

DDN Parks and Greenspaces Committee

Breakout Discussion

March 11, 2015

DDN Members Participating in this Discussion:

Carole Ory
Howard Ory
Sharon Pike
Kate Shands
Susan Clark
Jo Giraudo
Nikki Economou (chair)

Items of Interest/Concern Expressed by Participants:

Several possibilities exist that require planning, discussion, visualization (through formation of concrete proposals) and essentially, repetitious sales pitches backed up by research-related data on how green spaces impact city and business finances favorably (ex: Charlottesville, Virginia).

Additionally, inquiries to access and apply for grant proposals to fund public/private partnerships would present the city with more palatable funding possibilities for new parks and greenspaces.

Follow Up Actions Decided:

1. Review areas within DDN Decatur area to identify potential green spaces;
2. Visit churches to discuss with pastors their willingness to include some of their vast green areas in green space plan for the city;
3. Look at abandoned parking lots and trashy areas (ex near BoA parking lot on Commerce) to see if they can be used to augment green space areas;
4. Meet with Decatur Housing Authority to discuss using the green space by Oliver House as a park area (need benches, tables, etc to make it user-friendly);
5. Meet with Decatur Downtown Development Authority to identify and discuss potential public/ green spaces.

