

Report of Community Meeting June 5th 2023– Parker’s Ridge Park

The persons in attendance at the meeting were:

Stephen M. Faber – Stewart
Cassie Nichols – Stewart
Tracy Burnett – Chatham County
Jina Stamey – Chatham County

Signed in:

Sheida Crump
Alicia Thompson
Scott Griffin
Erin Metzger
Patsy Parker
Sam Bradburn
Tim Parker

The following issues were discussed at the meeting:

Two concepts were presented to the community meeting attendees to elicit feedback and identify preferences. The two concepts each included basketball courts, tennis courts, pickle ball courts, shelters, a boat house, pedal boats, inclusive playground and natural playground, adult fitness equipment, mountain biking and hiking trails, wildflower meadows, pump track, dog park and picnic areas. The two concepts, shown attached, were as follows:

- Concept 1
 - Active programming to the west and against the adjacent property with a double buffer
 - Passive entrances to capture character of the existing landscape
 - Focal high ground
 - Programmed activities around the ponds
 - Passive rear field and launching point for greater trail access
 - Intensive uses and parking to the edges
 - Short-term uses along the new NCDOT road to allow people to enter and exit quickly without clogging the inner park with cars/traffic
 - Disc golf
 - amphitheater
 - Concept 2
 - Active programming to the west and against the adjacent property with a double buffer
 - Passive entrances to capture the character of the existing landscape
 - Focal high ground
 - Programmed activities around the ponds
 - Passive rear field
 - Multi-use field
 - Obstacle Course
 - Enlarged pond
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As a result of the meeting, the following changes were made to the rezoning petition:

Several questions and concerns revolving around the security of the park and private property surrounding the park arose during the discussion. The park will include safety lighting and may need to have a locked gate.

The participants liked the concepts for both the natural playground and the inclusive playground. The two concepts were merged to include an amphitheater, disc golf course, and the other shared amenities in both concepts. Including basketball courts with fustal goals was also added to the final plan. Community members preferred having pedal boats rather than kayaks because of the size of the pond.

Walking trails for all abilities were also discussed. Having both a natural trail loop and an ADA trail paved with fine gravel to increase usership will also be incorporated into the final design.

There were concerns about noise from the NCDOT roadway. The final design will include increased buffers with plantings and berms to reduce noise within the park.