



Scott County
Park Advisory Commission
February 5, 2020
6:00 PM

Scott County Government Center
Scott County Board Room
200 Fourth Avenue West
Shakopee, MN

SCOTT COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION FINAL AGENDA

6:00 P.M. – February 5, 2020
Scott County Board Room, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee

1) Roll Call – Pat Stieg, Chair

Kristin French, At Large
Kathy Gerlach, District 3
Barb Hedstrom, District 1
Jerry Hennen, At Large
Eric Spieler, District 2
Patrick Stieg, District 5
Mark Ewert, District 4
Commissioner Jon Ulrich, Scott County Board Liaison

2) Pledge of Allegiance

3) Approve Agenda

4) Approve Meeting Minutes for December 4, 2019

5) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

6) Recognition of Interested Citizens for Items Not on the Agenda (No action will be taken.)

7) Administration, Planning and Development (6:10 to 6:40PM)

a. Park Rx America Initiative

8) Informational Items (6:40 - 7:00 PM)

a. Legislative Update (Verbal)

b. Projects/Other Updates (Verbal)

i) Cleary Maintenance Building Update

ii) Work Team Updates

c. Advisory Commissioner Reports (Verbal)

d. Upcoming Events (Verbal)

Highlighted Winter Events and Programs/Volunteer Opportunities:

(1) Free Play Snow Day

(2) Fat Bike Fun Race at Cleary Lake - February 16 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM

e. 2020 PAC Summer Calendar

9) Upcoming Meetings - Tentative (7:00PM to 7:05 PM)

a. March - Wayfinding Draft Final; Workshop to Support Renaming Scott West Regional Trail

b. April – 2021 budget goals

10) Adjourn (7:05 PM) and move into a Workshop Session

*****Workshop*****

1) Kiosk Highlights Feedback (7:05 to 8:00PM)

SCOTT COUNTY PARKS ADVISORY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES December 4, 2019

The Scott County Parks Advisory Commission held their December meeting on December 4, 2019 at The Scott County Government Center, 200 Fourth Avenue West, Shakopee, MN 55379. Staff members present were Patty Freeman, General Manager of Scott County Parks and Trails, Nathan Moe, Parks and Natural Resources Parks Planner, Alysa Delgado, Parks and Natural Resources Coordinator, Justin Markeson, Three Rivers Maintenance Supervisor, Tom Balk, Three Rivers Facilities / Guest Services, and Nate Hurliman, Three Rivers Public Safety Program Supervisor.

Specific details and video of the entire December 4, 2019 Scott County Parks Advisory Meeting is available on the Scott County Website:

Click on the link below to view the video

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tT0u9i8wARo>

- 1) **Roll Call:** Chair Patrick Stieg called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM and proceeded with roll call.
Members present: Kristin French, Barb Hedstrom, Jerry Hennen, Eric Spieler, Patrick Stieg, Mark Ewert and Commissioner Jon Ulrich.

Members Absent: Kathy Gerlach

- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

- 3) **Approval of Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Ewert; second by Commissioner Spieler to approve the agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

- 4) **Approve meeting minutes for November 6, 2019**

Motion by Commissioner Hennen; second by Commissioner French to approve the 11/06/19 meeting minutes as written. The motion carried unanimously.

- 5) **Recognition of Interested Citizens for Items Not on the Agenda**

No citizen comment.

- 6) **2019 Year in Review**

a. Maintenance – Justin Markeson, Maintenance Supervisor

- Reported No Injuries for 2019
- (8) full time Staff

- (23) Seasonal Staff
- 2019 Small Projects
 - Dog Park entry trail rehab at Spring Lake
 - Continued trail rehab at Cedar Lake
 - Gates installed at Doyle
 - Bike trail mile markers installed at Cleary
 - Signpost replacement at Cleary
 - Driving range net replacement at Cleary Golf
- 2019 Collaboration Projects
 - Three Rivers Design
 - Bike trail micro resurfacing – Cleary Lake
 - Scott County Highway
 - Bike trail culvert replacement – Cleary Lake
 - Three Rivers Project Staff, Design & Maintenance Mangers
 - Drain Basin Replacement – Cleary Lake
- 2019 Large Projects
 - Cleary Campground CXT's Installed
 - Collaboration Project between Three Rivers Design and Maintenance
 - Maintenance Facility Build
 - Collaboration between Scott County and Three Rivers

b. Facilities / Guest Services – Tom Balk and Shaun Mertes

- 2019 Highlights
 - Free Play Snow Day
 - Fat Bike Fun Race
 - Fiber line and Point of Sale system at Boat Rental
 - LGF staff / liaison
 - Tournament host site for MN Jr. PGA prep tour
 - Cleary Jr. Club Championship
 - Endless Summer Race
 - Spring Lake Trailgate
 - Scott County Outdoor Education Days
 - Surf the Murph / Savage 100
- Facilities / Guest Services Staff
 - (3) full Time Employees
 - (51) Seasonal Employees
- Winter Operations
 - Cross Country Ski Review
 - 2018 - \$30,112.00
 - 2019 - \$29,941.00
- Cedar Lake Farms Regional Park
 - Lakeside Shelter Revenue
 - 2018 - \$5,751.00
 - 2019 - \$5,863.00
 - Group Camp Revenue
 - 2018 - \$1,736.00
 - 2019 - \$2,008.00
 - Boat Rental Revenue
 - 2018 - \$5,573.00
 - 2019 - \$4,877.00

- Cleary Lake Regional Park
 - Boat Rental Revenue
 - 2018 - \$53,087.00
 - 2019 - \$52,801.00
 - Cleary Campground Revenue
 - 2018 - \$50,463.00
 - 2019 - \$49,439.00
 - Cleary Shelter Reservation Sites
 - Pavilion 2018 - \$16,739.00
 - Pavilion 2019 - \$19,425.00
 - Lakeview Shelter 2018 - \$8,799.00
 - Lakeview Shelter 2019 - \$10,800.00
- Golf Operations
 - Golf Revenue
 - 2018 - \$394,276.00
 - 2019 - \$419,420.00
- Golf Programs
 - Eagle Level (Ages 12-16)
 - Birdie Level (Ages 11-15)
 - Par Level (Ages 9-12)
 - Hooked on Golf (Ages 8-12)
 - Player Level (Ages 6-8)
 - Little Whippers (Ages 5-6)
- 2019 Golf Programs and Lesson Expenses
 - 2019 Golf Program and Lesson Expenses: \$57,257.00
 - 2019 Golf Program and Lesson Revenue: \$99,903.00
- 2019 Golf Program Accomplishments
 - Program participation
 - Over 1000 youth and adult registrants
 - 90 program offerings
 - New – Supervised practice
 - Over \$3,000.00 generated
 - (1) weekday evening and (1) Sunday session
 - Popular, well received, continuing in 2020
 - Youth on Course
 - 2018: 257 YOC rounds played (\$5.00) > \$1,285.00 in revenue
 - 2019: 1036 YOC rounds played (\$5.00) > \$5,187.00 in revenue
 - >\$5,702.00 in subsidy reimbursement from MGA

c. Park Service / Public Safety – Nate Hurliman, Public Safety Program Supervisor

- Park Overview
 - Continuum of Enforcement
 - Educate
 - Verbal Warning
 - Written Warning
 - Citation
 - TRPD Scott County Public Safety by the numbers
 - Over 300+ calls for service at TRPD Scott County Parks
 - 200+ verbal and written warnings
 - 27 Administrative Citations

- (2) County Citations resulting from failure to pay Administrative Citation
- Trends in TRPD / Scott County Public Safety
 - Ordinance issues with campers at Cleary
 - Increase in dumpings in Parks
 - DOLA and Dogs off leash issues remain consistent
 - Minor vandalism consistent
- Sample of incidents from past year
 - Medicals
 - DOLA violations
 - Accidental vehicle lock out assistance
 - Dogs off leash
 - Dumpster fire at Cleary
 - Park Dumpings
 - Parking Assistance at Park events
- 2019 Public Safety Partners
 - Scott County Sheriff's Office
 - Department of Natural Resources
 - Prior Lake Police Department
 - Savage Fire
 - Allina Medical Transport
 - Scott County Hazardous Works
 - TRPD Maintenance Crews
 - In partnership with TRPD Maintenance and MN DNR Parks Services removed (2) illegal tree stands on Doyle Kennefic Property
- Park Service Education
- Future Areas of Focus
 - Maintain a strong public service ethic
 - Continue to streamline systems
 - Continue to utilize different patrol methods such as ATV, foot, bike and vehicle
 - Educate and enforce park ordinances with the public
 - Community Park service pop up events
 - Pass out more park service give-a-ways
 - Lanyards
 - Leashes
 - Wooden Nickels (\$5.00 off day pass, equipment rental, or season pass)

7) Administration, Planning and Development

a. Carver County Trail Wayfinding Pilot Project Results – Pat Stieg

- Evaluation of Pilot Trail System Signage
- Types of Bicyclists
 - Strong and Fearless – 7%

- Enthused and Confident – 5%
- Interested but Concerned – 51%
- No Way, No How – 37%
- Project Overview and Purpose
 - Components of a successful trail system
 - Awareness of the system
 - Understanding of the system’s connection to destinations and other routes
 - Real and perceived sense of safety, comfort, and security
 - Accessibility by design
 - Understanding of the trail system across jurisdictions
 - Ability to easily navigate the system
 - Types of signs
 - Destination Signs
 - Directional Arrow Signs
 - Sign locations
 - Engagement with an equitable lens
 - Population and User Identification and Segmentation
 - Engagement Activities
 - ❖ Pop-up events
 - ❖ Intercept surveys
 - ❖ Focus Groups
 - ❖ Online survey
 - Positive Responses
 - Signs will encourage trail exploration
 - Signs are helpful when cell reception is poor
 - Women approved of sign design more than men
 - More women than men felt safer and/or comfortable knowing there are wayfinding signs on some trails (73% to 56%)
 - Identifying the trails using a color-scheme versus a named trail convention was preferred, and make the signs color coordinate with the trail
 - Negative Responses
 - Signs should be more “attention-catching”
 - Sign and font is too small
 - Symbols and logs are confusing and unnecessary
 - Would like to see map with “you are here” symbol
 - Fewer women than men used the trails for bicycling
 - Women mentioned trail gaps, weather, maintenance, and safety as barriers to more trail use, while men mentioned a lack of time
 - Different color scheme instead of brown
 - The small-sized mile indicators inside the arrows were hard to read
 - The signs are too busy / cluttered
 - Some of the destinations are unclear to non-residents
 - Other Comments
 - Consider adding Spanish language signs
 - Other trail amenities: bathrooms, trash cans, lighting
 - Add destinations such as local businesses
 - Unfamiliar with some destinations identified on the signs
 - Men and women were likely to access trail information in similar fashions
 - Emphasized the importance of having maps paired with signs
 - Additional trail amenities: benches, kiosk at the beginning / end of trail, trash cans, lighting for safety reasons

- General Feedback
 - People love the area trails
 - Appreciative of additional wayfinding signs
 - Approved of the pilot project and were thankful to be engaged
 - Are supportive of additional wayfinding signs
 - Not too excited about the sign's brown color
 - Loss of their "hidden trails"
 - Unique user groups (snowmobiles and horseback riding) wondered about the impact of the project and long-term access to trails
- Other Learnings
 - 85% would use signs to help them navigate a trail
 - 89% support having more trail signs
 - 67% are more likely to use trails knowing there are signs to guide them
 - 66% would feel safer
- Key Takeaways
 - Trail signs are an important feature to attain increased trail use by more people
 - Mobile phones are not a complete trail navigation substitute for signs
 - The design, content and installation of signs must be thoughtfully considered for them to be useful

8) Informational Items / Other

a. Elections Reminder

b. Advisory Commissioner Reports

Barb Hedstrom commented on the recent publicity about State Parks being free the day after Thanksgiving. Scott County Parks are always free.

Eric Spieler said "Thanks" to Justin and his team for grooming the ski trails.

Eric Spieler recently attended a Three Rivers Park Volunteer Dinner. It was a fantastic event held at The Richardson Center.

Kristen French expressed a huge "Thank You" to all the staff for coming out this evening and all the time and effort that is put into the presentations. The presentations are very insightful and we appreciate all you do throughout the entire year.

Patrick Stieg provided comments from residents regarding the concept of looking at resident and non-resident fees:

Resident from Victoria comment: "seems very odd and people would have a hard time understanding the County boarder issue and the distinction when the Park they are looking to visit is in their County yet they would be charged a fee to attend the Park."

Park and Recreation Manager for a Municipal Parks Department comment: "It is not uncommon at the Municipal level to have resident and non-resident fees for certain programs and services; but it seems very strange to do that at a Regional Park Level."

Comments from a person that works for another Regional Park System: "Surprised it is being considered. Fees seem like they should be the same for everyone at a Regional Park regardless of the Park visitors residence."

Resident from New Prague who lives on the Le Sueur side of New Prague comments: "First, it would make me mad, then I would not sign up for that program and look at a program at another Park system that does not charge me more based upon where I live."

Patrick Stieg provided updates on the Park RX program. Patty Freeman, Alysa Delgado and Patrick Stieg had an opportunity to be a part of an initial meeting to look at having a Parks RX program be implemented in Scott and Carver County. The meeting was held last week at the Arboretum. We are excited to see how we can move forward with launching the program in the (2) counties.

Patrick Stieg advised there will be a Parks and Trails Legacy Advisory Committee Meeting on December 5th. The meeting will be held at the Lebanon Hills Visitor Center in Eagan. It is expected there will be an update on progressing with the conversation on the new funding formula between the Met Council, the DNR and the Greater MN Parks and Trails Commission.

c. Projects / Other Updates

d. Upcoming Events

Highlighted Winter Events and Programs / Volunteer Opportunities:

- (1) Full Moon Snowshoe w/ S'mores: Dec 13, 6-8 PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (2) Kicksled Adventure: Jan. 25, 1-2:30 PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (3) Geocaching to Build a Snowperson: Feb 1, 3 PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (4) Family Snowshoeing w/ Hot Cocoa: Feb 8, 4-5:30PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (5) Fat Bike Fun Race: Feb 15, 9AM – 2PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (6) Beginner Snowshoeing: Feb 23, 3-4:30PM at Cleary Lake Regional Park
- (7) Beginner Snowshoeing: Feb 26, 1-2:30PM at Murphy-Hanrehan
- (8) Winter Birding: Jan 11, 10-11:30AM Free at the Landing
- (9) Beginner Snowshoeing: Feb 15, 1-2:30PM

9) Upcoming Meetings – Tentative

- a. January 8, 2020 – Elections, Kiosk and Wayfinding Update
- b. February 6, 2020 – Planning Projects – Project Strategy / Timeline

10) Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Ewert; second by Commissioner Hedstrom to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

- The meeting concluded at 6:51 pm

Patrick Stieg, Chair

Date

Beverly Cox-Alexander, Secretary



Administration and Planning

PARKS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM: 6.a. ParkRx Initiative

MEETING DATE: February 5, 2020

PREPARED BY: Alysa Delgado

REQUESTED ACTION: Discussion and Feedback

The purpose of this agenda item is to inform the Parks Advisory Commission of efforts in Scott County to participate in the national ParkRx initiative.

Background:

Research indicates that spending time in Parks and Nature has intrinsic benefits for mental and physical health. These benefits include, but are not limited to:

- Improving weight, blood pressure, and overall health
- Increasing physical activity
- Lowering anxiety and depression
- Helping children become more social and resilient
- Improving children’s school behavior and grades

In response to this information, over the past decade the US has seen an emerging trend of providers prescribing nature to improve health concerns. In 2013, the Institute at the Golden Gate and the National Recreation and Parks Association, with support from the National Park Service, convened a group of practitioners to discuss the emerging trend of prescribing nature to improve health concerns. After working through pilot programs and trials, this group developed the ParkRx initiative with the goal of supporting the emerging community of Park Prescription practitioners.

Shortly after, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, ParkRx America, was created based in the Washington DC area. In accordance with its mission, this organization offers providers scientifically backed literature and user-friendly tools to ease the integration of a park prescription into their process. They also communicate with park professionals to ensure access to relevant open space to patients. One of their tools includes an online map platform that is edited by Park Agencies that allows providers to search for a park that meets certain criteria for their patients to prescribe. These criteria include but are not limited to: near the patient’s house or work, paved trails, and access to a water feature.

Scott County Involvement

Scott County’s involvement in ParkRx was spurred by regional partnership meeting led by PAC Chair Pat Steig and others at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum in November 2019. This meeting included park and public health professionals from both Scott and Carver County.

Currently, the ParkRx America online platform hosts park information from across the nation, and it is the medium through which Scott County Parks and Trails is beginning its ParkRx journey. Scott County is following the footsteps of other Minnesotan Agencies, such as the MN DNR, Anoka Parks, Washington County Parks, and more. By having our parks on this platform, current and future participating providers can know that our parks are welcoming and available to their patients as prescription options.

Involvement by an agency in ParkRx can look a few different ways; it could be simply posting a park on the platform so that providers can choose to prescribe it or it could be establishing a program at one of our parks, such as a weekly Saturday morning walk, that doctors could prescribe. The details of Scott County's future involvement are not currently defined.

Currently, Scott County Parks and Trails staff is still involved in internal and external partnership planning meetings, working closely with Scott County Public Health and Scott County Social Services to learn more about potential implementation, barriers, and users. Additionally, we are working as a team on engaging cities and townships in this initiative by providing education and resources.

The Parks and Trails group views this program as a new approach to better serve our community and encourage residents to visit our park. By participating in this program, we hope to increase our number of first time park users and reduce the frequency of "unaware of parks" being listed as a barrier for visiting.

Requested Action

The Parks Advisory Commission is being asked to learn about this initiative, ask questions, and provide feedback on incorporating a ParkRx program within Scott County.

Attached

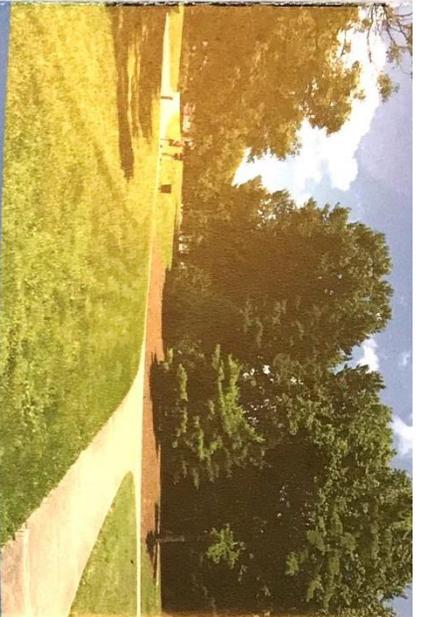
Park Rx America Informational Flyer

MISSION

To ease the burden of chronic disease, increase health and happiness, and foster environmental stewardship, by virtue of prescribing Nature during the routine delivery of healthcare.

Over 100 million Americans currently suffer from a chronic disease (e.g., coronary heart disease, stroke, high blood pressure, Type 2 diabetes, and mental health conditions). More than two thirds of American adults currently suffer from overweight/obesity, which contributes to chronic disease. Chronic disease results in decreased quality of life, and ultimately, premature death.

Spending time in natural environments increases physical activity, hence decreasing the risk of developing chronic disease. Park Rx America is a low-cost intervention that utilizes a known, generally trusted, and accessible resource - parks - to influence positive health outcomes.



FOR GENERAL INQUIRES

John Henderson

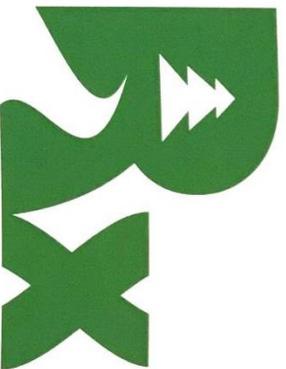
Executive Director

202 549-8233

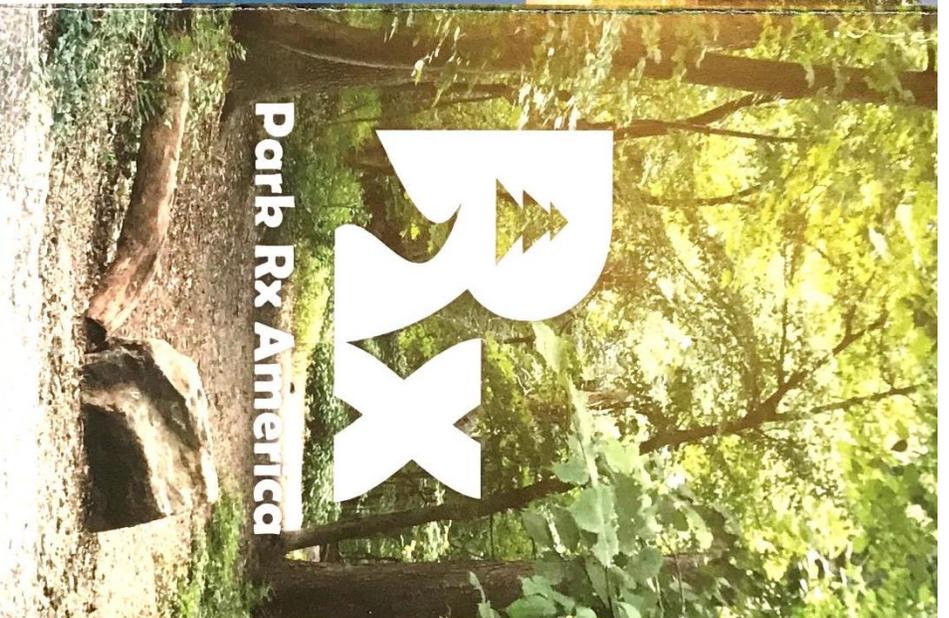
John@parkrxamerica.org

OR VISIT US ONLINE

parkrxamerica.org



Park Rx America is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization.



**A SCALABLE PARK
PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM**

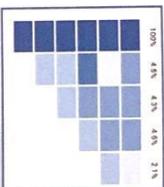


GOALS

- Make it easy for health professionals to prescribe time in nature to patients during the routine delivery of health care
- Reduce the effects of chronic disease and mental health issues with a low-cost intervention
- Create the next generation of environmental stewards by prescribing time in local parks
- Evaluate the effects of park prescriptions on park utilization and measurable health outcomes
- Fund and publish research in peer-reviewed journals and publications on health and wellness, public lands, outdoors, nature, and recreation

RESEARCH

Substantial research has been conducted on the therapeutic benefits of time spent in nature.



Studies have found that spending time in green spaces lowers cortisol levels and blood pressure.

PRESCRIPTION TRACKING MODEL



Doctor consults with the patient to find ideal park(s) using park search & filters, then generates unique park rx code to send via text or email to the patient. The prescription is copied into the appropriate EMR treatment window or diagnosis tab.



After receiving their prescription, the patient can visit recommended park(s) and click a link to record what park they visited. This action constitutes "filling" the prescription. Multiple visits can be recorded against a prescription.



When the patient submits a response, we record which park was visited, the day and time of the visit, and other patient responses based on the type of prescription.



We can then analyze data by confirming when prescriptions were made, what parks were prescribed, how many prescriptions were filled, and changes to patient experience per visit over time.

ADVANTAGE

Park Rx America is the only park prescription program to integrate a searchable park formulary with Electronic Health Records to make it easier for providers to find suitable parks for their patients.



Park Rx America has collected data on thousands of parks and green spaces, searchable by location, with results filterable by standard park attributes and features, and viewable as printable one-page Park Summaries.

We have demonstrated scalability by replicating the park prescription model in diverse park agencies and health provider organizations across the country.



Informal Items / Other

**PARKS COMMISSION WORKSHOP
AGENDA ITEM:****1. Trail Kiosk Highlights****MEETING DATE:****February 5, 2019****PREPARED BY:****Nathan Moe****REQUESTED ACTION:****Discussion and Feedback**

The purpose of this agenda item is to provide feedback on topics that should be highlighted on the proposed Shakopee Kiosks. We will capture your ideas through the use of an online interactive presentation tool called Mentimeter. Each of you will respond using your cellphone which will allow all of us to see real time responses and capture your ideas for future use.

Background:

Through the development of content for the Scott County system, leadership had expressed an idea to better highlight features along the trail. The content has evolved to incorporate space for trail highlights that can help the visitor understand the features within a reasonable distance from the regional trail.

Discussion:

The current template has room for six highlights that includes a photo with a short description of an opportunity along the trail. Given that a trail kiosk will be placed at the intersection of the State Trail and the Regional Trail, one example might be to highlight the State Trail and would include a photo with a brief description like the following:



The trail connects to the Minnesota Valley State Trail below the Holmes Street Bridge. The State Trail can connect you with local parks and Bloomington to the east and Chaska, Jordan, and Belle Plaine to the west.

Question:

What trail highlights would be most important to trail visitors?

Things to consider:

- many of those using the kiosk will be likely first time trail users
- it may be an opportunity to promote some of the other recreational facilities within our system