

Fern Park Master Plan

Mission Statement: To present the collective vision of the community as a tool for building upon the current assets of Fern Park. All Focus Areas, Action Items and Future Improvements suggestions must be prioritized, doable and maintainable.

Committee: A committee was formed and first met in September of 2017. Core members include Lynn Durkin (chair), Adele Burnett, Aimee VanWie, Ted Christadaro, Tim Brownsell, Mitch Lee, Delvin Hennessy, Mike Barolotti and Ray Kopp. Meetings have been held monthly and are open to the public. Notes and documents are available at townofinlet.org.

Committee's Goals: The committee's goal is to evaluate the current state of the Town of Inlet's asset and to suggest areas for improvement as well as additional activities and capital projects. *Including: (suggested by Mitch, modified by Ray)*

- Seek and provide feedback on the current state of Fern Park.
- Develop a collaborative future vision (Strategic Plan) for Fern Park's design and use that will provide diverse, high quality parks and recreation opportunities in the Town of Inlet.
- Seek to expand and maximize the recreational and programming options offered throughout Fern Park.
- Provide suggestions to enhance the marketing and outreach efforts to Fern Park's users in order to communicate the many different programming, recreational and open space opportunities available to them.
- Ensure that all of Fern Park's assets are planned as well as maintainable within the Town of Inlet's Budget.

Process: The Committee utilized a blend of monthly meeting/discussions, previously gathered information and a year-long online survey to gather information and suggested direction for the park's potential future use and activities.

Previous Information utilized included:

- 1998 Survey Questions / Results
- Town Master plan => Fern Park Items
- 2004 Fern Park Master Plan
- 2017 Fern Park Assets Update
- Blue Sky / Ideas from previous discussions
- HamCoMaps.net
- Arrowhead Master Plan
- Town Master Plan – Recreation section minus Arrowhead Park specific

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The committee also used Survey Monkey to administer an online survey. The Town of Inlet Information Office advertized the link in conjunction with various town notices throughout the year so that all active seasons were represented.

Survey demographic highlights include:

- ...
-
- ...

Quick Wins: Committee discussions continue to help trigger and aid the Parks Department's ability to deliver several Quick Wins. These Include:

- Installation of a Water Fountain
- GPS of Existing Trails
- New Maps (with existing trails and slight modifications for less confusion)
- New Trail Signage
- Trail Issue Feedback Loop (aka: see something/tell us)
- *NEW* Fern Park Signage
- Planting 11 Maple Trees along the Baseball/Softball Outfield / Replace the Memorial Tree (*Complete*, in addition to 10 new maples)
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Fern Park Background:

- Map(s)
- Natural Features
- Topography
- Geology, Soils and Water Resources
- Climate
- History

Stakeholders/Owners of Fern Park:

- Taxpayers (Residents / Seasonal)
- Visitors (1x, Returnee's, Never Been Here)
- Inlet School (no longer after 2019)
- Town Officials / Maintenance Personnel
- CAP21
- Volunteers
- Neighbors
- Users (Current / Prospective)...Parents /Kids (age groups)
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Potential Funding Sources:

- Town (1x / Ongoing)
- Grants (CAP-21 help)
 - NY
 - Fed

- Private
- Other:
 - BFC
 - Fundraising
 - One-time e.g. Cycle ADK (2018)

Potential Labor Sources:

- Town (Existing or Hire)
- Hire for Project
- Volunteer
- SATA (Southern Adirondacks Trails Alliance)
- BFC (Black Fly Challenge)
- CASART (Central Adirondack Search and Rescue Team)
- Adirondack Mountain Club
- NYS DEC
- Barnstormers

Fern Park Asset Inventory and Current State Analysis

Overall Summary

Summary of Comments / Suggestions for Improvement

Chart w/ Explanation (*ie; Lynn's*)

Insert Table or Appendix # 1

Focus Factors for Park Improvements:

- Maintainability
- Space use and interconnection between certain potential improvements/activities
- Insurance considerations
- Funding Needs (one time and ongoing)
- Same importance as Arrowhead Park
- Staffing / Budget for Parks Department
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Goals / Action Items:

- Preferred Character and Image
- Development and Revitalization
- Infrastructure and Services
- Near/Next-Mid/Long-Term
- ... by Asset (baseball/softball, basketball) + other areas like signage, branding etc...
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- **Potential Additional / New Activities and Park Facility Offerings:**
- {? Follow Action Item/Responsible format ?}

Putting the Plan into Action:

Keeping the Plan Updated:

Conclusion / Summary (or should this be an executive summary up top ?)