

Lakeside Park Visioning Exercise, 11.18.14

After the October meeting, committee members were asked to “Describe your vision of Lakeside Park in 20 years” and submit it to the City Clerk or Committee Facilitator. The same question was posted on the City website for anyone in the public to respond to.

Committee member responses were printed and distributed anonymously to committee members at the November meeting. Each person read through the statement and highlighted what it said with regard to Features, Activities Descriptors, Users, and Feelings of Park Users that would be true in the future. They were also asked to pull out any Measurable Indicators of Success that were noted along with any other Stand Out Comments that caught their attention.

More than 30 responses were received to the question on the City website, and three committee members read through those and pulled out the same information. Ideas in all of these categories were posted on the sticky wall as noted below.

FEATURES - Committee

- Restaurants
- Boating Business
- Sports Business
- Nice walkway with lighting
- Farmers Market
- Ice Rink with warming house
- More Events – amphitheater
- Ice Boat Regatta
- Updated Petting Zoo
- Additional Shelters (Picnic)
- Additional Amusement Rides
- Beach
- Bandstand
- Year-Round Art Displays
- Food Stands
- Holiday Decorations
- Dog Area
- Update/Enlarge pavilion for year round use
- Eateries w/Waterfront, Bandstand, Kayak, Canoe, paddleboard rentals, Café
- Improved Infrastructure, More bath/parking/transportation
- New Piers, Docks, Rides-Kids, Boat Rides, Kayak rentals, Waterfront restaurant
- Restaurant, Concerts, Free Boat Docks, Natural Amphitheater
- Children’s Museum,
- Wi-Fi Access
- Camping
- Seasonal attractions – Holiday lights and festivals
- Beach, Dining, Boat rental, tourist shops

- Splash Pad
- Modern Banquet Area
- Playgrounds

- Exercise Areas
- Nature Center
- Remodel Pavilion; accommodate larger groups

FEATURES – Public

- Boat Launch
- Fish cleaning
- Christmas Lights
- Bike Path
- Fast Food (Gilles/A & W)
- Remodeled Boat Houses with shops, etc. on top

- Dining Restaurant
- Playground Rides
- Beach
- Pets petting zoo
- Boardwalk Shops
- Nature
- ATV Snowmobile Trail

ACTIVITIES – Committee

- Walking/Biking Path along lakefront
- Events
- Sport Events
- Water Activities
- Summer concert series, picnicking, boating, variety of eating, ice skating, ice kiting
- Paddleboarding, Swimming, Fitness classes, Snowshoeing, Cross country skiing
- Snowmobiling, Fishing, Eating-higher end, Watching sunset, Listening to music
- Jogging
- Kayaking

- Exercise
- Walking
- Biking
- Canoeing
- Canoes, Kayaks, Boats
- Ice skating, snow shoeing, yoga, virtual golf, kickball
- Fishing, dining, swimming, boating, sledding
- Horse drawn carriage rides
- Fitness events, sporting tournaments; running, tough mudder, Picnics
- Music festivals, Entertainment
- Artwork in Park

ACTIVITIES – Public

- Fitness Runs
- Sports: Softball, soccer, etc.
- Biking
- Festivals, Concerts
- Fireworks
- Fishing/Boating
- Public Dining, Picnic, Concessions
- Public Festivals, Amphitheater/concert, Beach, Rides/Playground
- Fishing/Boating/Fireworks
- Something for all ages

DESCRIPTORS – Committee

- Beautiful Outdoor Space
- Natural Beauty - Keep & Enhance
- Free, Accessible, and desirable
- Hub
- Relaxing
- Year-round activities/events, Much more inviting to all
- Diversity
- Multiuse, Busy flow from local businesses
- Inclusion
- Park as a destination
- Kid Friendly
- A place to get away

DESCRIPTORS – Public

- Superb Playground
- Fantastic wide open spaces

USERS – Committee

- Singles
- Families, Sports Enthusiasts, Children, Boaters
- Seniors
- Families
- Diverse Crowd
- Locals, Day-trippers, and Tourists

- Visitors from surrounding communities enjoy the park and patronize businesses
- Reading/Discussion Groups
- Mothers with children
- Wide Range of People

USERS – Public

- Boaters
- Pet Owners
- Families
- Active Individuals: Walkers, Softball players, fisherman
- Residents
- Tourists

FEELINGS – Committee

- Pride
- Heritage
- Nurturing
- Walk to vendors, Enjoy local beauty, Celebrate Green Space
- Travel by foot, bike, car or boat to enjoy the park

INDICATORS OF SUCCESS – Committee

- Preserve History
- Zoning links new local businesses as gateway to the park
- Year Round Activities
- Development
- Improved Community Businesses
- Year Round Events
- Visitors buy Lakeside Park T-shirts
- Record crowds at Walleye Weekend - Improved Water Quality
- Draw Visitors to Fond du Lac

STAND-OUT COMMENTS – Committee

- Improve quality of life
- Not about touching the water – it is about communing with the water

The Facilitator next asked the Committee to read all of the comments under each category and give their overall impressions of what they were seeing and hearing.

They said that the *vision they were hearing from other committee members and the public included:*

- Making facilities nicer
- Seating by the lake
- Multi-use park which changes daily
- Calming
- Increase utilization (the number of people) of what we have
- Rentals – bikes, boats, with advertising
- Access
- Inviting, more traffic
- Art
- Higher Quality Food
- No major change, just tweaks
- Get needs met here
- More Food Choices and Entertainment.
- More businesses for food and activities

One member commented that the desire for Events in the park might conflict sometimes with families, who will likely be the primary users of the park on most days.

Another commented “the Committee wants same as the public does.”

The Facilitator then asked members to review the comments and pull out *Key Phrases and Themes to move forward into a vision statement for the Park.*

- Pride
- Keep people coming back
- Family-Friendly
- All Inclusive
- Community Friendly
- Traditions
- Moving into future
- Multi-Use
- Improve Quality of Life
- Destination
- Accessible
- Like Wrigley Field and Lambeau
- Wonderful place to be
- Excitement
- Enthusiasm
- Opportunity
- The feeling when you come. You want to come back for it.
- Enjoyment.
- A place to congregate.
- Ownership – Make it their own.