, Mich. Is our resource).
 - Do we have enough color with the planters or will this idea be a big improvement.
 - Annual plantings followed by street thank you BBQ.
 - Streets are lined by petunias one foot back from curb.
 - Coordinate with all Dublin Garden Clubs & Downtown Dublin businesses seek funding for plants from City Council.
6. Climbing Wall:
 - Decide what area that Dublin owns that would make an excellent climbing wall site.
 - Go on a climb with Eric Krouse he will provide everything.
 - Analyze cost for wall site improvements make recommendations to council.
 - Contact: Eric Krouse 906-4677
7. Bike Rentals:
 - Find out the who, what and costs for a bicycle rental drop system.
 - Report to Council.
8. Geocaching:
 - Find out what it takes to make Dublin a Geocaching mecca.
9. Public Signage in Down Town for Dublin Events:
 - Where could or should a large downtown banner be displayed off of a building to announce upcoming Dublin events (i.e. President Cups, DAC Garden Party etc.).
10. Recreational Improvement to River Front.
 - Fred Hann

(ERIC KRAUSE)
Exhibit 1

To Dublin Community Services Advisory Commission (hereinafter referred to as "CSAC")

My name is Eric Krause. I am a Dublin resident who has been working for the last two years to encourage Dublin to change its designs and policies for Dublin parks to include more and better opportunities for active adults and active families. I had spoken to PRAC before it was merged with CSAC so some of you may know me if there are former PRAC members currently on CSAC. I was contacted by Councilman John Reiner and asked if I would provide information regarding climbing opportunities I had collected to assist CSAC as it is developing a project list of items to look at. After looking at CSAC's possible project list from a recent meeting I would like to make corrections to item #6 "Climbing Wall" and also offer some additional suggestions.

For those CSAC members who do not yet know me I would like to first very briefly describe where I am coming from and some of the things I have been working on over the last two plus years. For many years I have driven outside of Dublin with family and neighbors for outdoor recreational opportunities. I was frustrated by the fact Dublin had an okay path system but its 56 parks and open spaces had playground equipment for children 12 years old and younger but virtually nothing for active adults and active families beyond a few tennis courts. For years I had been keeping an eye out for activities that would work in Dublin's parks and open spaces. I had that "Aha" moment over two years ago when I first saw the climbing wall in downtown Columbus at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park. That day there were over 45 people of both sexes and ages ranging from 6 years old to people in their 60s using the climbing wall. I was impressed that complete strangers were talking to each other and helping each other in a way that I have seen elsewhere but had not seen in central Ohio. The climbing wall is frequently at or above capacity and users include residents of Dublin. The Scioto Audubon climbing wall has been cited many times nationally and even internationally as setting a great example of what can be done in a municipal park and what a great success it is. That got me started on seeing what improvements could be made to our parks and if there were other Dublin residents as frustrated as I was over the lack of opportunities for active adults and families. There were and still are frustrated Dublin residents.

Over the last two years I have talked to many Dublin residents and spent many hours doing surveys and research. After initially trying a more formal survey approach I found I got more useful and individualized information by conducting my surveys in a more conversational and less formal manner. Between the results of my surveys and my research I proposed that Dublin change its park policies to include more activities for active adults and active family members of all ages. I further proposed that Dublin start by moving forward on four projects. One project was a climbing wall based upon the overwhelming success for both sexes and all age groups of the Scioto Audubon Park climbing wall. A second project was an obstacle course specially designed to be fun (reference "Fun Theory") and most importantly, accommodate all ages and ability levels simultaneously. A third project was bouldering areas to be incorporated into neighborhood parks (ultimately maybe four in each quadrant or area of Dublin depending upon the success of the first one). The fourth project was to bring access to the Scioto River up to "Water Trail" standards (reference ODNR Water Trails and my PRAC 2/20/13 meeting sheet for more information).

After my presentations to City Staff, PRAC, and City Council the status of those four projects are as follows: A climbing wall is something to be considered as a future possibility. An obstacle course was included in the last Dublin CIP but I have some concerns and feel CSAC should get involved as soon as possible (see under suggestions below). A bouldering area was funded in the last Dublin CIP but again I have some concerns and feel CSAC should get involved as soon as possible. Regarding the Water Trail idea, after having spent more than three hundred hours in research, surveys, meetings, and presentations over the last two plus years I did not personally have the time to move the Water Trail idea forward. Note, Dublin Arts Council (hereinafter "DAC") has expressed an interest in part of that project (see suggestions below for more information).

In my suggestions to CSAC below I will reference each of these four projects as well as add a few comments to some items on the CSAC project list. It is my understanding that CSAC is the group acting on behalf of the City of the Dublin to make recommendations help improve Dublin and make sure the interests and needs of Dublin's residents are met. It is with that belief I am making the suggestions below. Item number references are from the

“C.S.A.C Projects” (sic) list I found online from the last CSAC meeting. In several areas I have used the term “Low hanging fruit” to denote something that CSAC may be able to accomplish very quickly and with limited funds.

Item: “6. Climbing Wall”. This is not what I understood from Council John Reiner when he asked for my help. I just spoke with Councilman Reiner to see if I misunderstood or if item number 6 was worded incorrectly. He said item number 6 was not correct. First I would like to point out my name is Eric Krause, not Krouse. Also I would prefer my personal number of 614-889-0181 be used instead of my work number of 614-906-4677 as listed. Any possible climbing wall is a longer term future consideration and does need to be looked at by CSAC when looking at climbing interest and needs in Dublin but there are several other more immediate climbing issues and opportunities to be looked at first or concurrently. There may be an opportunity to identify a natural rock climbing area that could be made usable even yet this year. Note, the Bridge Street District consultants have suggested natural rock climbing for Dublin in addition to artificial structures. The bouldering area funded in the last Dublin CIP is slated to be built near the Rec center but doing so may sabotage results and perceived interest in the need for climbing activities in Dublin. The funded bouldering area is a neighborhood park scale project (It accommodates about 8 to 10 users at once with about 30 minutes average usage time. It has limited climbing opportunities compared to a climbing wall. It must be located in proximity to a large number of residents in a one to one and one-half mile 360 degree radius and have maximum number of paths leading to it. Residents will not travel far or take too much time to get to a neighborhood scale bouldering area. Reference “Dublin bouldering area considerations and criteria” for more information.) The site selected is completely wrong for a neighborhood park scale project but would be perfect for a city scale project such as a possible future climbing wall (A climbing wall can accommodate 40 or more people at once. Typical usage time is one to two hours and has many different climbing opportunities. Anything besides “bouldering” usage of the climbing wall requires users to bring safety equipment which means many users come by car. A climbing wall is a city wide drive-to scale activity where people are willing to spend more travel time to get to the wall. It should be centrally located such as near the Rec center.) *Although the current proposed location for the funded boulder area will not be as big a fiasco as Upper Arlington’s bouldering area, it will not likely be as well utilized as if it were properly located which will led some people to mistakenly believe there is not much need for similar activities because of generating a false negative through marginal utilization.* The “Low hanging fruit” for CSAC to look at is if there are natural climbing opportunities in Dublin that could be utilized immediately and also make certain the location and design of a funded bouldering area is appropriate for serving as many Dublin residents as possible.

Item 6 should say something like:

6. Climbing opportunities and options:

- Explore potential natural climbing opportunities that can be made quickly available to residents.
- Look at already funded bouldering area to make certain it successfully serves needs of residents.
- Maybe consider a rappelling option or area.
- While doing the first two items explore the interest and possibility of a future climbing wall.
- Contact Eric Krause at 889-0181 for first-hand experience and information already collected.

Item: “7. Bike Rentals:” Please consider changing this to something like: “Making bikes available to residents and visitors through rentals or other means:”. The metrics may not be at a “critical mass” quite yet for a CoGo (or similar) type bike rental stations but there are several other options that could be implemented immediately that would be great for residents and visitors. By limiting the topic to only bike rentals there may be missed opportunities for “Low hanging fruit” immediate results ideas. I would like to share some ideas I have if that is one of the projects CSAC looks at.

Item: “8. Geocaching:” Would this be in conjunction with DAC’s already pretty well developed geocaching project or would this be a separate project? By the way, have CSAC members seen the internationally registered Geocoin DAC gives to people who successfully complete their geocache challenge? Their registered Geocoin looks nice.

Item: “10. Recreational Improvement to River Front.” Please consider changing this to something like “Improvement and access to river front and recreational use of the Scioto River”. I heard from a very large number of residents during my surveys they want nicer river fronts and better access to the river, especially for the purpose of

kayaking and canoeing. I was surprised by how many Dublin residents have kayaks (probably in part due to the abundance of inexpensive kayaks now on the market). A large number of residents are frustrated Dublin has a beautiful river right in the city but residents have to drive elsewhere due to poor access and other issues. I have kayaked Columbus's recently published Olentangy Water Trail and also the Dublin portion of the Scioto River. The Dublin portion of the Scioto River was far more pleasurable yet Dublin has done nothing to promote kayaking or canoeing on its portion of the Scioto River. Please refer to the "Dublin PRAC meeting 2/20/13 points to be covered." if you would like some additional information. I have information and research I can pass along to a CSAC subcommittee if this becomes a CSAC project. DAC contacted me after my presentations and was interested in working on publishing Dublin's portion of the Scioto as a Water Trail but since any infrastructure improvements would have to come from the City of Dublin I suggest CSAC gets involved. I hope that is the case because there is "Low hanging fruit" in this area. Dublin's work on access to the Scioto River underneath I-270 should be done soon, and with the planned river access at Amberleigh Community Park Vista Ridge, there is enough infrastructure already in place, or will be done soon, to start serving the needs of Dublin residents yet this summer. If work is started on now to bring everything up to accredited Water Trail standards it would likely take until next year to finish. However, it would be relatively easy to make a few accommodations now and promote a "Dublin Scioto River Trail" right away (usable by this summer). While this happens I would hope Dublin continues to work on getting the official Water Trail designation in the near future (ideally by 2015 so Dublin does not get too far behind in serving its residents).

I would like to suggest CSAC get involved in the obstacle course that was funded in Dublin's last CIP as one of its projects. This one is time critical since it was slated to be designed and constructed this year. PRAC and Dublin residents were excited very excited by the final concept I worked out. That is because the idea for the obstacle course came from residents during my surveys and the concept was continually modified and improved by subsequent resident surveys until it met needs of a great majority of Dublin residents. The final concept was exciting to every resident and group I spoke to. Please see the "Dublin obstacle course considerations and criteria" pages if you would like more details in this regard. The reason I am concerned is that even though an obstacle course has now been funded, a person in Dublin's administration said "Eric, it may not be everything you would like it to be". Unfortunately that statement indicates they and Dublin may have missed a critical point. The obstacle course was not my idea and is something I will not be able to fully use due to my surgeries and limitations. It is not about what I want it to be. It is about what the residents wanted it to be. The ultimate concept of the obstacle course was what Dublin's residents collectively said they wanted in order to meet the needs of the greatest number of residents. I am worried that it appears Dublin is going to ignore input from residents and build something that will fail to serve the needs of the majority of Dublin residents. The recently opened obstacle course at the Scioto Audubon Metro Park in downtown Columbus (the same park that has the climbing wall) is an example of one that falls far short of serving a majority of people. It appears to have been designed by Metro Parks without listening to potential users. It would be a sad day for Dublin residents, and also a waste of their money, if Dublin's obstacle course turns out only somewhat better than the Scioto Audubon obstacle course. The Upper Arlington bouldering area fiasco is an example of municipal planners not listening to its residents and what not to do. It is crucial the new Dublin obstacle course meet as many of the currently unfilled needs of its residents as possible without excluding residents of various ages and abilities (or for other reasons and issues). I hope that CSAC is able to help ensure the obstacle course is a success for a majority of Dublin residents.

CSAC may want to consider reaching out to REI and its customers for additional input and involvement. REI is locating its second store in central Ohio near Dublin due in part to many REI customers that are Dublin residents. Note: REI has already donated \$10,000 to Columbus for their Water Trail.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like any of the information I have collected or research I have done over the last two plus years.

Respectfully,

Eric Krause

Dublin resident

Phone: 614-889-0181 Email: kee@wowway.com

Dublin PRAC meeting 2/20/13 points to be covered.

My name is Eric Krause, my address is 8606 Kirkhill Ct

While talking to a large number of Dublin residents about outdoor recreational opportunities for families and adults I heard from many residents they would like better access to the Scioto River, especially for kayaking and canoeing. I was surprised by how many Dublin residents had kayaks but were frustrated by poor access locally to the Scioto River.

The Scioto is a great resource and with all of our parks bordering the river we have the opportunity to take advantage of it by making it into a Water Trail that would be fun for whole families and active adults.

Water trails are: Define and define "Water Trails" for PRAC members (Note, the water is the trail, no land trails along water but has access at parks and public lands).

Please see the ODNR website for a complete description of Water Trails and the Kokosing Water Trail link as an example of a great Water Trail.

Although a Dublin Water Trail would be relatively short in length we have enough Parks and other amenities in place to make it a half-day of fun for the entire family.

Imagine putting in below O'Shaughnessy Dam

First stop is Amberleigh with the children's village and musical instruments.

Next is Amberleigh south with its River Box

Then Donegal Cliffs with another River Box and the old quarry

Next stop at Scioto Park for another River Box, to have a picnic, and learn about Chief Leatherlips

After that stop at DAC with its River box and to see art during DAC open hours.

Proceed to Dublin Spring Park with its River Box and have an ice cream cone treat while visiting old Dublin

Finally pull out at the Kiwanis Riverway Park

A large number of our residents are not aware of all of our parks along the river, the River Boxes, or other amenities and historical items along the route.

Patty from the Rec center said their Scioto Park kayak and paddle board programs are extremely popular and always full. She feels this would be a great idea.

David from DAC is excited about the synergy and awareness this would raise about River Boxes, art and history, and also history of the area.

We have almost the entire infrastructure needed already in place or planned for. I am asking PRAC to support completing details to make this Water Trail a reality for the benefit of our residents.

If the trail is developed to ODNR standards they will pay for the signage and brochures as well as list it on their website.

Thank you for your time.

Eric Krause

Dublin bouldering area considerations and criteria.

Observations:

There is a poor participation and attendance by whole families and active adults in our many parks beyond usage of the Dublin path system. Residents appreciate the playground facilities in our parks and the organized sports opportunities for their children but many residents are frustrated by the lack of outdoor recreational activities for adults and families of differing ages wanting to do things together beyond the path system. There is playground equipment for young children in our parks (mostly 12 and under) but almost no interesting active opportunities for older age groups.

Proposal:

Start addressing some of those needs by building one or more bouldering areas within Dublin's park to provide healthy outdoor recreational activities for residents of all ages, in particular whole families and active adults. First location would serve to determine if residents would like more boulders in the parks closest to them in different areas of the Dublin. Climbing walls have been successful in other cities/communities when done very well. The cost of the first boulder area may be higher than additional projects but it is extremely important to accommodate and challenge absolutely all skill levels in first project.

To ensure great success it is imperative to meet or exceed each and every one of the following considerations.

Boulder considerations:

- The boulder and boulder areas need to be done very well to be highly successful, or not at all (don't do it half-way).
- It must be designed to be inviting and appeal to all ages.
- Do not just use standard "playground boulders" (residents already frustrated by equipment only for young children)
- All ages and ability levels must be accommodated
- All ages and all ability levels must be mentally and physically challenged
- All ages and ability levels must find enough room for growth and improvement to encourage frequent/repeated use
- Must score high on the "Fun Factor Scale" to involve people and keep people returning time and time again
- Must be "natural rock" in look and feel to meet Dublin's standards of quality (not look like playground equipment)
- The first boulder area especially must make an great impact in the community (for initial awareness and success)
- Must be enough usable/climbable area so people are not frustrated when coming to use it but it is too crowded
- Must not be like the ill conceived boulder garden in Upper Arlington (would sabotage current and future efforts)
- After initial location, others could be smaller/less expensive (appropriate to number served in a neighborhood park) but a second "full challenge" boulder area would be desirable for active professionals in a future "Corridor" park.

Site considerations:

- Must have great accessibility from largest number of homes in 360 degree circle via the most number of paths
- Must have accessible parking at first site for residents farther away. Cars are not primary access for bouldering. (Parking and car access will be less of a factor in the future if boulders are installed in other neighborhood parks)
- Must have high visibility from paths and roads (visibility and word-of-mouth are the introductory advertising)
- First site needs to be near organized sports to get the word out quickly to the most number of people (versus SAP)
- The boulder(s) needs to be on highest ground in the park. Otherwise looks diminutive/unimpressive. ("King of the Hill" concept. Higher ground provides better view/sense of accomplishment. Better site drainage too.)
- Beautiful/natural looking area around the boulder to be harmonious with the boulder and Dublin standards.
- Orient boulder with difficult faces towards any homes (more beautiful and almost passive use due to climb speed)
- Provide harmonious/natural seating (see quarry stones at SAP) to rest and for others to just observe (fun to watch)
- Inform, educate, and challenge people with covered message board like at Scioto Audubon Park (SAP)
- Create synergy & handle over-capacity. (Example: On back of message board have a basket with a volleyball to use) (If near volleyball courts that are underutilized try to create synergy by providing a volleyball to enhance court use)
- Provide ample bicycle racks very near bouldering (and volleyball courts) to encourage bicycle use (promote a healthy lifestyle and demonstrate we are a bicycle friendly community).
- Make the bouldering and volleyball area very family and adult friendly (maybe even include one or two picnic tables).

Respectfully, Eric Krause

Dublin obstacle course considerations and criteria.

Observations:

Dublin lacks outdoor recreational activities in its parks that have/promote high levels of participation in age groups other than children. There needs to be more to promote improvement in fitness in all age groups of residents. Providing fun and challenging activities designed for simultaneous use by all age groups and ability levels would result in a dramatic increase in park usage by families and adults. Many residents have watched shows like "Wipeout" and "Amazing Race" and say it would be fun to do things seen in those shows. Obstacle course events like "Warrior Dash" are highly successful and are a source of inspiration. Old style fitness stations/courses do not pass the "Fun Theory" test and are not often used. Dublin needs to do more to get all ages of residents outdoors and involved in healthy activities that promote improvement in fitness. FYI, I refer to the "Fun Theory" in many of my proposals. The aspect of the Fun Theory I am referring to specifically is where good/healthy behavior and activities are made to be so much fun that people change their behavior for the good because it is fun to do so and they want to, not because they are told to do so. This is a far more successful approach in bringing about change and improvement. An excellent example of that can be seen in the Piano Stair video clip on the www.thefuntheory.com website. For years people have been told it is healthier to take the stairs instead of an escalator/elevator but the majority of people still took the escalator/elevator. In this example that behavior was changed by making it so fun to take the stairs that now a majority of people use the stairs instead of the escalator and are healthier for it.

Proposal:

Build an obstacle course with elements inspired by the proven success of "Warrior Dash" (and other successful obstacle courses) as well as the popularity of shows like "Wipeout" and "Amazing Race". Do not exclude any group of residents (either age, ability level, and/or other issues). Dublin City Council and Staff has a rare opportunity to take those concepts that have already been proven to be successful elsewhere and combine them into an obstacle course that would be truly unique by catering to and providing opportunities for all age groups and ability levels at the same time. I say "rare" because in my research I have not found anywhere where an obstacle course exists that has multiple side by side routes to allow users of different ages and ability levels to compete together at the same time. Some City Council members feel Dublin's parks are already the best they can be but that is not true. Here is an opportunity to draw state and national attention to Dublin for being on the cutting edge in providing outdoor recreational fitness opportunities for all residents of all ages. This would be accomplished by building a unique obstacle course designed for all age groups and fitness levels to use simultaneously/together.

To ensure great success it is imperative to meet or exceed each and every one of the following considerations.

Obstacle course considerations and criteria:

- The overall course, each route, and each obstacle must pass the "Fun Theory" test
- No residents shall be excluded (age, ability, distractions, excuses, etc)
- All age groups and ability levels need to be accommodated.
- Since no one route can accommodate all ages and abilities. Multiple routes are required (minimum of 4 routes).
- All ages and ability levels must be mentally and physically challenged to allow for growth and repeated use. Do not "dumb down" the routes. Make each route very challenging for its designed age/ability group. Consider replicating some elements of the "Navy Seals" obstacle course as seen on YouTube for the (single) for the "Black Diamond" level route (Multi pitches could be devised to replicate Navy Seal elements above desired fall heights)
- Each route has a different "feel" or "flavor" to it. When talking to residents a few liked the idea of simply scaling up/down each route with nearly identical elements but sized appropriately for designed age/ability levels. Most residents like the idea of each route being different enough to add interest and allow warm-up and cool-down laps/routes for some users without just repeating the same elements/route on a smaller or larger scale.
- Provisions need to be made to enable parents with toddlers to participate (several options available between recreation center, a few supervised hours/days per week, nearby short term daycare, etc)
- Should have a central toddler area more accessible to course participants than outside people. This would be fairly minimal since children maybe 4 or 5 and older would be encouraged to use the first ring of the obstacle course. It should have a "pool" style gate and fence to prevent toddlers from wandering onto the course routes
- The course has to not be like the old style work out stations/courses (Make as fun and interesting as possible)

- Must have parallel routes for side by side use by people with different abilities to include all residents and create a sense of different ages/abilities competing and participating together (higher participation level when “social”)
- Each route must have two lanes for side by side and head to head competition and to allow passing opportunities for faster individuals without affecting either persons timing of their performance (there should be some economy of scale in construction for dual elements with some common structural components).
- A unique/custom timer system is essential that accommodates multiple individual users and side by side users on each of the routes (I have ideas I would like to share for the timer design, features, and operation).
- Grass lanes/medians between the routes to allow resting, observing, coaching, and bypassing are required.
- The ability to exclude/bypass elements on each route. (skills focus, maintenance, physical restrictions, etc)
- Each element of each route is somewhat “modular” to allow custom routes, maintenance, and updating of elements (in conjunction with the bypass medians). What is meant by “custom routes” is where some people may have an issue for example that would preclude using certain elements on a route but they could still use the other elements. Another example might be seniors just trying select a few elements to improve balance. There could be information sheets worked out for many options such as “To focus on xxxxxxxx use Blue route elements 2, 4, 6, 9, 15, and 19” or “Bypass 8 & 12 If xxxxx” for example.

Obstacle course site considerations and criteria:

- Should be as centrally located in Dublin as possible. There would likely only ever be one course of this design in Dublin although Dublin might consider an “over the hill and through the woods” more natural type obstacle course in a park like Scioto Park or the possible new District River Park after the success of this course is proven.
- Location should be as visible as possible to cars, bicyclists, and pedestrians to attract attention and participation.
- Must be out of line of sight from houses (less visual appeal than natural rock boulders for example)
- Must be accessible to as many residents as possible via the path system.
- Must be highly accessible to other residents via streets and with good parking and access.
- Should encourage bicycle use with great bicycle parking
- Must have restrooms and water very close by
- Maybe have nearby toddler facilities (such as near recreation center)
- Have enough land/room for one or two expansion routes in the future
- Note: currently the land near where Post Road was changed near the recreation center appears to best meet much of the criteria already.

Do not “dumb down” the course design or the course elements to fit within a pre-determined budget. Design a course that meets or exceeds every one of the considerations and criteria listed above to ensure its overwhelming success. If the cost estimate of the final design is above the desired budget consider a “financial challenge” along with a physical challenge for individual residents, families, neighborhoods, subdivisions, corporations, public employees, small businesses, etc to help finance the project and promote usage of the obstacle course. At PRAC and everywhere else I have talked about this concept for an obstacle course people have been overwhelmingly enthusiastic and have also given me the sense people and businesses would be willing to donate money to finance items/elements to make this a reality. When there is something as tangible and beneficial as what this obstacle course would be for people I believe contributions/donations will flow more readily than for other projects, especially when it is realized it is a unique design with truly something for everyone.

I ask that I be involved in some parts of the design process due to the amount of information I have collected while researching this project.

I believe there is room and opportunity for more than one obstacle course in Dublin. The first course must be a unique design to reach and involve the largest number of residents possible (all age groups and ability levels) and be located centrally such as in Coffman Park not far from the rec center. A possible second course with only one or maybe two routes would fit well in Scioto Park or possibly the possible Bridge Street Corridor River Park with a target group more focused on young active professionals for example.

Respectfully, Eric Krause

(ERIC KRAUSE
Exhibit 2)

Dublin CSAC 051314 meeting points

My name is Eric Krause and I live at 8606 Kirkhill Court.

I hope the members of this Commission had time to read the letter I submitted last week regarding recreational needs of active residents and the status of projects I have been working on over the last two plus years.

For brevity I am not going to go over the details in that letter but I would be happy to answer any questions this Commission may have.

In that letter I made suggestions for projects I believe this Commission should get involved with based upon what I heard from residents. For this Commission's first projects it may want to consider ones where residents could see quick results, maybe even yet this summer. I labeled them "Low hanging fruit" in the letter the way a national bicycle organization did when reviewing Dublin's status as a Bicycle Friendly Community.

Based upon the input I heard from a large number of residents the Scioto River access and usage should be at or near the top of the list. Besides a longer term goal of Water Trail status there are things this Commission can do to make sure the Scioto River is more usable and accessible by residents yet this summer.

Another item that should be a high priority project is researching "Climbing opportunities and options". Some of the details and reasons for its urgency as a project are addressed in my letter.

I have a question for this Commission. Where in Dublin's governmental structure is the best opportunity to make sure residents interests are addressed and needs are met? I thought that might be this Commission based on its name but if this Commission only considers what the City Council tells it to it will likely miss many of the interests and needs of the residents in the community. (City Council and city staff "don't know what they don't know".)

I am especially concerned about this regarding the bouldering area and obstacle course that have been funded by Dublin. It would be a sad day for Dublin residents to end up with projects like the bouldering area fiasco Upper Arlington built or the obstacle course in the Scioto Audubon Park. After working to make a bouldering area a reality in Dublin I feel I am in the awkward position of having to go back to say maybe it should not be built due to it being so incorrectly located.

Many ideas need investigation and research up front before City Council or City Staff can even decide if a project or idea merits consideration and further investigation. What Commission or group in Dublin serves that purpose?

Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,
Eric Krause

BICYCLE FRIENDLY COMMUNITY FEEDBACK REPORT

DUBLIN, OH

Fall 2013



The League of American Bicyclists has designated **Dublin** as a Bicycle Friendly Community at the Bronze level, because Dublin exhibits a sustained commitment to cycling. The reviewers felt that there is still “room to grow”, but that notable steps are being made in the right direction.

Reviewers were very pleased to see the current efforts and dedication to make Dublin a great place for cyclists.

Below, reviewers provided key recommendations to further promote bicycling in Dublin and a menu of additional pro-cycling measures that can be implemented in the short and long term. We strongly encourage you to use this feedback to build on your momentum and improve your community for bicyclists. There may also be initiatives, programs, and facilities that are not mentioned here that would benefit your bicycling culture, so please continue to try new things to increase your ridership, safety, and awareness!

To learn more about what federal funds are available for bicycle projects, use Advocacy Advance’s interactive [Find it, Fund it tool](#) to search for eligible **funding** programs by bike/ped project type or review the same information as a [PDF here](#).

The key measures Dublin should take to improve cycling:

- Have your Bicycle Advisory Committee (BAC) meet more frequently to support the implementation of the recommendations below, and to ensure that the bicycle program is held accountable by citizens.
- Appoint a staff member Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator or create a new position. A Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator works with advocates, state and local elected officials, business leaders, media, law enforcement, public health officials, transit providers and the general public to build partnerships providing leadership and vision so these groups may embrace and implement facilities and programs that increase the number of residents that are safely bicycling and walking. This staff person should also work closely with the Bicycle Advisory Committee, review development proposals to ensure that local bicycle/pedestrian requirements are incorporated and to assess bicycling and walking impacts, develop and implement educational and promotional programs, write grant proposals, serve as the public contact for bicycling/walking inquiries and complaints, educate other staff about state and federal facilities standards and guidelines, and coordinate with neighboring cities, transit agencies and other departments to implement policies and projects. See [this report](#) on the importance of Bicycle & Pedestrian program staff.

Benefits of Further Improving Dublin for Cycling

- Increase the amount of [high quality bicycle parking](#) at popular destinations throughout the community. Residents of multi-family dwellings should have access to high quality bike parking as well. Regulations that require bike parking, e.g. for new developments, can secure private funding. See the bicycle parking ordinances of [Madison](#), [Wisconsin](#) and [Santa Cruz, California](#). Also consider adding some [artistic bike racks](#) to enhance the sense of place of your community.
- Install an on and off street [bicycle wayfinding system](#) at strategic locations around the community to allow visitors and residents to find destinations more easily and to raise awareness among motorists that bikes can be used for transportation as well.
- Since arterial and collector roads are the backbone of every transportation network, it is essential to provide designated bicycle facilities along these roads and calm traffic speeds to allow bicyclists of all skill levels to reach their destinations quickly and safely. Ensure to work with surrounding communities to connect these key routes. On roads with posted speed limits of more than 35 mph, it is recommended to provide protected bicycle infrastructure, such as [cycle tracks](#), [buffered bike lanes](#) or parallel 10ft wide shared-use paths.

Further increasing bicycle use can [improve the environment](#) by reducing the impact on residents of pollution and noise, limiting greenhouse gases, and improving the quality of public spaces; [Reduce congestion](#) by shifting short trips (the majority of trips) out of cars. This will also make communities more accessible for public transport, walking, essential car travel, emergency services, and deliveries; [Save lives](#) by creating safer conditions for bicyclists and as a direct consequence improve the safety of all other road users. [Research](#) shows that increasing the number of bicyclists on the street improves [bicycle safety](#); [Increase opportunities](#) for residents of all ages to participate socially and economically in the community, regardless of income or ability.

Greater choice of travel modes also increases independence, especially among [seniors](#) and [children](#); [Boost the economy](#) by creating a community that is an attractive destination for new residents, tourists and businesses; [Enhance recreational opportunities](#), especially for children, and further contribute to the quality of life in the community; [Save public funds](#) by increasing the efficient use of public space, reducing the need for costly new road infrastructure, preventing crashes, improving the health of the community, and increasing the use of public transport; [Enhance public safety and security](#) by increasing the number of “eyes on the street” and providing more options for movement in the event of emergencies, natural disasters, and major public events; [Improve the health and well being](#) of the population by promoting routine physical activity.

- Offer Cycling Skills classes, Traffic Skills 101 classes and bike commuter classes at least annually or encourage a local bicycle advocacy group or shop to do so. Ideally, the instruction should incorporate a classroom portion as well as on-road training. The classroom portion of Traffic Skills 101 is now available [online](#) as well. For more information visit: www.bikeleague.org/programs/education/
- Bicycle-safety education should be a routine part of public education, and schools and the surrounding neighborhoods should be particularly safe and convenient for biking. Work with your local bicycle groups or interested parents to expand the Safe Routes to School program to all elementary schools, middle schools and high schools. For more information, see the [National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's Safe Routes To School Toolkit](#), visit www.bikeleague.org/programs/saferoutes/index.php or visit www.saferoutesinfo.org.
- Host, sponsor and/or encourage a greater variety of social and family-friendly bicycle-themed community events year-round, such as a bike movie festival, an “increase-your-appetite” Thanksgiving community ride, a dress-like-Santa community ride before Christmas, a bicycle fashion show (stylish alternatives to spandex), a Halloween bike decoration competition, a bike to the arts event, etc. Work closely with local bicycle groups, bike shops and schools. Provide appropriate safety measures such as road closures or police escorts.

- Encourage local public agencies, businesses and organizations to promote cycling to the workplace and to seek recognition through the free [Bicycle Friendly Business program](#). Businesses will profit from a [healthier, happier and more productive workforce](#) while the community would profit from less congestion, better air quality, public bike parking in prime locations provided by businesses, new and powerful partners in advocating for bike infrastructure and programs on the local, state and federal level, and business-sponsored public bike events or classes. Your community’s government should be the model employer for the rest of the community. See what the Colorado-based New Belgium Brewing Company is doing [here](#).

Menu of additional recommendations to further promote bicycling:

Engineering

Low hanging fruit and fast results

- Allow access to suitable public lands for off-road bicyclists. If you lack challenging topography, singletracks in flat or slightly hilly areas are great for beginners and children, and ramps can be built for more experienced users. Ensure to connect any off-road trails and facilities to your bicycle network.

- Adopt a [Complete Streets](#) policy and offer implementation guidance. By adopting a Complete Streets policy, communities direct their transportation planners and engineers to routinely design and operate the entire right-of-way to enable safe access for all users, regardless of age, ability, or mode of transportation. This means that every transportation project will make the street network better and safer for drivers, transit users, pedestrians, and bicyclists – making your community a better place to live.
- Consider passing an ordinance or policy that would require larger employers to provide shower facilities and other end-of-trip amenities.
- Implement [road diets](#) in appropriate locations to make streets more efficient and safe. Use the newly created space for bicycle and pedestrian facilities.
- Implement more transportation policies and programs that encourage alternative transportation choices, such as no minimum car parking standards or paid public parking to complement your community's infrastructure investments and programs.

Long Term Goals

- Continue to expand the bike network and to increase network connectivity through the use of different types of [bike lanes](#), [cycle tracks](#) and [shared lane markings](#). On-

street improvements coupled with the expansion of the off-street system [will encourage more people to cycle](#) and will improve safety. Ensure smooth transitions for bicyclists between the trail network and the street network. These improvements will also increase the effectiveness of encouragement efforts by providing a broader range of facility choices for users of various abilities and comfort levels.

- Develop a system of bicycle boulevards, utilizing quiet neighborhood streets, that creates an attractive, convenient, and comfortable cycling environment welcoming to cyclists of all ages and skill levels. Learn how to do it at <http://www.ibpi.usp.pdx.edu/guidebook.php>. Use the [Bicycle Boulevards section](#) of the NACTO Urban Bikeway Design Guide for design guidelines.
- Make intersections safer and more comfortable for cyclists. Include elements such as color, signage, medians, signal detection, and pavement markings. The level of treatment required for bicyclists at an intersection will depend on the bicycle facility type used, whether bicycle facilities are intersecting, the adjacent street function and land use. See the [NACTO design guidelines](#) and the 2012 [AASHTO Guide for the Development of Bicycle Facilities](#) for recommended intersection treatments.

- Develop solutions to physical barriers in order to provide convenient bicycle access to all parts of the community.

Education

Low hanging fruit and fast results

- It is essential to make both motorists and cyclists aware of their rights and responsibilities on the road. Continue to expand your public education campaign promoting the share the road message.
- Team with a local bicycle group or shop to offer regular bike maintenance workshops at parks, libraries, community centers or at events. A short tutorial on how to change a flat tire can empower a person to ride their bike more often.
- Increase your efforts to ensure your bicycle education programs reach women, minorities, non-English speakers and the disabled.

Encouragement

Low hanging fruit and fast results

- Expand encouragement efforts during Bike Month in partnership with local bicycle advocacy groups. Proclaim May (or a month with mild and dry weather) as Bike

Month. Host, sponsor and encourage bicycle-themed community events, campaigns and programs. Increase your efforts on Bike to Work Day and Bike to School Day. Ensure to widely advertise all bicycle-themed community events and programs. For ideas and more information, visit

<http://www.bikeleague.org/programs/bikemonth/>.

- Consider offering an 'Open Streets' type event, closing off a major corridor to auto traffic and offering the space to cyclists, pedestrians and group exercise events. Check out more on Open Streets: <http://openstreetsproject.org/> and LA's [CicLAvia!](#)
- Set up and promote a bicycle-themed community celebration or social ride each time a new bicycle related project is completed. This is a great way to show off the community's good efforts and introduces new users to the improvement.
- Ensure that visitors and residents are able to rent bicycles in your community.
- Work with local non-profits to establish more youth recreation or intervention programs centered on bicycling, such as an [Earn a Bike program](#).

- Design and publish a local bike map in paper and online, addressing diverse needs and skill levels (commuter, recreational cyclist, sport cyclist, mountain biker etc). The map should outline the existing on and off-road bicycle network by infrastructure type and skill level (if applicable). In addition, the map could identify the locations of landmarks, greenways, low-traffic streets, public restrooms, water fountains, bike routes, designated scenic routes, bike stations, bike repair stations, bike parking and transit stations. Take a look at Pittsburgh's award-winning [bike map](#).
- Develop a series of short (2-5 mi.) (themed) loop routes around the community and provide appropriate way-finding signage. Integrate these routes into local bike maps. See what Arlington, VA has done at <http://www.bikearlington.com/tasks/sites/bike/assets/File/Arlington-Loop.jpg>
- Enforcement practices could also include positive enforcement ticketing. Police officers could team up with local stores to reward safe cycling practices by handing out gift certificates to cyclists who are “caught” following the law.
- Adequately light your extensive path system to make it safer to use for bike commuters and children walking and biking to school before dawn and after dusk.
- Pass more laws that protect cyclists, e.g. implement specific penalties for motorists for failing to yield to a cyclist when turning, make it illegal to park or drive in a bike lane (intersections excepted), implement penalties for motor vehicle users that ‘door’ cyclists, ban cell phone use while driving, specifically protect all vulnerable road users, formalize a legal passing distance of 3 feet, and make it illegal to harass a cyclist.

Enforcement

Low hanging fruit and fast results

- Ask police officers to use targeted information and enforcement to encourage motorists and cyclists to share the road safely. This could be in the form of a brochure or tip card explaining each user's rights and responsibilities. Have information material available in Spanish, if applicable.

Evaluation/Planning

Low hanging fruit and fast results

- Routinely conduct pre/post evaluations of bicycle-related projects in order to study the change in use, car speed and crash numbers. This data will be valuable to build public and political support for future bicycle-related projects.

- Work with your mountain bike community to develop a plan for off-road access to increase opportunities for [singletrack](#) riding within the community.

For more ideas and best practices please visit the [Bicycle Friendly Community Resource Page](#).

The League of American Bicyclists – Bicycle Friendly America

Over the past 10 years, the League of American Bicyclists has worked with hundreds of engineers, government officials, and bicycle advocates to identify the characteristics of bicycle friendliness. Using that expert knowledge, they've determined the specific projects, policies, programs and plans to help turn ideas into action. The League's Bicycle Friendly America (BFA) program provides a roadmap to improve conditions for cyclists at the state and local level.

With comprehensive online applications, the program collects data on activities within five broad areas:

1. **Engineering:** Physical infrastructure and hardware to support cycling
2. **Education:** Programs that ensure the safety, comfort and convenience of cyclists and fellow road users
3. **Encouragement:** Incentives, promotions and opportunities that inspire and enable people to ride
4. **Enforcement:** Equitable laws and programs that ensure motorists and cyclists are held accountable
5. **Evaluation:** Processes that demonstrate a commitment to measuring results and planning for the future

In 2013, the City of Dublin was awarded the Bronze medal award level which will remain current for four years and will be up for renewal in 2017. Along with this designation came a Bicycle Friendly Community Feedback Report providing key recommendations to further promote bicycling in Dublin along with a menu of additional pro-cycling measures that can be implemented in the short and long term.

On the following page, please find a list of the 2013 Platinum and Gold Winners of the Bicycle Friendly Communities along with links to their program and bikeway master plan (where it applies). Also attached is the Bicycle Friendly Community Feedback Report for Dublin in response to the 2013 fall application.

Current Bicycle Friendly Communities 2013 – Platinum & Gold Winners

Community:	State:	Award Level:	Population:	Website Address/Bike Master Plans:
Boulder	CO	Platinum	101,500	Boulder, CO
Davis	CA	Platinum	63,722	Davis, CA
Fort Collins	CO	Platinum	143,986	Fort Collins, CO and Fort Collins - Master Plan
Portland	OR	Platinum	593,820	Portland, OR
Ashland	OR	Gold	20,232	Ashland, OR
Breckenridge	CO	Gold	4,540	Breckenridge, CO
Cambridge	MA	Gold	105,162	Cambridge, MA
Corvallis	OR	Gold	53,165	Corvallis, OR
Crested Butte	CO	Gold	1,497	Crested Butte, CO
Durango	CO	Gold	16,887	Durango, CO
Eugene	OR	Gold	142,681	Eugene, OR
Jackson & Teton County	WY	Gold	18,251	Jackson, WY and Teton - Master Plan
Madison	WI	Gold	221,551	Madison, WI
Minneapolis	MN	Gold	379,499	Minneapolis, MN
Missoula	MT	Gold	66,788	Missoula, MT
Palo Alto	CA	Gold	64,403	Palo Alto, CA and Palo Alto - Master Plan
San Francisco	CA	Gold	739,426	San Francisco, CA and San Francisco - Master Plan
Scottsdale	AZ	Gold	217,385	Scottsdale, AZ
Seattle	WA	Gold	563,374	Seattle, WA and Seattle - Master Plan
Stanford University	CA	Gold	13,315	Stanford University
Steamboat Springs	CO	Gold	12,088	Steamboat Springs, CO and Steamboat Springs - Master Plan
Tucson & East Prima Region	AZ	Gold	512,023	Tucson, AZ