



**AGENDA
STREATOR PARKS & OPEN SPACES BOARD
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL OFFICES 204 S BLOOMINGTON STREET
STREATOR, IL 61364
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2019
6:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

MINUTES – Approve minutes of the regular meeting of January 9, 2019.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

OLD BUSINESS/ACTION ITEMS

1. NAMING OF THE GREENWAY TRAIL.

PROJECT UPDATES/STATUS REPORTS

2, DISCUSS GREENWAY ELEMENTS FOR UPCOMING TRAIL GRANTS.

OTHER ITEMS

3. COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: Anyone planning to attend the meeting who has need of special assistance under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is asked to contact the city clerk's office at (815) 672-2517, 24 hours prior to the meeting. Staff will be pleased to make the necessary arrangements.

**STREATOR PARKS AND OPEN SPACES BOARD
MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 9, 2019
204 S. BLOOMINGTON STREET - STREATOR, ILLINOIS 61364**

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Wheeler called the meeting to order 6:00 P.M.

ROLL CALL Members present: Broadus, Caulkins, Martin, Oberholtzer, Snell and Chairman Wheeler.
Absent: Tyne.
Others present: Scot Wrighton, City Manager, Larry Hake, Public Works Director and Patti Henderson, City Clerk.

MINUTES – Chairman Wheeler called for a motion and second to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 10, 2018.

MOTION: Snell made a motion to approve the October 10, 2018; seconded by Caulkins.

ROLL: Ayes: Broadus, Caulkins, Martin, Oberholtzer, Snell, and Chairman Wheeler.
Absent: Tyne.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

ACTION ITEM

1. UPDATE 3-YEAR CITY PARK PLAN

Wrighton, City Manager, presented the plan to the board and asked Larry Hake, Public Works Director, to answer any questions regarding the plan.

Wrighton, reported that Mr. Dieken has purchased more Splash Pad equipment to be used to alternate the set-up each year. We are also receiving donations to connect the Splash Pad to the playground equipment.

Chairman Wheeler requested a motion and second approve the 3-Year City Park Plan be recommended for approval to the City Council at the January 16, 2019 meeting.

MOTION: Oberholtzer made a motion to approve and recommend the City Park plan to the City Council; seconded by Caulkins.

ROLL: Members present: Broadus, Caulkins, Martin, Oberholtzer, Snell and Chairman Wheeler.
Absent: Tyne.

2. NAMING OF THE TRAILHEAD PARK AND GREENWAY TRAIL SEGMENTS.

Wrighton reviewed the names submitted as suggestions for the Trailhead Park name. After discussion Chairman Wheeler requested a motion and second to name the park Twister Hill Park.

MOTION: Oberholtzer made a motion to approve and recommend the name of the Trailhead Park be Twister Hill Park; seconded by Caulkins.

ROLL: Members present: Broadus, Caulkins, Martin, Oberholtzer, Snell and Chairman Wheeler.
Absent: Tyne.

The discussion turned to naming the trail and trail segments. The Board decided to put the decision off until the next meeting so they could have more time to investigate the history of Hopalong Cassidy.

INFORMATION UPDATES/PROJECT STATUS REPORTS

3. CENTRAL PARK IMPROVEMENT PLANS

Wrighton relayed to the board that City Council's adopted FY 2019 budget includes up to \$40,000 to improve Central Park in accordance the plan developed last year by the Park Board. Most of the funds will be used to install toddler-friendly play equipment and upgrade the lighting in the park, per the board's recommendation in 2018.

4. MARILLA PARK IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The dredging has been postponed and will begin in the Spring. The Streator Lions Club will build the handicapped fishing dock this year.

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Wrighton thanked Tim Martin for taking the time to walk the trail with him. Tim pointed out some unauthorized accesses to him. Wrighton will meet with ComEd to have them block off Hardscrabble Park securely where the substation is housed.

Caulkins – There is a gate needed at the Hardscrabble Lions Club Dog Park because people are driving through mud and leaving ruts.

Snell – We need to look into a sign for the end of the trail because residents have been yelling at people on the trail to get off of their properties.

Martin – Garbage cans have not been emptied since November 1st and they also need to be fastened down to the ground. We also need to ensure that the new trail is maintained before we begin construction to extend the trail. We need to create an annual maintenance plan and checklist for regular maintenance each spring.

Other suggestions –

Could we ask for suggestions for our city parks on the website? Ed Brozak said that the Tourism Committee would take the lead on getting some maps on the City Website.

The trestle by the creek bridge has a tree leaning out and Prairie Creek has a log jam.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Wheeler called for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Caulkins made a motion to adjourn the meeting; seconded by Snell.

ROLL: Members present: Broadus, Caulkins, Martin, Obertholtzer, Snell and Chairman Wheeler.

Absent: Tyne.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia L. Henderson".

Patricia L. Henderson
City Clerk

February 8, 2019

TO: Chairman & Members of the Streator Parks & Open Spaces Board

FROM: Scot Wrighton, City Manager 

RE: February 13, 2019 Board Meeting

Naming of the Vermilion River Greenway Trail System

Prior to the construction of the Vermilion River Greenway trail, the only named off-road trail segment was 'Hopalong Cassidy'; this trail runs from the canoe launch to near the corner of South 2nd Street and Riverside Avenue. The Hopalong Cassidy Walldog mural on West Main Street, next to the Vermilion River, was placed at this site because of its proximity to the Hopalong Cassidy Trail, and the Clarence Mulford home. The 2002 Greenway Master Plan (now replaced with an updated multi-year trail plan developed last year by the Park Board) called for a more extensive system of trails adjacent to the river, but no name was formally adopted by the City Council. This larger trail network could be designated/labeled as the "Vermilion River Greenway," or it could also be designated "Hopalong Cassidy" throughout its growing network; or the Park Board could select a different name(s). Although the city received several suggested names for the trailhead park, we did not receive any new names for the growing greenway trail system; nor did the city receive any interest [to date] from high school art programs to our request that they submit ideas for a trail logo.

In summary: what should be the name of the trailhead park; and, separately, should the current and future network of trails adjacent to the Vermilion River in Streator be called: 1) Vermilion River Greenway, 2) Hopalong Cassidy Trail, or 3) another name not yet identified? Any decision to create a logo for marketing and marking the trails near the river should be tied to the approved name. Once a name is selected for all of the river-adjacent trails, the Park Board can, in the future, turn its attention to labeling shorter segments as they are constructed.

At its January 2019 meeting, the park Board tabled action on this item (although the Park Board did select a name for the trailhead park on West Broadway Street), in order to give Park Board members additional time to consider this issue.

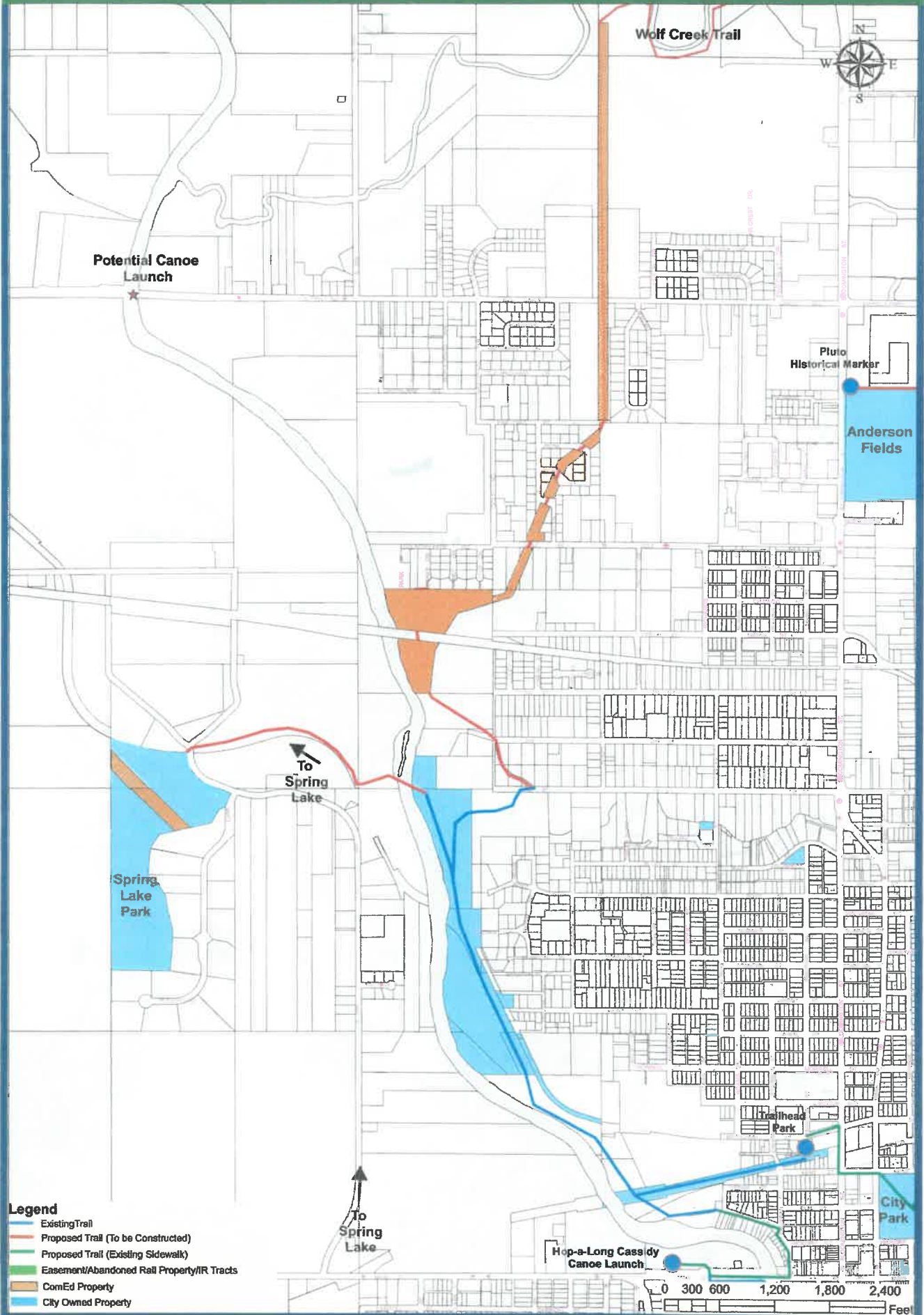
Greenway Trail Elements for Upcoming Grants

In 2019 and 2020 the city of Streator will have several opportunities to apply for grants that, in one way or another, can extend the Vermilion River greenway trail system. In preparing these grants, staff will focus on including project elements that will result in maximum points in order to obtain the grant. Apart from meeting grant eligibility criteria, however, it would be appropriate for the Park Board to discuss

those elements that it considers the most important for developing the trail system adjacent to the river in a manner that best meets the city's long term objectives. In no order of priority, these elements could include:

1. Developed canoe launches
2. Secondary trail, crossing the river and connecting to Spring Lake Park
3. Connecting the Hopalong Cassidy Trail to the main body of the trail system lying north of Hardscrabble Park
4. Connecting the trailhead park to City Park
5. Upgrading the trail surface, signage and other components of the Hopalong Cassidy trail to match the development standards of the main body of the trail system lying north of Hardscrabble Park
6. Other

ComEd Corridor Greenway Trail Plan



Legend

- Existing Trail
- Proposed Trail (To be Constructed)
- Proposed Trail (Existing Sidewalk)
- Easement/Abandoned Rail Property/IR Tracts
- ComEd Property
- City Owned Property

