

# Meeting provides public input on Prentis Park, pool upgrades

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Two new concepts for the Prentis Park and pool project were unveiled during a public input session Monday night, in addition to the two that were shown to the city council last week.

City and project officials stressed that that's what they are – just concepts.

“We're trying to get an overall concept master plan before we get into phasing and what will be built first, and so forth,” said Peter Boerboom of TSP, Inc., which is acting as a consultant on the project.

“These are not what we're going to start building,” said Parks & Recreation director Jim Goblirsch. “There's a whole lot of steps in between.”

These comments arose following questions unrelated to the actual design of the park, on which the city was seeking public input.

Many questions were asked regarding the ins and outs of financing the project, which Boerboom estimated at \$6-6.5 million.

However, since the designs are strictly conceptual at this point, no financial plans have been established, officials said.

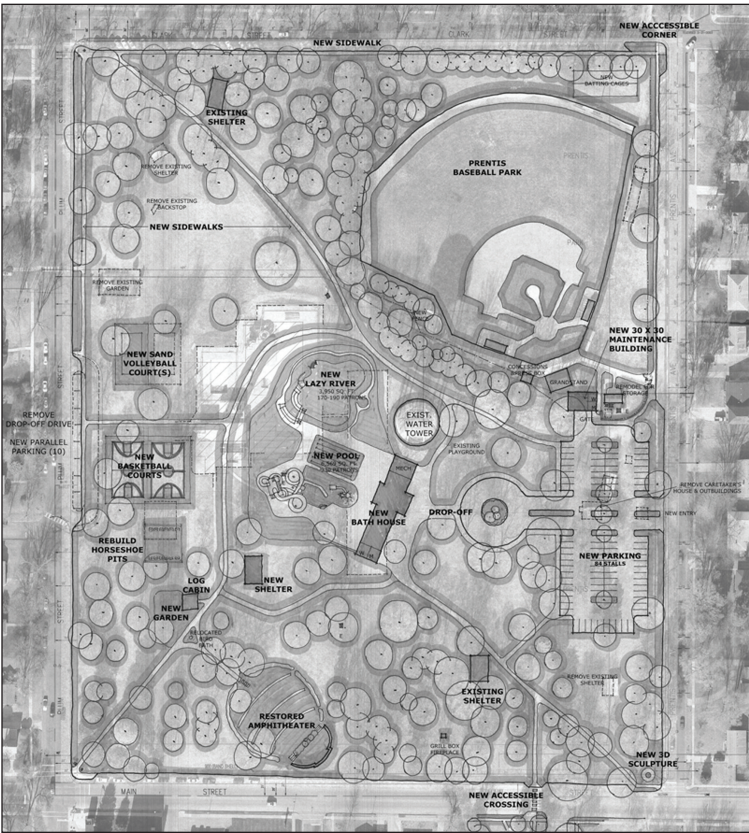
“We just need somewhere to start (from a design perspective),” Goblirsch said. “You can't start with a grant (application) if you don't know what you need it for.”

City council member John Grayson said getting public opinions regarding the design concepts is “critical.”

“The way I and others approach issues such as this is, ‘Let's give ourselves permission to dream. ... This is the Christmas list, and let's put everything on it,’” Grayson said. “We'll figure out the money stuff later. There are a variety of funding sources that we can explore, but we can't explore them if we don't know what the dream is.”

Steve Ward, a member of the city council and the pool committee, said a project like this is an investment in the community.

“The city council and the economic development group here in town have looked at all



CONCEPT C

These two renderings from TSP, Inc., show additional options for the layout of Prentis Park following the completion of the project to replace the pool with a new aquatic center. The Vermillion City Council was presented with two other options last week.



CONCEPT D

(Courtesy photos)

these things and done studies, and one of the big studies that they did said, in order to attract people here, we have to have a place in which they want to live,” he said. “Part of that is improving the aesthetics of the town itself. ...

“It may take an infusion of capital to do that,” he said. “That is the role of government, to invest in the public, and from my point of view, that's what this plan will do.”

The majority of the estimated budget – about four-fifths of it – is the pool itself, Ward added.

“The pool is the big cost,” he said. “I think what it will have to come down to is, if we decide that we want to move forward on this bigger, larger plan, we can always stop it.”

All four of the conceptual plans have commonalities, Boerboom said.

“Along the west side of the park we thought it was important – because of all the student

population – to place some of those real active features (there). Sand volleyball, new basketball courts, the horseshoe pits,” he said.

Another feature that is seen on all of the plans is a maintenance building that will be used by the entire park.

“We placed it close to the baseball field, because that's where you have a lot of intense use of that building, for equipment and so forth,” Boerboom said. “We would kind of marry that up with two new toilet facilities.”

The aquatic center is near the center of the park in all four plans, albeit in different configurations.

Concepts A and B have the pool and slides in the middle, with the new bath house to the north and the lazy river to the south, while Concepts C and D have the lazy river to the north and the bath house to the south.

On all four plans, parking is to the southeast of the baseball

field, but again in different configurations.

In Concept A, a one-way circulation of vehicles and parking is brought in off of Prentis Avenue on the east, bringing that in and an aquatic center drop-off that wraps around the water tower.

Concept B features a leg of parking that would wrap along the south edge of the baseball field. One section of the parking area would be at the southwest point of the baseball field, and another would be farther below it along Prentis Avenue.

The parking areas for Concept A and Concept B have 63 and 96 stalls, respectively.

While Concept B has more spaces, there is more of an open area in Concept A.

Goblirsch said Concepts C and D came about in part because of public concern over pop-up fly balls. In each, the parking lots are to the southeast of the field, past the grandstand

and the new maintenance building.

Concept C will feature a new entry point off of Prentis Avenue, and a roundabout drop-off area to the east of the aquatic center. There will also be 84 parking stalls.

Concept D has a separate entrance and exit point off of Prentis, and while it will have an aquatic center drop-off, it will not be a roundabout. There are 80 parking stalls in this plan.

Goblirsch said people need to remember that whatever design is chosen, it will be around for many years.

“The Prentis pool that's out the right now is approximately 45 to 50 years old, so when we're looking at this, this isn't just a five-year plan,” he said. “This is something that we're looking at down the road for a long, long time.”

## OBITUARIES

### Peter Auch

Peter Benjamin Auch was born Sept. 19, 1997, in Vermillion, South Dakota to Duane and Mary (Rea) Auch. He died Nov. 23, 2013 in a Sioux Falls hospital due to injuries sustained in a car accident Nov. 22 near Beresford. He was 16 years, two months and four days.

Peter was raised on the family farm southeast of Centerville with his two brothers, Matthew and Jonathan and sister, Julia. He attended grade school in Centerville, middle school in Beresford and was currently a sophomore at Beresford High School.

Peter accepted Jesus as his Savior when he was 4 years old, after watching the JESUS movie. His quiet love for God made him determined to make sure he did not “waste his life.” He found that the two mission trips he took to Haiti and Pine Ridge were defining moments that

shaped his values. He attended the Brooklyn Evangelical Free church and was active in the youth group and Bible studies and serving in various capacities.

Peter was passionate about running with the cross country and track teams for Beresford High School. He set clear goals for his life, and strategized to work towards meeting them. He loved sports, science, history and politics. He was working on his Eagle Scout project for the Boy Scouts, Sioux Council Troop 11. He was involved in Student Council, debate, oral interpretation, FFA, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and basketball. Peter was known to mentor and encourage his peers to excel in academics and athletics. His warm smile, concern for friends and fun-loving nature will be missed by all who knew him.

He is survived by his parents, Duane and Mary Auch of Centerville; brothers, Jonathan of Sioux Falls and Matthew of Brookings; sister, Julia of

Brookings; and his grandmothers, Elaine Rea of Los Angeles, CA, and Luella Auch of Menno. Also surviving are two uncles, Steven J. (Anita) Auch of Yankton and Dennis R. (Joann) of Menno; two aunts, Joy Rosendale of Pittsburgh, PA, and Elizabeth (Jim) Tebbe of Lahore, Pakistan; 10 cousins and numerous friends.

His grandfathers, John Rea and Eugene P. Auch; one aunt, Ruth Donan, and a cousin, Michael Auch, preceded him in death.

Funeral services for Peter were 2 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2013, at Beresford High School. Visitation with the family present was 6 to 8 p.m. Monday at Brooklyn Evangelical Free Church, rural Beresford, with a prayer service at 7 p.m.

### Judy Miille

Judy Miille, 68, of Newcastle, NE, passed away on Tuesday, Nov. 19, 2013, at Dougherty Hospice House in Sioux Falls.

Services were held at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 23, 2013, at Trinity Lutheran Church in Martinsburg, NE, with Rev. Dr. Klaus Raab officiating. Visitation began one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial was in Silver Ridge Cemetery in rural Ponca, NE. Arrangements were under the direction of Mohr Funeral Home in Ponca, NE. Online condolences to the family may be posted at [www.mohrfuneralhome.com](http://www.mohrfuneralhome.com).

Judy was born on May 15, 1945, in Odebolt, IA, the daughter of Seldon and Sylvia (Danielson) Buller.

She was raised on the family farm near Kiron, IA, attended Kiron Public School and graduated from Denison, IA, high school in 1962. She attended a two-year school in Minneapolis and was employed and lived in Sioux City, IA until 1969, when she married Maurice Miille of Newcastle, NE. They farmed and raised cattle until Maurice's death in 1984. They had two children, Laura Ann and Clint William.

She was baptized, confirmed and married at Bethel Lutheran Church in Kiron, IA. Judy was a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Newcastle, NE until it closed, and was now a member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Martinsburg, NE. She was comforted to know Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior.

Her greatest joy was being a mom. She enjoyed all of nature, especially butterflies, a symbol of new life. She considered herself blessed to have received new life here on earth with two kidney transplants, the first in 1988, the last in 2005 from Laura, and now has new life in heaven.

She always had a special connection with animals, especially her special companion “Puddin” the 17-year-old cat.

Survivors include her daughter, Laura (John) Zumhove; son, Clint Miille; brothers, Mervin (Margaret Ann) Buller and Jerry (Ardie) Buller; nieces, nephews and cousins.

Judy was preceded in death by her parents, Seldon and Sylvia Buller; her husband, Maurice; special sister-in-law, Rose Miille; and other in-laws and cousins.

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