

Appendix A

JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

Resolution to Adopt Master Plan

Master Plan Acceptance Resolution

Jennings County Parks and Recreation 2015-2019 Master Plan

Whereas, the Jennings County Park and Recreation Board is aware of the parks and recreation needs of the Jennings County Indiana, and;

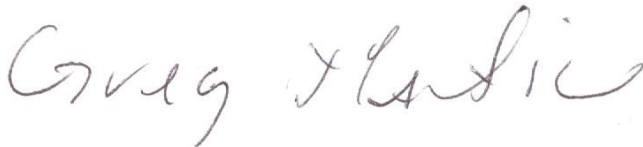
Whereas, the Board realizes the importance of sound planning in order to meet the needs of it's citizens,

NOW, THERFOR, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE, JENNINGS COUNTY PARK AND RECREATION BOARD, by unanimous declaration, does adopt the Jennings County Park and Recreation 2015-2019 Master Plan as its official plan for the next five years, for the growth and development of park and recreational opportunities in Jennings County, Indiana.

Passed and Signed this 3/24/2015 day of March, 2015

ATTEST:

Board President: 

Secretary: 

Place holder

Appendix B


JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

504 Compliance Form

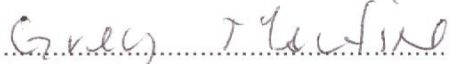
(two pages)

Assurance of Compliance
Section 504
Of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

The J.C. Park Board (Applicant) has received and read the guidelines for compliance with Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act of 1973 issued by the United States Department of the Interior and will comply with these guidelines and the Act.

Signature 
Applicant President

Applicant printed name Patrick L. Dickerson

Signature 
Applicant Secretary

Secretary's Printed name GREG MARTIN

Date March 24 2015



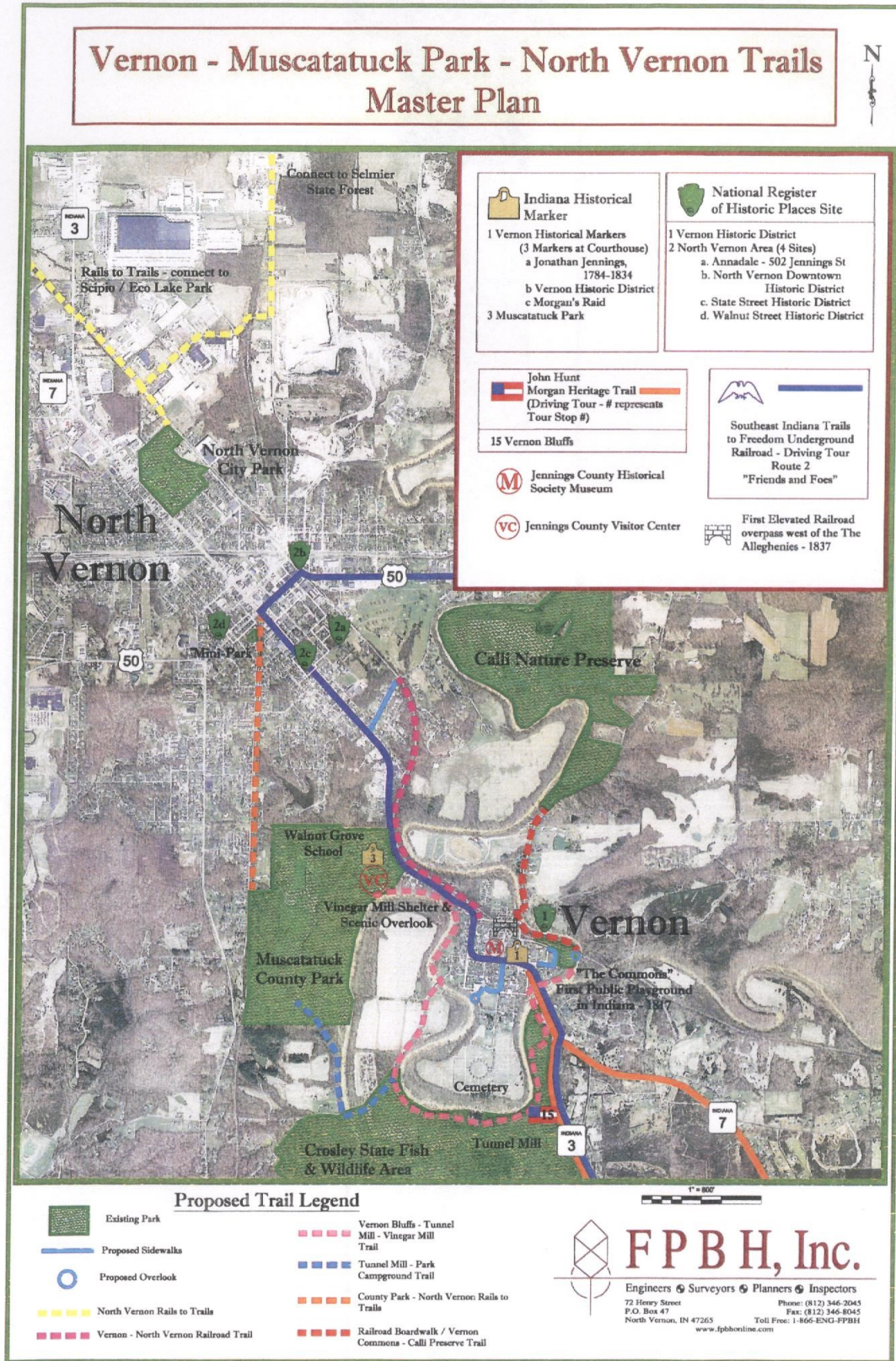
Appendix C

JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

Vernon/Muscatatuck/North Vernon Trail Project

(three pages)

Trail Plan from Last Master Plan



Plan Prepared by:

FPBH, INC. North Vernon IN

Updated Trail Master Plan

Vernon - Muscatatuck Park - North Vernon Trail Systems Master Plan



Note: The Trails shown are for planning purposes only. In many cases Private Easements will be required and future coordination necessary. If these are not granted, the pathways shown must be altered. This plan should in no way be interpreted to be a threat to any private property that exists within the private areas encompassed in this plan.

<p>Indiana Historical Marker</p> <p>1 Vernon Historical Markers (3 Markers at Courthouse) a Jonathan Jennings, 1784-1834 b Vernon Historic District c Morgan's Raid 3 Muscatatuck Park</p>	<p>National Register of Historic Places Site</p> <p>1 Vernon Historic District 2 North Vernon Area (4 Sites) a. Annadale - 502 Jennings St b. North Vernon Downtown Historic District c. State Street Historic District d. Walnut Street Historic District</p>
<p>John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail (Driving Tour - # represents Tour Stop #)</p> <p>15 Vernon Bluffs</p>	<p>Southeast Indiana Trails to Freedom Underground Railroad - Driving Tour Route 2 "Friends and Foes"</p>
<p>Jennings County Historical Society Museum</p> <p>Jennings County Visitor Center</p>	<p>First Elevated Railroad overpass East of the The Alleghenies - 1837</p>

Proposed Trail Legend

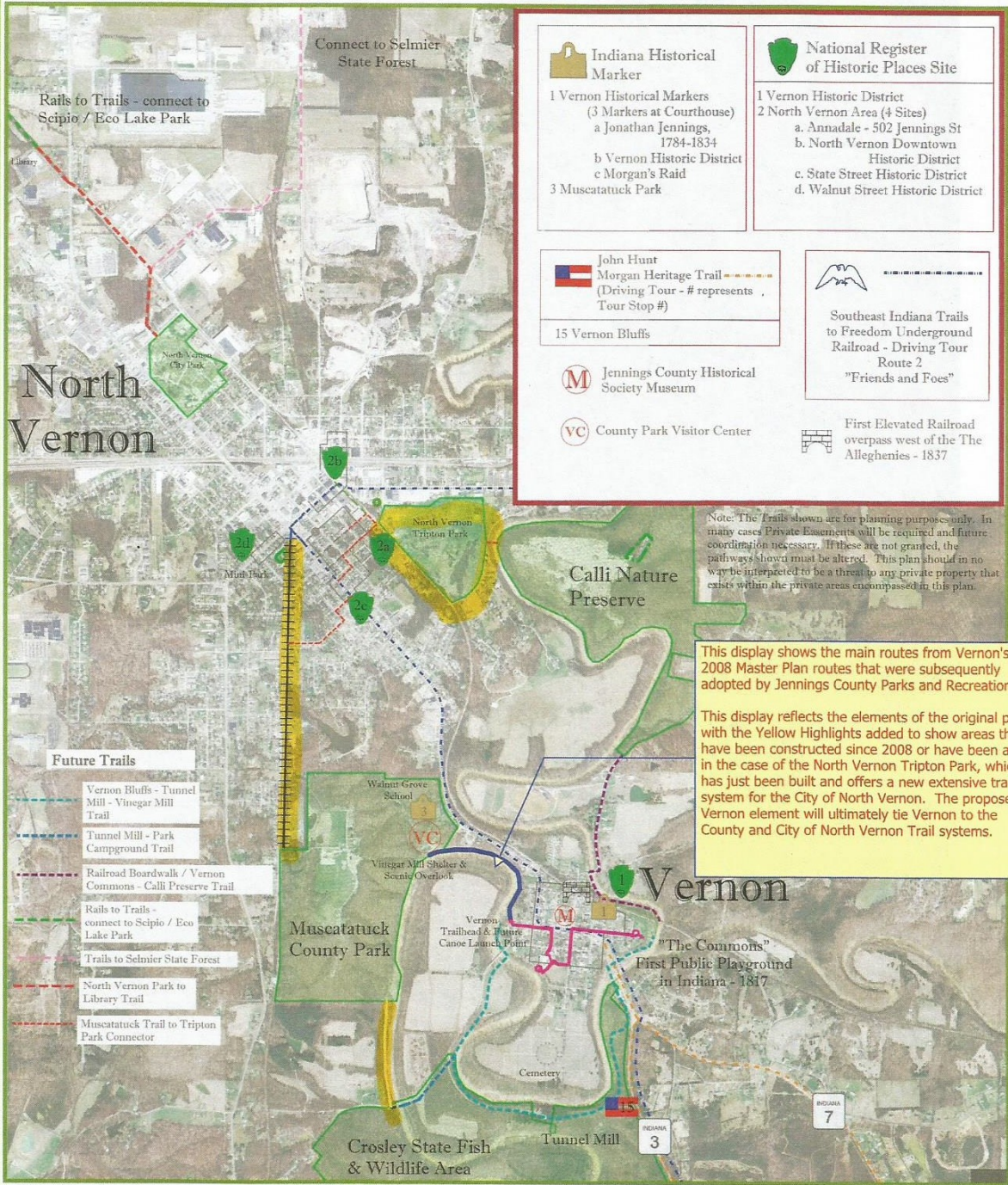
	Existing Park		Vernon Bluffs - Tunnel Mill - Vinegar Mill Trail
	Proposed Sidewalks		Tunnel Mill - Park Carpooling Trail
	Proposed Overlook		County Park - North Vernon Rails to Trails
	North Vernon Rails to Trails		Railroad Boardwalk / Vernon Commons - Calli Preserve Trail

FPBH, Inc.
 Engineers • Surveyors • Planners • Inspectors
 72 Henry Street
 P.O. Box 47
 North Vernon, IN 47265
 Phone: (317) 345-2245
 Fax: (317) 346-8045
 Toll Free: 1-800-750-9798
 www.fpbfh.com

Appendix B

Plans Prepared by: **FPBH Engineering**

Vernon - Muscatatuck Park - North Vernon Trails Master Plan - 2019



Indiana Historical Marker

1 Vernon Historical Markers
(3 Markers at Courthouse)
a Jonathan Jennings, 1784-1834
b Vernon Historic District
c Morgan's Raid
3 Muscatatuck Park

National Register of Historic Places Site

1 Vernon Historic District
2 North Vernon Area (4 Sites)
a. Annadale - 502 Jennings St
b. North Vernon Downtown Historic District
c. State Street Historic District
d. Walnut Street Historic District

John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail (Driving Tour - # represents Tour Stop #)

15 Vernon Bluffs

Southeast Indiana Trails to Freedom Underground Railroad - Driving Tour Route 2 "Friends and Foes"

Jennings County Historical Society Museum

County Park Visitor Center

First Elevated Railroad overpass west of the The Alleghenies - 1837

Note: The Trails shown are for planning purposes only. In many cases Private Easements will be required and future coordination necessary. If these are not granted, the pathways shown must be altered. This plan should in no way be interpreted to be a threat to any private property that exists within the private areas encompassed in this plan.

This display shows the main routes from Vernon's 2008 Master Plan routes that were subsequently adopted by Jennings County Parks and Recreation.

This display reflects the elements of the original plans with the Yellow Highlights added to show areas that have been constructed since 2008 or have been added in the case of the North Vernon Tipton Park, which has just been built and offers a new extensive trail system for the City of North Vernon. The proposed Vernon element will ultimately tie Vernon to the County and City of North Vernon Trail systems.

- Future Trails**
- Vernon Bluffs - Tunnel Mill - Vinegar Mill Trail
 - Tunnel Mill - Park Campground Trail
 - Railroad Boardwalk / Vernon Commons - Calli Preserve Trail
 - Rails to Trails - connect to Scipio / Eco Lake Park
 - Trails to Selmier State Forest
 - North Vernon Park to Library Trail
 - Muscatatuck Trail to Tipton Park Connector

- Existing Trails / Features**
- Existing Park
 - Existing Muscatatuck Trail (Built 2017)
 - Existing Trail to Dog Farm Bridge

- 2019 NLT Plan for Grant Application**
- Historic Vernon Trail**
 - 8 feet wide Paved Trail
 - Muscatatuck Park Vinegar Mill Overlook to Historic Vernon Trail**
 - 3 feet wide Riverfront Mountain Bike & Hiking Trail

FPBH, Inc.

Engineers Surveyors Planners Inspectors

72 Henry Street
P.O. Box 47
North Vernon, IN 47265
www.fpbhonline.com

Phone: (812) 346-2045
Fax: (812) 346-3045
Toll Free: 1-866-ENG-FPBH

PRELIMINARY

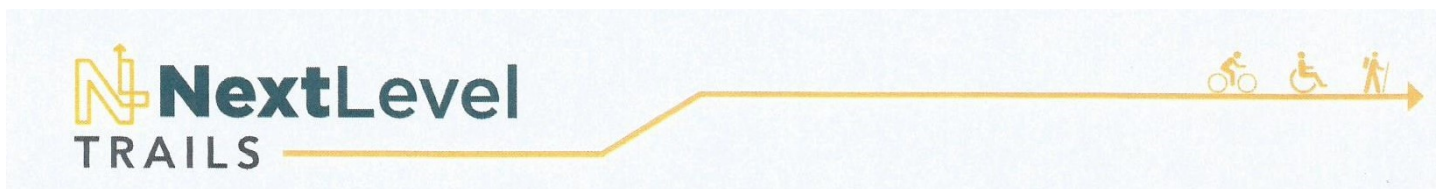
Plans Prepared by: **FPBH Engineering**

Appendix D

JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

Next Level Trails Grant Overview

Without reproducing the full grant document submitted by the Town of Vernon in partnership with JCPR, the following pages highlight significant improvements along with some supporting historical context. Full grant was submitted in round two of the NLT grant Initiative.



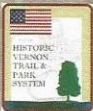
All plans in this section prepared by FPBH Engineering

Muscatatuck County Park

Proposed Trails for N

3' wide unpaved Mountain Bike/Hiking Trail to Vernon Water St. Trailhead

Connect to Muscatatuck Park Vinegar Mill Overlook and River Hiking Trail System
TRAIL LEGEND



- NLT Grant Application Proposed Trail (Historic Town of Vernon Trail) - 8 Feet wide Asphalt Surface
- NLT Grant Application Proposed Trail (Jennings County Parks Vinegar Mill to Vernon Trail) - 3 Feet wide Compacted Earthen Surface Mountain Bike/Hiking Trail at bottom of bluffs next to river.
- Existing 8 Feet wide asphalt trail of the proposed Trail System
- Future Vernon Bluffs Trail To Tunnel Mill
- Future Railroad Boardwalk to Calli Preserve
- Existing Muscatatuck Park River Trail

EXISTING RESOURCE LEGEND

<p>Indiana Historical Marker</p> <p>1 Vernon Historical Markers (3 Markers at Courthouse)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a Jonathan Jennings, 1784-1834 b Vernon Historic District c Morgan's Raid <p>3 Muscatatuck Park</p>	<p>National Register of Historic Places Site</p> <p>1 Vernon Historic District</p>
<p>John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail (Driving Tour - # represents Tour Stop #)</p> <p>15 Vernon Bluffs</p>	<p>Southeast Indiana Trails to Freedom Underground Railroad - Driving Tour Route 2 "Friends and Foes"</p>
<p>Existing Sidewalk</p>	

Proposed Trailhead

Water St.

Poplar St.

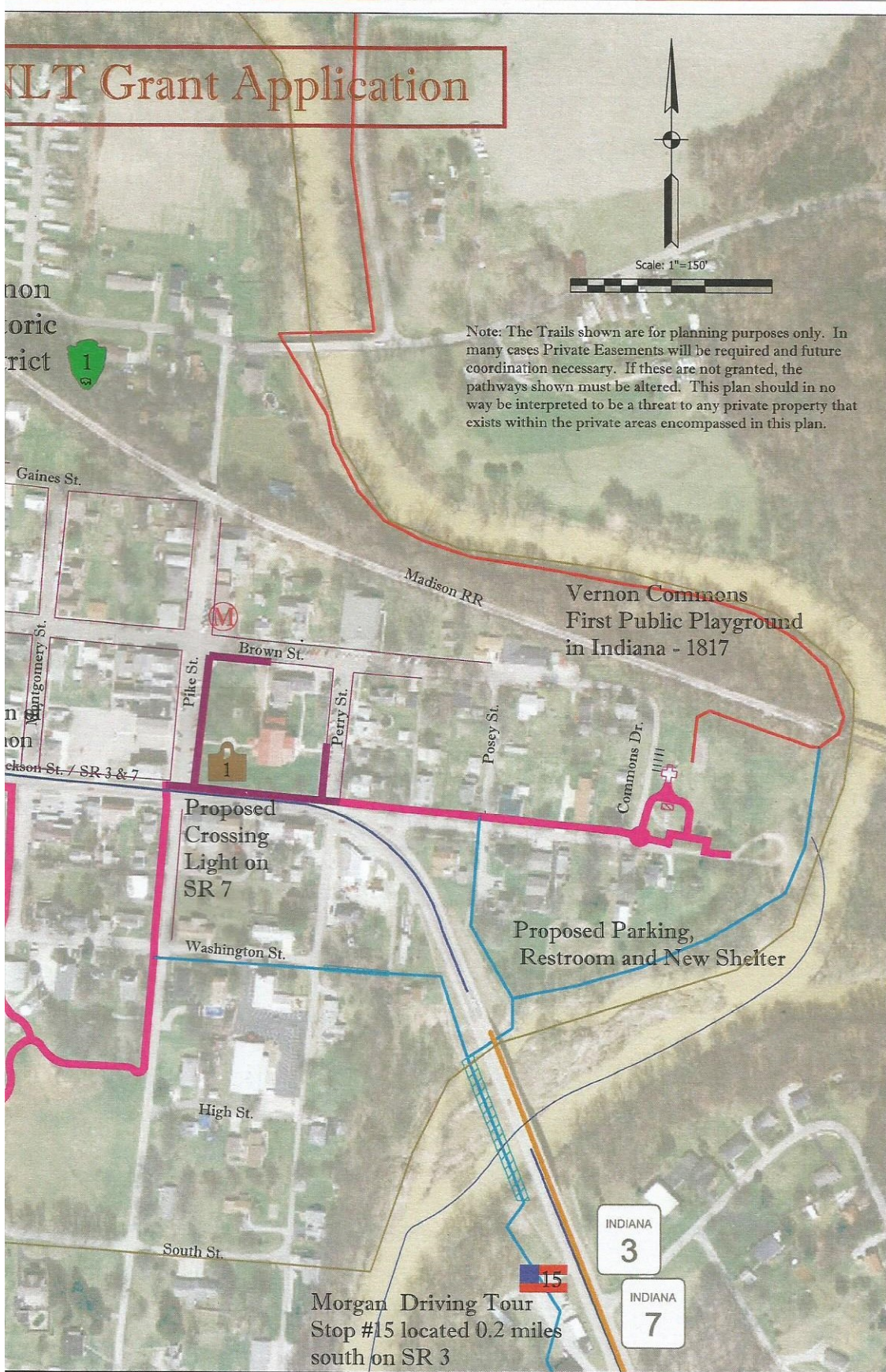
Vernon Gym - Indoor Basketball Court

Proposed River Overlook Trailhead

Paved portion of Trail in Vernon

Vernon Historic District

NLT Grant Application



Note: The Trails shown are for planning purposes only. In many cases Private Easements will be required and future coordination necessary. If these are not granted, the pathways shown must be altered. This plan should in no way be interpreted to be a threat to any private property that exists within the private areas encompassed in this plan.

GENERAL NOTE:
 All construction to meet or exceed all state, local, and federal codes & requirements, including but not limited to current INDOT, ISBH, IDEM, OSHA, local requirements & codes. The drawings & specs. that make up the work of this project are interrelated & dependent on every other drawing and spec. section. The contractor shall review all other specs., drawing & addendum (if applicable) to coordinate all work that relates to this project. If an item is drawn or specified on any spec. section or drawing, it shall be as if it were part of this work and shall be provided for in the contract.

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 North Vernon, IN 47265
 P: (812) 346-2045 Toll Free: 1-866-ENG-FPBH
 www.fpbhinc.com

PRELIMINARY
 NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION

SCALE: 1"=150'
 DRAWN BY: SG
 CHECKED BY: DW
 DATE: 9/5/2019

Revision	Drawn By	Date

FILE NO: 19-11231
 CLIENT NAME:
 TOWN OF VERNON

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
 Vernon Park System NLT Grant Application

SHEET TITLE:
 Master Trail Plan

DESIGN PHASE:
 Public Involvement

SHEET NUMBER:
1

Morgan Driving Tour
 Stop #15 located 0.2 miles
 south on SR 3



Muscatatuck County Park

Master



M

I

3' wide unpaved Mountain Bike/Hiking Trail to Vernon Water St. Trailhead

Connect to Muscatatuck Park Vinegar Mill Overlook and River Hiking Trail System

M



LEGEND



Existing Recreational Features



Proposed Trail Facilities and Amenities



Expected NON-ADA Compliant Sections due to topography limitations



Expected ADA Compliant Sections



M

Trail 1/4 Mile Marker
- 2 Fiberglass Markers in Flood Plain on River Trail
- 3 Heavy Duty Recycled Plastic or Timber posts within Vernon



I

Trail Directional Guide Post
- Carsonite w/ Decals or Timber Heavy Duty posts with sheet signs with Directional Arrows



G

Trail Gates
- 2 Planned



K

Trail Information Kiosk
- 3 Planned

Proposed Trailhead



K

I

M

Water St.

Poplar St.



Paved portion of Trail in Vernon

Vernon Gym - Indoor Basketball Court



I

K



Proposed River Overlook Trailhead



Old Vernon High School & Gym Area - Design Concept



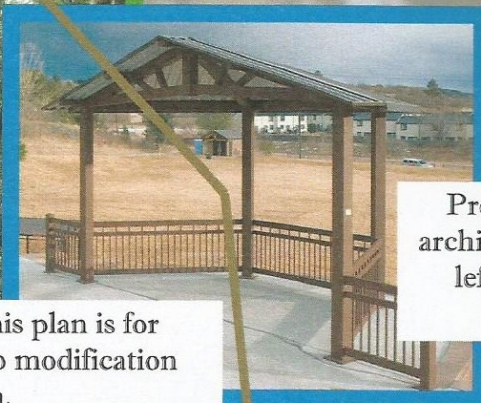
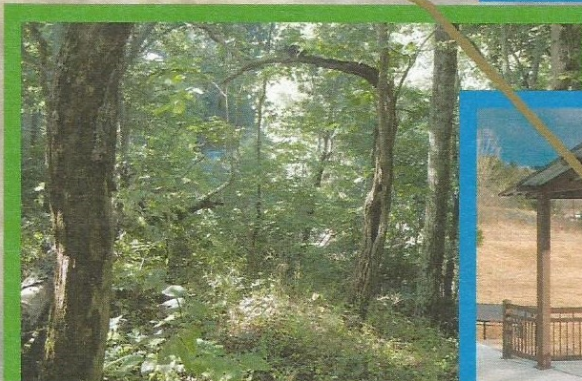
Old Vernon High School has an active indoor Basketball Court and still has a stage and bleachers that are used for Town functions

Proposed area to place ADA Parking Spaces. The remainder of the existing parking lot will remain as gravel



Information Kiosk to be added

Connecting Sidewalk to Overlook - Topography will not allow full 8 feet wide trail on this side of road.



Proposed River Overlook architecture to be similar to the one on the left, but stone and timber considered as options

NOTE: The general layout shown in this plan is for planning concepts only and are subject to modification during final survey & design.

Pictures shown are 1930's WPA Structure below with new playground being constructed by volunteer labor just visible on the left. The structure does not allow for a table, which is why an adjacent new structure is being proposed. A Water Fountain is also being proposed for this location.



on site.



Proposed Trailhead Picnic Table shelter. Architecturally to be similar to 1930's WPA Structure above, although stone and timber will be considered instead of the sample shown on the left.



Proposed Structure to structure shown on the left. Construction will be completed during design.



Scale: 1"=30'

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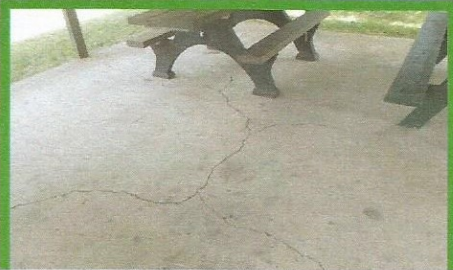
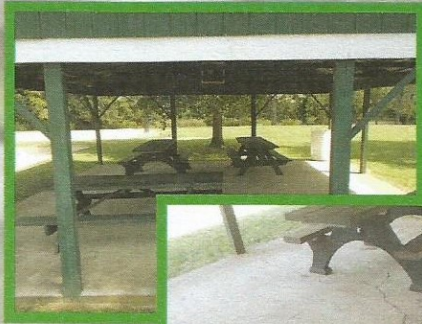
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PRELIMINARY
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SCALE: 1"=150'		
DRAWN BY: SG		
CHECKED BY: DW		
DATE: 9/5/2019		
Revision	Drawn By	Date
FILE NO: 19-11231		
CLIENT NAME: TOWN OF VERNON		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Vernon Park System NLT Grant Application		
SHEET TITLE: Master Trail Plan		
DESIGN PHASE: Public Involvement		
SHEET NUMBER: 3		

Vernon Commons - Main Trailhead Design Concept

NOTE: The planning concept is subject to change.

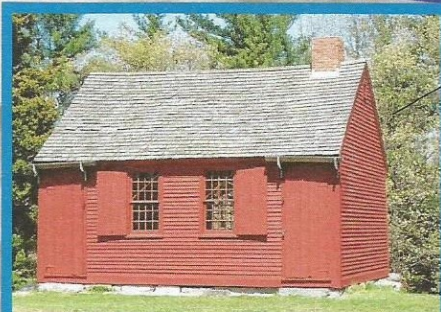


Existing Shelter is in poor shape, and the concrete base is failing as shown. Whereas NLT will not fund demolitions, if the grant is awarded, the town will demolish this structure prior to the NLT construction.

Existing Playground/Basketball Court



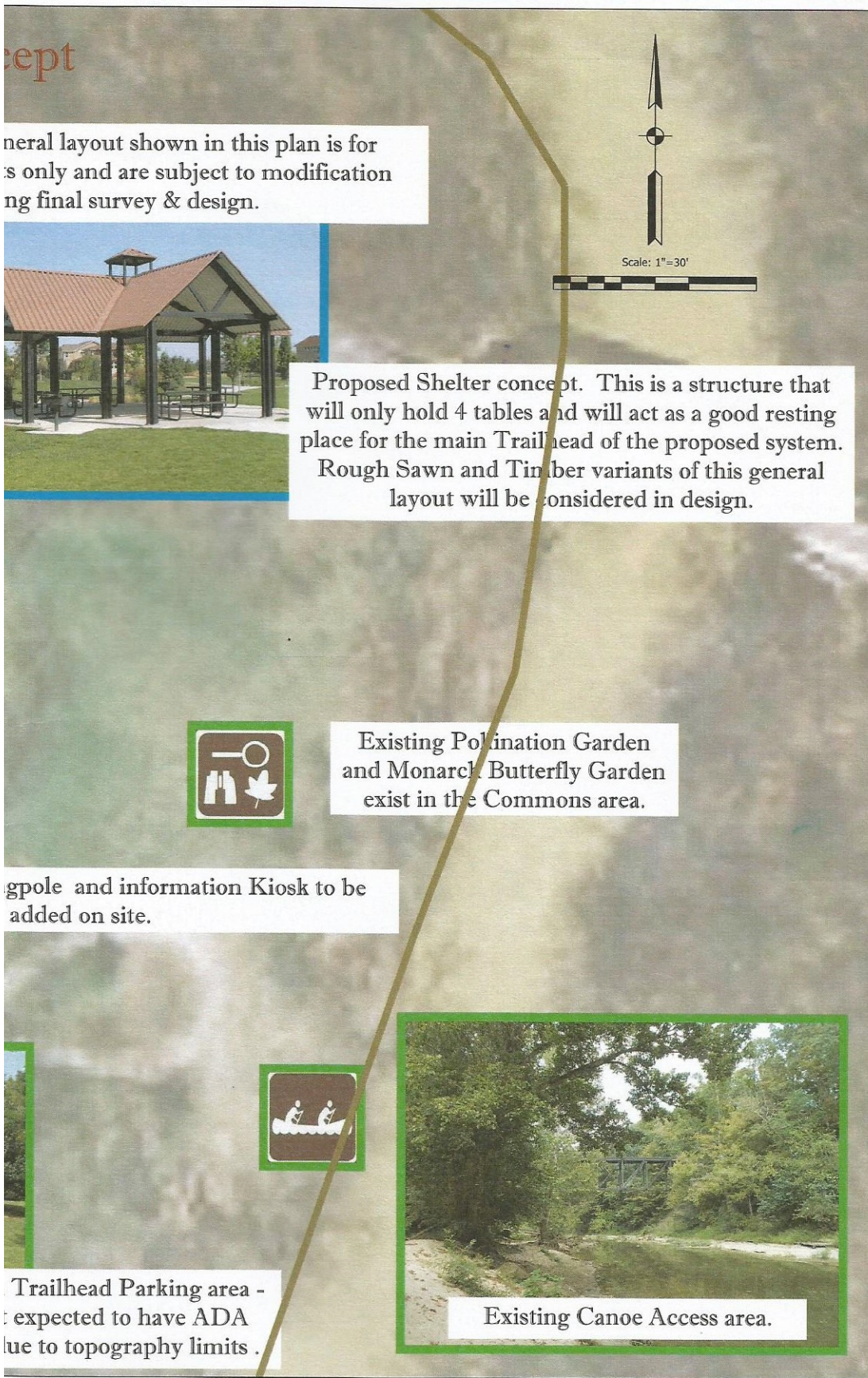
Main Trail Sign, I



Proposed Small ADA Restroom Concept to serve main Trailhead for the project. Concept chosen to fit into existing period architecture of the Town. The Commons presently does not have such facilities. Drinking Fountain to be included.



Proposed southern parking spot in this area is not currently a parking spot.



cept
 neral layout shown in this plan is for
 s only and are subject to modification
 ng final survey & design.

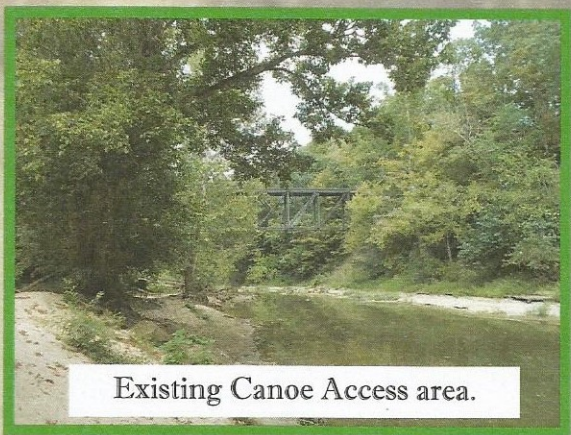


Proposed Shelter concept. This is a structure that will only hold 4 tables and will act as a good resting place for the main Trail head of the proposed system. Rough Sawn and Timber variants of this general layout will be considered in design.



Existing Pollination Garden and Monarch Butterfly Garden exist in the Commons area.

gpole and information Kiosk to be added on site.



Trailhead Parking area - expected to have ADA due to topography limits .

Existing Canoe Access area.

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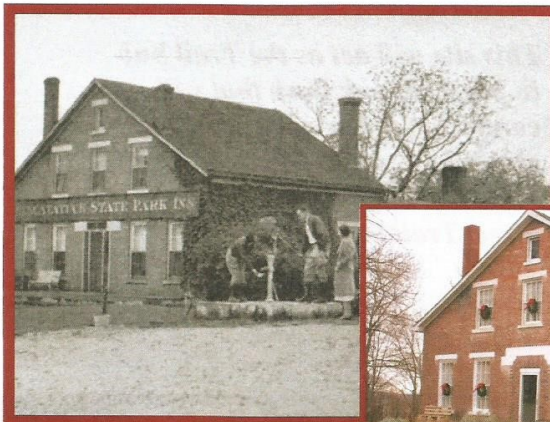
PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
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SHEET TITLE:
 Master Trail Plan

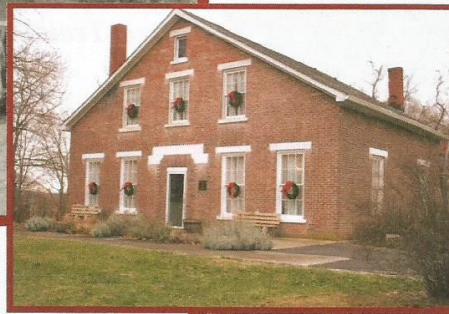
DESIGN PHASE:
 Public Involvement

SHEET NUMBER:
4

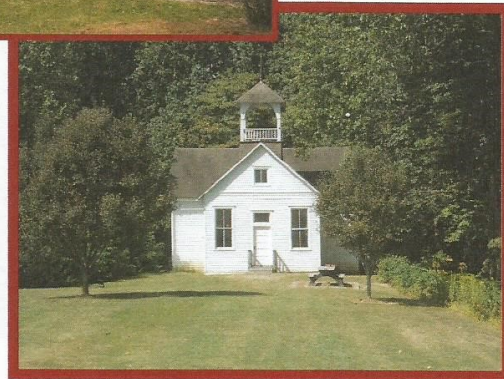
Historic Places directly connected by the proposed Trail System



Old Muscatatuck State Park Inn, then and now. Building now serves as the Muscatatuck Park Office and Visitor's Center



Walnut Grove one-room schoolhouse (1913) located at the park next to the Park Office. Moved to the park in 1990 in cooperation with the Jennings County Preservation Association.

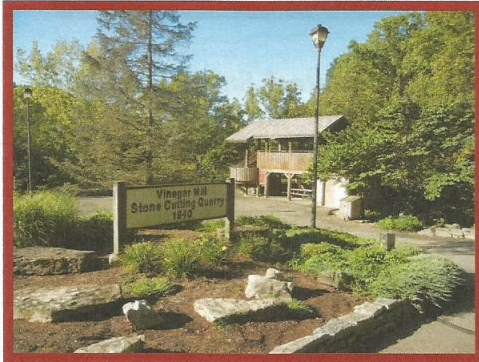
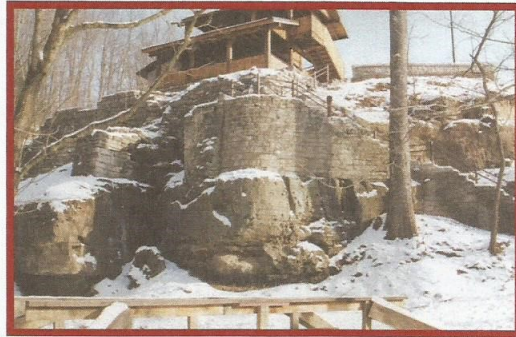


**Historic Places directly connected by the proposed Trail System
(continued)**

Muscatatuck Park (continued)

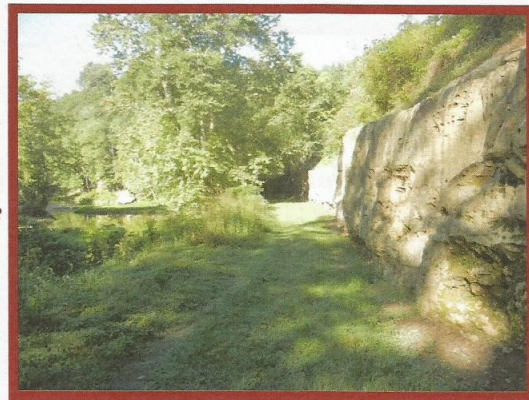


Original Vinegar Mill Stone cutting quarry structure was gone by the late 20th century although the stone foundation and stair work remained. A new shelter was constructed at the site in 2000-2001 as shown in the picture below.

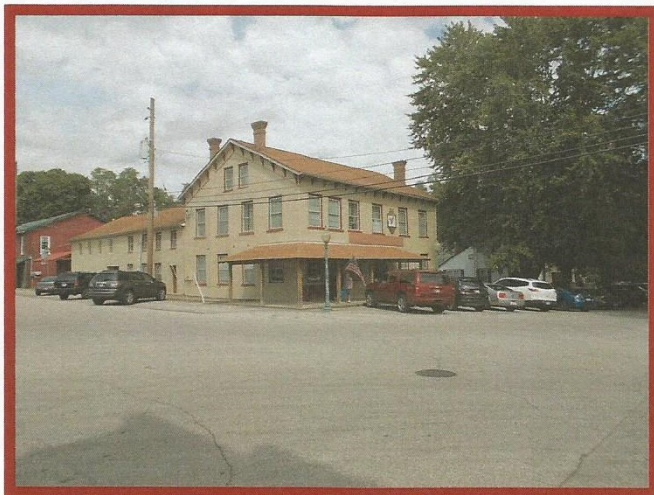
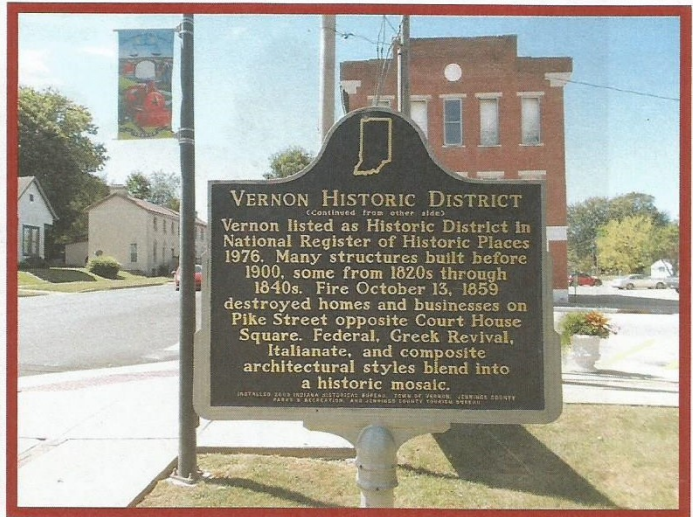
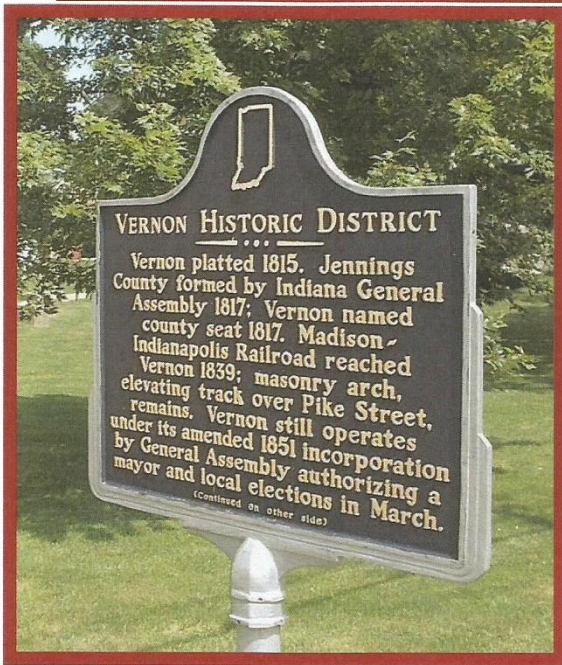


This site will act as the Trail hub in Muscatatuck Park that will connect to the proposed Hiking and Bike Trail along the Muscatatuck River to the Water Street Trail hub in Vernon.

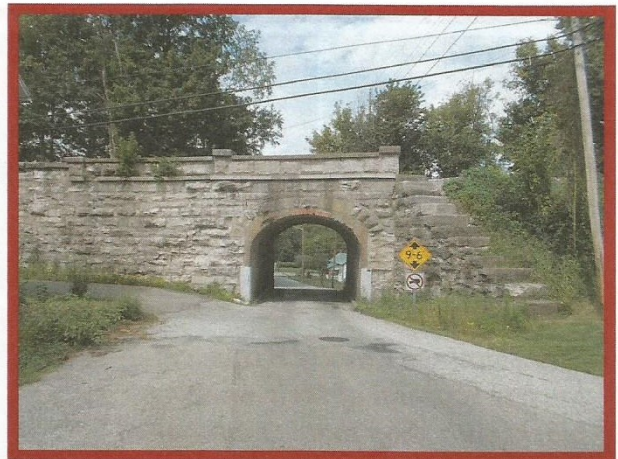
The natural scenic area below the overlook as shown in the picture on the right will act as the trail beginning for the proposed Hiking and Mountain Bike Trail along the River.



Historic Places directly connected by the proposed Trail System (continued)



Old "North American House" building served as an old tavern, inn and stage coach stop at various times and now is the home of the Jennings County Historical Society and Museum



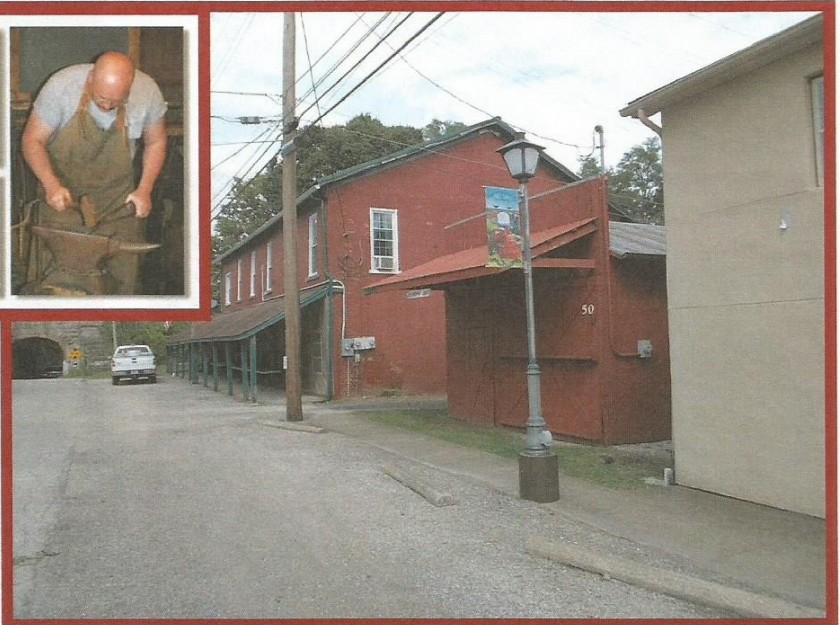
Masonry Arch believed to be the First Elevated Railroad overpass west of the The Alleghenies - 1837-39

***Vernon Town Commons -
First Public Playground in
Indiana - 1817***

***In addition to playground
equipment, the area contains a
Nature Pollination Garden and a
Monarch Butterfly Garden***

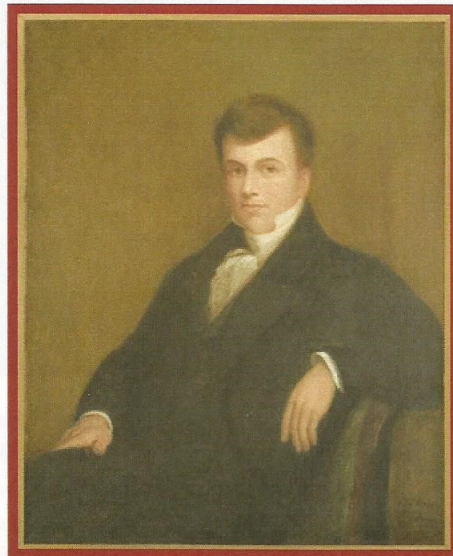


***The Jennings County Historical
Society is proud of their working
blacksmith shop that is maintained
and used by local smitty Ray Sease
and other artisans. Ray
demonstrates the art of pounding
rough iron into unique items
during the Civil War Reenactment
and Tea Festival.***



**Historic Places directly connected by the proposed
Trail System
(continued)**

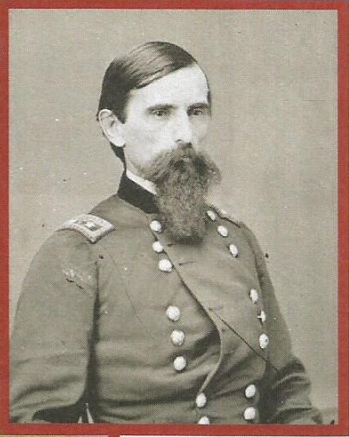
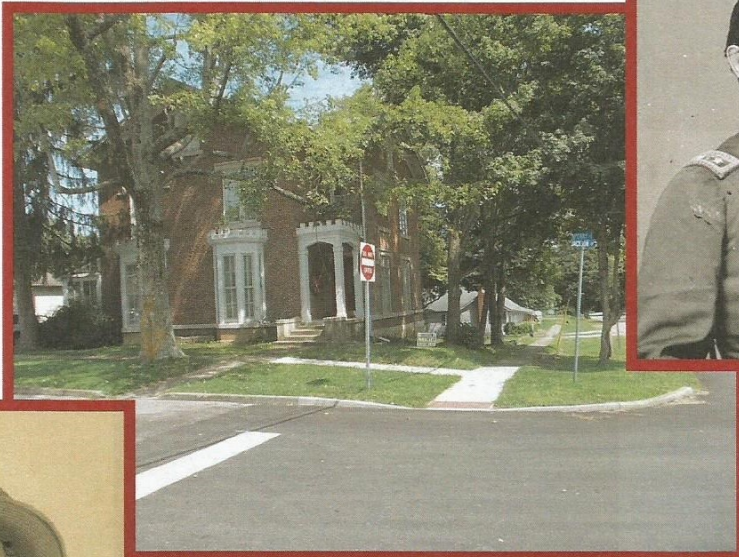
Vernon Area (continued)



Jonathan Jennings
Indiana's 1st Governor
(Indiana Historical Bureau - in.gov)

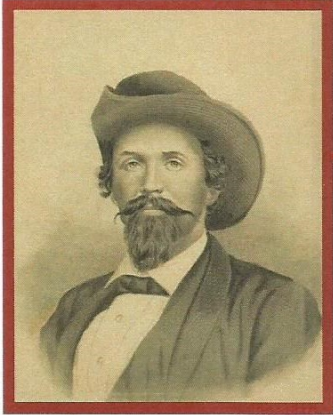
**Historic Places directly connected by the proposed Trail System
(continued)**

Vernon Area (continued)



General Lew Wallace - Union Commander at the Battle of Monacacy, Author of *Ben Hur: A Tale of the Christ*, and Union Commander of Indiana Forces detailed to hunt Morgan's Raiders

(Library of Congress)



**General John Hunt Morgan
Confederate Commander of Morgan's Raid**
(Library of Congress)

Private Home used as General Wallace's Headquarters during Morgan's Raid - A portion of the proposed Trail will be constructed to the right of the home to connect the Vernon Courthouse Square to the Commons Park



Place holder

Appendix E

JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

Vernon Master Plan

All submitted information was prepared by: **FPBH, INC.**

(five pages)



Town of Vernon, Indiana Historic Resources, Parks & Trails Master Plan

August 20, 2008

Mayor Daniel Wright
Clerk Treasurer - Jean Rockey

Town Council

Eric Genda
Scott Koons
Danny Stark

Vernon Town Hall
P.O. Box 233
Vernon, IN 47282
Phone: (812)-346-7438

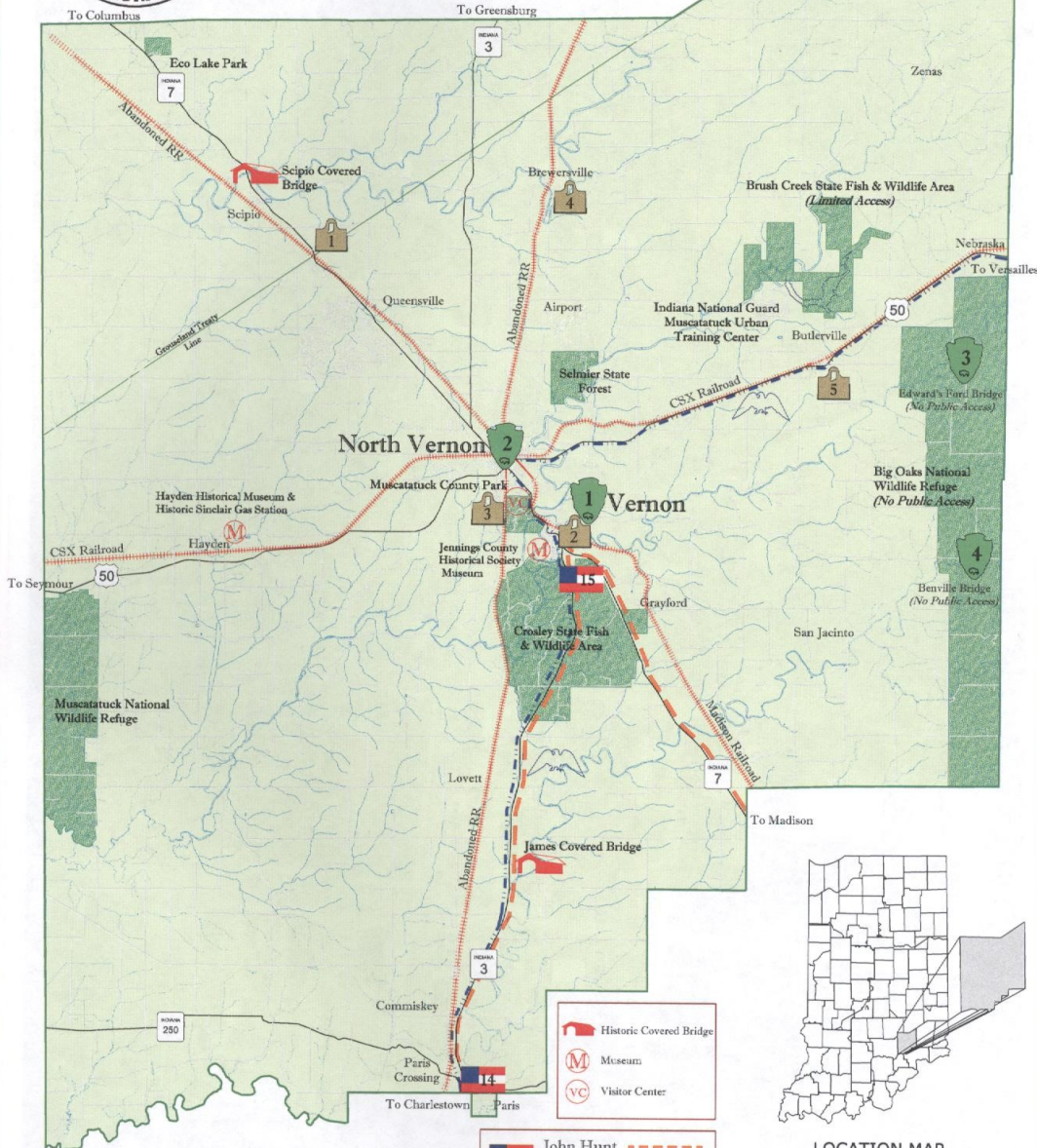
Prepared by:

FPBH, Inc
72 Henry Street
North Vernon, IN 47265
Phone: (812)-346-2045

From the Vernon Master Plan and prepared by : FPBH, INC.



Jennings County, Indiana Natural & Historic Resources



LOCATION MAP
1" = 5000'

Indiana Historical Marker

- 1 Grouseland Treaty Line (Aug 21, 1805)
- 2 Vernon Area (3 Markers at Courthouse)
 - a. Jonathan Jennings, 1784-1834
 - b. Morgan's Raid
 - c. Vernon Historic District
- 3 Muscatatuck Park
- 4 Kellar Grist Mill
- 5 Hannah Milhous Nixon

National Register of Historic Places Site

- 1 Vernon Historic District
- 2 North Vernon Area (4 Sites)
 - a. Annadale - 502 Jennings St
 - b. North Vernon Downtown Historic District
 - c. State Street Historic District
 - d. Walnut Street Historic District
- 3 Edward's Ford Bridge - Stone Arch
- 4 Benville Bridge - Stone Arch

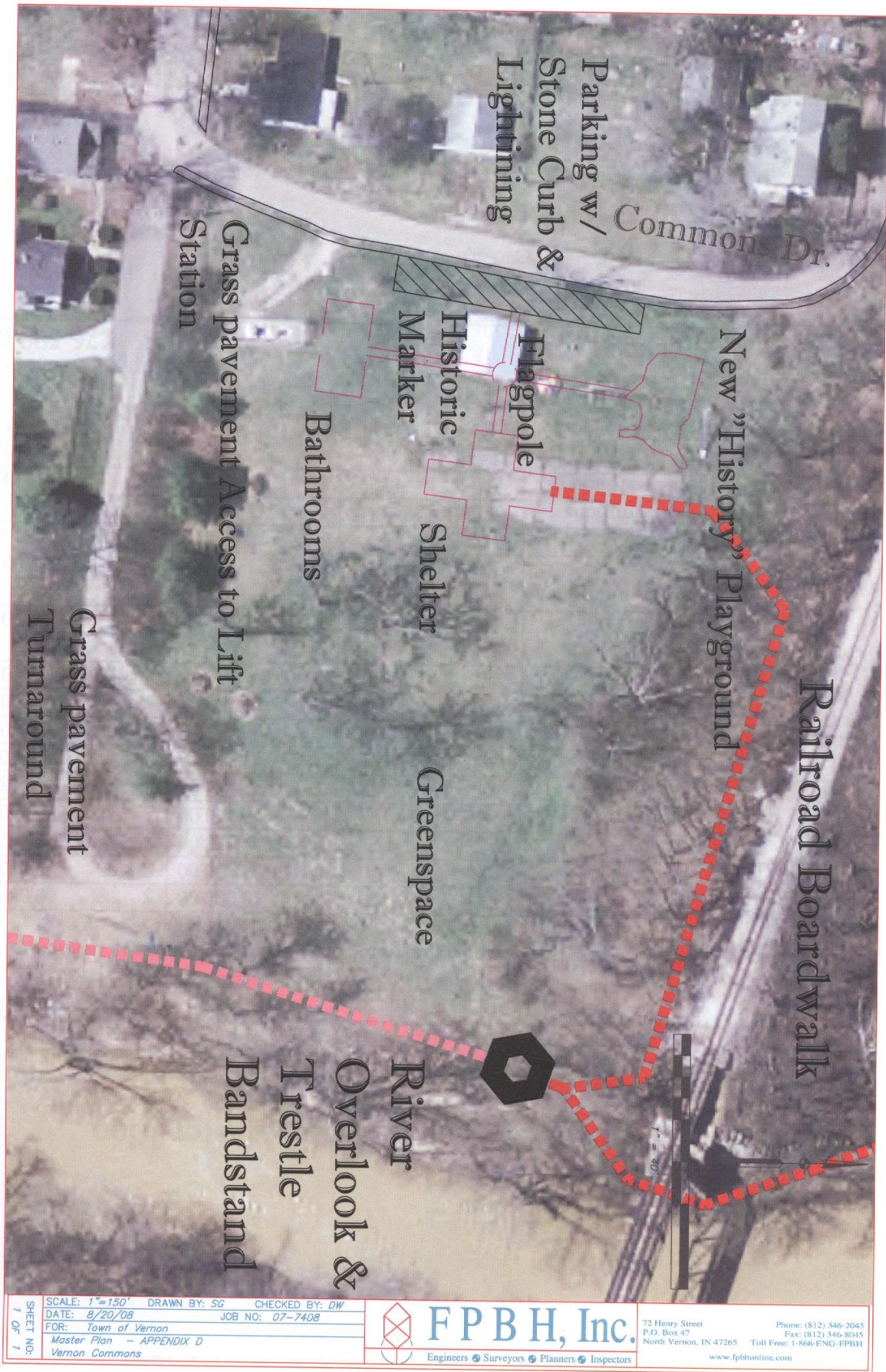
John Hunt Morgan Heritage Trail

- 14 Old Paris Water Well
- 15 Vernon Bluffs

Southeast Indiana Trails to Freedom Underground Railroad - Driving Tour
Route 2
"Friends and Foes"

FPBH, Inc.
Engineers • Surveyors • Planners • Inspectors
72 Heavy Street
P.O. Box 47
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Phone: (812) 346-2045
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Toll Free: 1-866-ENG-FPBH
www.fpbhinc.com

From the Vernon Master Plan and prepared by : FPBH, INC.



From the Vernon Master Plan and prepared by : FPBH, INC.

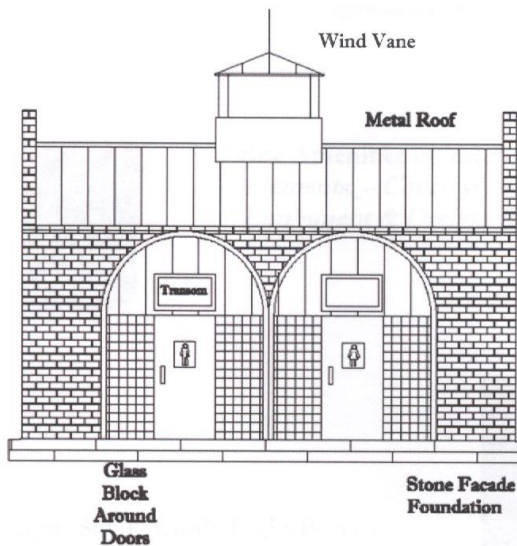


From the Vernon Master Plan and prepared by : FPBH, INC.

Architectural & Amenity Concepts

Photos shown are for reference – models provided are not intended to be proprietary and may be those noted or an approved equal.

Trestle and High School Muscatatuck River
Overlook Concept –
Photo by *Litchfield Landscape
Elements* courtesy of *Indiana Recreation
Equipment & Design, Inc*



Public Restroom
Concepts – Provided by
FPBH, Inc

Commons Shelter Concept –
Campion Model by *Classic Recreation
Systems, Inc.* – Courtesy of
Recreation Unlimited, Inc.



APPENDIX F

Appendix F

JCPR Master Plan 2015-19

Eco Lake Park Engineering and Budgeting Estimates

(five pages)



FPBH, Inc.

Engineers • Surveyors • Planners • Inspectors

72 Henry St.
P.O. Box 47
North Vernon, IN 47265

www.fpbhonline.com

Phone: (812) 346-2045
Fax: (812) 346-8045
Toll Free: 1-866-ENG-FPBH

ECO PARK - CONSTRUCTION COST ESTIMATES

PHASE A1 - 15 NUMBERED SITES FOR TENT CAMPING

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1	Water Extension	1	Lump Sum	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
2	Gravel Pad	1	Lump Sum	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
3	Tap Fee & Meter Set	1	Lump Sum	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
4	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 1,400.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 15,400.00

PHASE A2 - 15 NUMBERED SITES FOR TENT CAMPING

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
5	Water Extension	1	Lump Sum	\$ 16,000.00	\$ 16,000.00
6	Gravel Pad	1	Lump Sum	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
7	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 1,900.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 20,900.00

PHASE B - SANITARY DUMP STATION FOR RV CAMPING

8	Underground Holding Tank	1	Lump Sum	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
9	Concrete Pad & Washdown	1	Lump Sum	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 3,500.00
10	Aggregate Drive	1	Lump Sum	\$ 3,600.00	\$ 3,600.00
11	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 1,910.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 21,010.00

PHASE C - ELECTRIC & WATER TO SITES & ROAD UPGRADES

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
12	Electric Service	1	Lump Sum	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
13	Water Extension	1	Lump Sum	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
14	Electric Pedestal	1	Lump Sum	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
15	Water Risers	1	Lump Sum	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
16	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 6,000.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 66,000.00



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P.O. Box 47
North Vernon, IN 47265

www.fpbhonline.com

Phone: (812) 346-2045
Fax: (812) 346-8045
Toll Free: 1-866-ENG-FPBH

PHASE D - BATHROOM - SHOWER & COMMERCIAL SEPTIC SYSTEM

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
17	Bathroom & Shower House	1	Lump Sum	\$ 65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
18	Commercial Mound	1	Lump Sum	\$ 27,500.00	\$ 27,500.00
19	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 9,250.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 101,750.00

PHASE E - ADDITIONAL PRIMITIVE CAMPING SITES

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
20	Site Construction	1	Lump Sum	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
21	Road Upgrades	1	Lump Sum	\$ 13,500.00	\$ 13,500.00
22	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 2,250.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 24,750.00

PHASE F - PULL THROUGH SERVICE SITES WITH SEWER CONNECTIONS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Unit Price</u>	<u>Amount</u>
23	Pull Through Road	1	Lump Sum	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
24	Gravity Sewer	1	Lump Sum	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
25	Pump Station	1	Lump Sum	\$ 9,500.00	\$ 9,500.00
26	Miscellaneous & Contingencies	10%			\$ 3,650.00
SUB TOTAL					\$ 40,150.00

Total Estimated Project Costs \$ 289,960.00

PROPOSAL

1984

**BROOKS & EARL
CONSTRUCTION CORP.**
P.O. BOX 301
NORTH VERNON, IN 47265
(812) 346-6549 FAX (812) 346-9603

TO: Jennings County Muscatatuck Park
Attn: Greg Martin
325 N. State Highway #3
North Vernon IN 47265

PHONE 812.346.2953	DATE 8/13/2012
JOB NAME / LOCATION Eco Lake Park Budget Estimates Campgrounds	
JOB NUMBER Fax 812.346.8928	JOB PHONE

We hereby submit specifications and estimates for:

Scope Of Work: Budget Estimates - Campgrounds

1. ALTERNATE 'B' - Install approximately 3500' of 4" SDR 21 water line, hook up to existing meter set provided by Bartholomew County Water.
Install one (1) frost proof Hydrant and cap off for future extension.

BUDGET PRICE FOR ALTERNATE 'B' \$ 38,000.00

2. AREA C - Electrical pedestal for primitive campsite as per specs, with no water:
(7) - Single pedestals
(8) - Duplex Pedestals

BUDGET PRICE FOR AREA 'C' \$ 42,500.00

3. Dump Station and Holding Tank
Underground holding tank
Concrete pad and wash down
Aggregate drive

BUDGET PRICE FOR DUMP STATION & HOLDING TANK \$ 23,200.00

103,700

We Propose hereby to furnish material and labor — complete in accordance with the above specifications.

Payment to be made as follows:
Per Contract

All material is guaranteed to be as specified. All work to be completed in a professional manner according to standard practices. Any alteration or deviation from above specifications involving extra costs will be executed only upon written orders, and will become an extra charge over and above the estimate. All agreements contingent upon strikes, accidents or delays beyond our control. Owner to carry fire, tornado, and other necessary insurance. Our workers are fully covered by Worker's Compensation insurance.

Authorized Signature Glen E. Brooks

Note: This proposal may be withdrawn by us if not accepted within 30 days.

Acceptance of Proposal — The above prices, specifications and conditions are satisfactory and are hereby accepted. You are authorized to do the work as specified. Payment will be made as outlined above.

Signature _____

Signature _____

Date of Acceptance: _____

Appendix G

JCPR Mater Plan 2015-19

Public Notices, Press, Public Meeting Overview, Tourism information, and NVPR Preliminary Master Plan Recommendations.

(three pages)

Making county's parks even better

JCPR: Public input sought to develop new plan

by Bryce Mayer

The Jennings County Parks and Recreation Department (JCPR) is seeking public input as it begins the process of creating a new five-year master plan for both the Muscatatuck Park and Eco Lake Park.

"We will first be looking at the current inventory of the planning area while also reviewing and researching recreational trends and standards," said Greg Martin, JCPR director. "Soon we will be

reviewing issues, site plans and maintenance issues."

Martin and the JCPR board is encouraging as many people as it can from the community to participate in the research and planning process. All ideas are welcome that potentially could make the county's parks even better, he said.

"The first half hour of each of our county park board meetings the rest of this year will be desig-

nated for master plan review and public input," Martin said. "We welcome anyone who is interested in helping us further develop our outdoor recreational areas."

Park board meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of each month at the JCPR office and Visitor Center near the front entrance at the Muscatatuck Park. Meetings start at 5:30 p.m. Additional time and

(continued on page 12A)

Parks ...

(continued from page 1A)

more meetings will be added as needed, according to Martin.

The schedule for the JCPR master plan process is:

- May-October: Review and data collection.
- November: Pinpoint priority issues for further review.
- December: Public opinion review and the drafting of text.
- Jan. 15, 2020: Submit rough draft to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources

(IDNR).

- February 2020: Review action plan, incorporate IDNR suggestions.

- March 2020: Last review of unfinished plan.

- April: Public presentation of new five-year master plan.

- April 15, 2020: Plan submitted for final IDNR approval.

"This is the best opportunity for the general public to get involved in the county's parks and recreation process," Martin said. "Although planning is always an ongoing reevaluation process, the public is also wel-

sets up the agenda for spending for the next five years. Now is the time to be heard, so feel free to speak up. Large and small concerns will all be reviewed."

The Muscatatuck Park's web site, muscatatuckpark.com, will be involved during the planning process as will its Facebook pages, Muscatatuck Park, and Eco Lake Park.

"Meeting information will be presented in this open and accessible form. From the home page, click 'Master Plan' button," Martin advised.

The public is also wel-

come to contact Martin at the JCPR office, 812-346-2953 or greg.jcpr@frontier.com.

Fill out survey to help Jennings Parks Dept.

Dear Editor,

To all Jennings County residents.

The Jennings County Parks and Recreation (JCPR) Department is requesting assistance in surveying the community about Jennings County's recreational needs. The survey is mandated by the Indiana Department of Natural Resources in our five-year master plan process.

Please go to our website, www.muscatatuck-park.com, or to the Muscatatuck Park page on Facebook to fill out a digital survey.

Paper surveys can be turned into our office, maintenance office, dropped off in the mail box, or sent to Muscatatuck Park, 325 N. State Highway 3, North Vernon, IN 47265. (See the full survey on page 7A.)

I believe we are currently experiencing our community's largest influx of recreational improvement. Likely this was a bit overdue. Do you agree or not? What do you think of the potential improvements such as the Muscatatuck Trail and the potential Girls

and Boys Club?

Please help us gauge our system and help steer us in the direction most needed for our wonderful community by filling out a survey.

One thing we know for sure is that we are looking for volunteers to form a committee to help us create a celebration for the 100 anniversary of the Muscatatuck Park's creation. May 17, 2021, or possibly the Saturday before, is the date!

Greg Martin,
Director, JCPR

County pledges \$101K toward proposed trail

by Bryce Mayer

The Jennings County Council on Tuesday committed to a \$101,000 pledge as part of the matching fund necessary for the Town of Vernon's application for a Next Level Trail grant (see related stories on page 4A).

"I think we need to commit the total amount," said Charlie Weber (R-District 4) before the vote, which was unanimous.

"This is a no-brainer when you consider that this investment will hopefully bring a \$1.37 million project to the county," added Howard Malcomb (R-at large).

(continued on page 12A)

Trail ...

(continued from page 1A)

The proposed project involves the construction of a trail from Vinegar Mill in the Muscatatuck Park to the Vernon Commons with most of the route along the north bank of the Muscatatuck River. A river overlook in Vernon, two shelter structures and a public restroom at the Commons are also part of the project.

"This is a very big deal for us," Vernon

Mayor Dan Wright told the Council. "We thank you for your support."

Greg Martin, Jennings County Parks and Recreation Director, expressed appreciation, too.

Wright, Martin and Jeff Walker, Community Wellness Coordinator with the county Extension office, are also soliciting financial support in the form of donations from individuals, groups and others for the project. More details are on page 4A.

Meeting will give info on a proposed trail

There will be public informational meeting, not a public hearing, specifically for a proposed trail project that would foreseeably be a "game changer" for the Town of Vernon and for the Muscatatuck Park.

The session is set from 6 to 7 p.m. at the Vernon Gym on Thursday, Oct. 24. This meeting is to show and explain project plans and answer questions regarding the project.

As reported in last week's Plain Dealer, Vernon will be applying for a \$1.37 million grant from a state program to build a walking trail from Vinegar Mill at the Muscatatuck Park to the Vernon Commons. The state of Indiana is encouraging communities to

build such trails to promote quality of life and enhance the health of its citizens through walking.

Those receiving a grant from the Next Level Trails program would have to provide a match of 20 percent or, in Vernon's case, \$274,000. Already, the county has pledged \$100,000 for the match and the Muscatatuck Park at least \$50,000.

Letters of support are being sought as well. Information on writing a letter was in last week's news or go to www.plain-dealer-sun.com.

For more information, contact Vernon Mayor Dan Wright at 812-592-1410 or Jeff Walker at Purdue Extension Jennings County, 812-352-3033.

'Game changer' of a trail hinges on grant

Your support needed for path from county park to the Vernon Commons

First, it was the Stellar project's Muscatatuck Trail that quickly became a favorite walking area for local residents to be outdoors, exercise, and meet with family and friends.

Now, a group of community- and health-minded individuals are hoping to expand upon the popularity of that path, which goes from downtown's major intersection out to the county park. But while the Muscatatuck Trail was funded through North Vernon's Stellar Community participation, the next trail will need buy-in from local governments, agencies and residents if it is ever to become reality.

Vernon Mayor Dan Wright and Community Wellness Coordinator Jeff Walker have been busy discussing the new trail at various government meetings recently, including the NV City Council, Vernon Town Board and county council.

The men explain how at the end of 2018, the governor's office announced the Next Level Trails (NLT) grant would be available to provide \$90 million over two years to help communi-

tain biking trail to connect the Muscatatuck Park Vinegar Mill overlook to the Vernon Commons Park area.

"This is a community wide game changer," remarked Mayor Wright, and will greatly enhance recreational opportunities for old and young alike.

Connection Plan

Planning for the paved trail began in 2008 with the Town of Vernon and the support of Jennings County Parks and Recreation. The idea for the proposed hiking trail came earlier from Jennings County Parks. The paved trail will connect the Vernon Commons playground, the Jennings County Courthouse, the Vernon Gym, and a trailhead on Water Street in Vernon. From the trailhead the proposed hiking trail will follow the north bank of the Muscatatuck River to the Vinegar Mill overlook at Muscatatuck Park.

Plans for the application also include a river overlook behind the Vernon Gym (see photo), two shelter structures and a public restroom building at the Vernon Commons.

The total cost of the



Vernon Mayor Dan Wright stands where the "river overlook" would be located behind the Vernon gymnasium. At the most, a few small scrub trees might have to be trimmed or taken out for an unobstructed view of the Muscatatuck, seen just left of center in mid-photo. —Staff Photo by Barbara King

county project."

The Council, though, agree to write a letter in support of the project grant, as did the mayor.

Wright and Walker are also asking citizens to get involved and show support. Below is a "template" to use or to go by as

community by building this trail in Historic Vernon. Studies show that trails boost the local economy, draw people to visit or live near the trail, and are associated with residents' improved health and wellbeing.

Support from Jennings County residents will help the Town of Vernon ensure a competitive application to submit to the Next Level Trails program.

If you agree and would like to support this effort, there are two things you can do! Get your letter of support from community members and groups or yourself and commit to donating to help fund the trail.

For more information about writing a letter of support, contact Walker at the Purdue Extension Jennings County office at (812) 352-3033 or walke526@purdue.edu.

To learn more about supporting the project in other ways, please contact the Mayor of Vernon, Dan Wright, at dwwright79@gmail.com or (812)592-1410.

Template for letter of support is provided

things you can do! Get your letter of support from community members and groups or yourself and commit to donating to help fund the trail.

For more information about writing a letter of support, contact Walker at the Purdue Extension at Jennings County office at (812) 352-3033 or walke526@purdue.edu.

To learn more about supporting the project in other ways, please contact the Mayor of Vernon, Dan Wright, at dwwright79@gmail.com or (812)592-1410.

you write your own note expressing support. Letters should be given to Wright or Walker by the end of October.

According to Walker, the trail project will offer Jennings County residents an opportunity to further enjoy the natural beauty and history of our county project."

The Council, did, though, agree to write a letter in support of the project grant, as did the mayor. Wright and Walker are also asking citizens to get involved and show support. Below is a "template" to use or to go by as

part of the local match. After informing the North Vernon City Council about the project, the Council made no commitment, but said they would take the matter under advisement. Councilor Trent Wisner noted, "To me, this is eighty percent a

trail plan. The community of Jennings County will be able to build a new three-fourths of a mile paved trail through the Town of Vernon highlighting its most significant natural and historical elements. In addition, a half-mile hiking trail that safely connects the Town of Vernon to the Muscatatuck County Park at Vinegar Mill will be created.

Here is a template provided by Mayor Dan Wright and Wellness Coordinator Jeff Fuller to express your opinion on the proposed trail.

After writing/typing your letter, please drop off at the Extension office on the second floor of Vernon's Government Center or to FPBH in North Vernon.

Letter Template
Your Name or Organization
Address (This paragraph can be written in a separate paragraph here.)
Dear Next Level Trails Grant Review Committee:

As such, "This is a prime opportunity," he told the City Council. However, local commitments to provide funding, labor, and materials will be needed to cover the final 20 percent or \$275,000 local match required by the grant. Over \$50,000 of the local match has already been pledged to the project through the Muscatatuck Park. And, "sweat equity" can also be considered

I am/We are writing to support the Next Level Trails grant application for the Town of Vernon. Our community is seeking funding opportunities to assist with implementation of the local master

plan as the most likely to be awarded a grant. Under the sponsorship of the Town of Vernon, an application for the second round of the grant is being considered to build a three-quarter mile paved trail and half-mile hiking and moun-

tain residents of the Town of Vernon and Jennings County by (your first reason for wanting to see the project funded), as well as, (your second reason for wanting to see the project funded). (I am/We are) requesting your support to help fund this great initiative within Jennings County.

Sincerely,
(Your Name and/or Organization Name)

own personal priorities for building trails in Vernon and connecting to the Muscatatuck County Park. Please write about your own reasons or refer to such points as health and wellness benefits, economic benefits, social and community life benefits, etc.

If you have two reasons you want to see the project funded by the Next Level Trails committee, write a second paragraph here.)

Be written in a separate paragraph here.)

Be written in a separate paragraph here.)



Vernon Mayor Dan Wright stands where the "river overlook" would be located behind the Vernon gymnasium. At the most, a few small scrub trees might have to be trimmed or taken out for an unobstructed view of the Muscatatuck, seen just left of center in mid-photo. —Staff Photo by Barbara King

Template for letter of support is provided

JENNINGS COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION 2020 MASTER PLAN SURVEY

Please complete this survey! You may complete it online through the Muscatatuck Park Facebook page or through the Muscatatuck Park website, or you may fill out this form! Return instructions found at end of survey!

GENERAL

First round of questions will help us determine your general recreational profile.

- Where do you reside?
 County resident?
 City Resident
 CSL Resident?
 Other?
- Please list your five favorite recreational activities in order of preference?
 1 _____ 4 _____
 2 _____ 5 _____
 3 _____
- How often do you use the Muscatatuck Park? What is your main reason to visit?

- How often do you visit Eco Lake Park. What is your main reason to visit?

- How often do you visit the North Vernon "City Park"? What is your main reason to visit?

- What other recreational areas do you visit and how often?

- Are you or your family a member of a recreational user group, club, or league sports program? If yes, please list program.

- How would you rate your recreational experiences through this activity?
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
- Do we need additional programs in our community?
 Yes
 No
- Do we need additional parks? If yes, what should these parks supply (fields, courts, green space, trails, other)?

- There are a few main issues that our community is currently experiencing. We hope to understand better your opinion on these issues.

- Have you used the paved multi-use Muscatatuck Trail?
 Yes
 No
- How often do you use this trail?

- Local leaders have identified connections in town and a potential trail to connect the library to CSL. Do you support this?
 Yes
 No
- How would you rate the importance of developing additional multi-use trails?
 Not important at all.
 Low importance.
 Generally important
 High importance
 Extremely important
- There is an initiative to build a Girls & Boys Club, do you support this?
 Yes
 No
- Would you donate to the fund to create this club?
 Yes
 No
- Would you or your family become a member?
 Yes
 No
- How would you rate the importance of developing a Girls & Boys Club?
 Not important at all.
 Low importance.
 Generally important
 High importance
 Extremely important
- Our community tried to create a YMCA (similar to a G & B Club) a couple of times in the past (most recently 20 years ago), but was not successful. What do you believe is needed to make this a successful endeavor?

- Eco lake Park has plans to develop the campground. Do you support this? Would you support funding for this upgrade to come from the _____

CURRENT RECREATIONAL LOCAL ISSUES

JENNINGS COUNTY PARKS SPECIFIC

- Nearly Done! Please help us understand what issues specific to the two county parks are most important.
- Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Maintenance
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
 - Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Aesthetics/cleanliness
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
 - Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Trails
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
 - Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Campground
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
 - Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Community Building/shelters
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
 - Please rate the following JPCR specific items: Playgrounds
 Excellent
 Good
 Average
 Poor
 DNA
33. Please tell us what you think! Feel free to comment, elaborate, or sound off! We need your help for us to help you. Thanks very much!

26. In 2017 local leaders participated in a CNA (Community Needs Assessment). Are you familiar with this study? If so, do you feel we are making progress on identified issues?

JENNINGS COUNTY PARKS SPECIFIC

Nearly Done! Please help us understand what issues specific to the two county parks are most important.

- 27. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Maintenance
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA
- 28. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Aesthetics/cleanliness
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA
- 29. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Trails
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA
- 30. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Campground
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA
- 31. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Community Building/shelters
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA
- 32. Please rate the following JCPR specific items: Playgrounds
 - Excellent
 - Average
 - Good
 - Poor
 - DNA

33. Please tell us what you think! Feel free to comment, elaborate, or sound off! We need your help for us to help you. Thanks very much!

After completing this survey, please cut out and drop off at:

Main Office, Mailbox at front entrance, Maintenance Office,
 Or mail it to:
 325 North State Highway 3
 North Vernon, IN 47265

There are a few main issues that our community is currently experiencing. We hope to understand better your opinion on these issues.

13. Have you used the paved multi-use Muscatatuck Trail?
 Yes No

14. How often do you use this trail?

15. Local leaders have identified connections in town and a potential trail to connect the library to CSL. Do you support this?
 Yes No

16. How would you rate the importance of developing additional multi-use trails?
 Not important at all. Generally important Extremely important.
 Low importance. High importance

17. There is an initiative to build a Girls & Boys Club, do you support this?
 Yes No

18. Would you donate to the fund to create this club?
 Yes No

19. Would you or your family become a member?
 Yes No

20. How would you rate the importance of developing a Girls & Boys Club?
 Not important at all. Generally important Extremely important.
 Low importance. High importance

21. Our community tried to create a YMCA (similar to a G & B Club) a couple of times in the past (most recently 20 years ago), but was not successful. What do you believe is needed to make this a successful endeavor?

22. Eco lake Park has plans to develop the campground. Do you support this? Would you support funding for this upgrade to come from the County Council?

23. Trypton Park is nearing completion. Do you support the development of this facility and do you plan to use it?

Please list your five favorite recreational activities in order of preference?
 1 _____
 2 _____
 3 _____
 4 _____
 5 _____

How often do you use the Muscatatuck Park? What is your main reason for visit?

How often do you visit Eco Lake Park. What is your main reason to visit?

How often do you visit the North Vernon "City Park"? What is your main reason to visit?

What other recreational areas do you visit and how often?

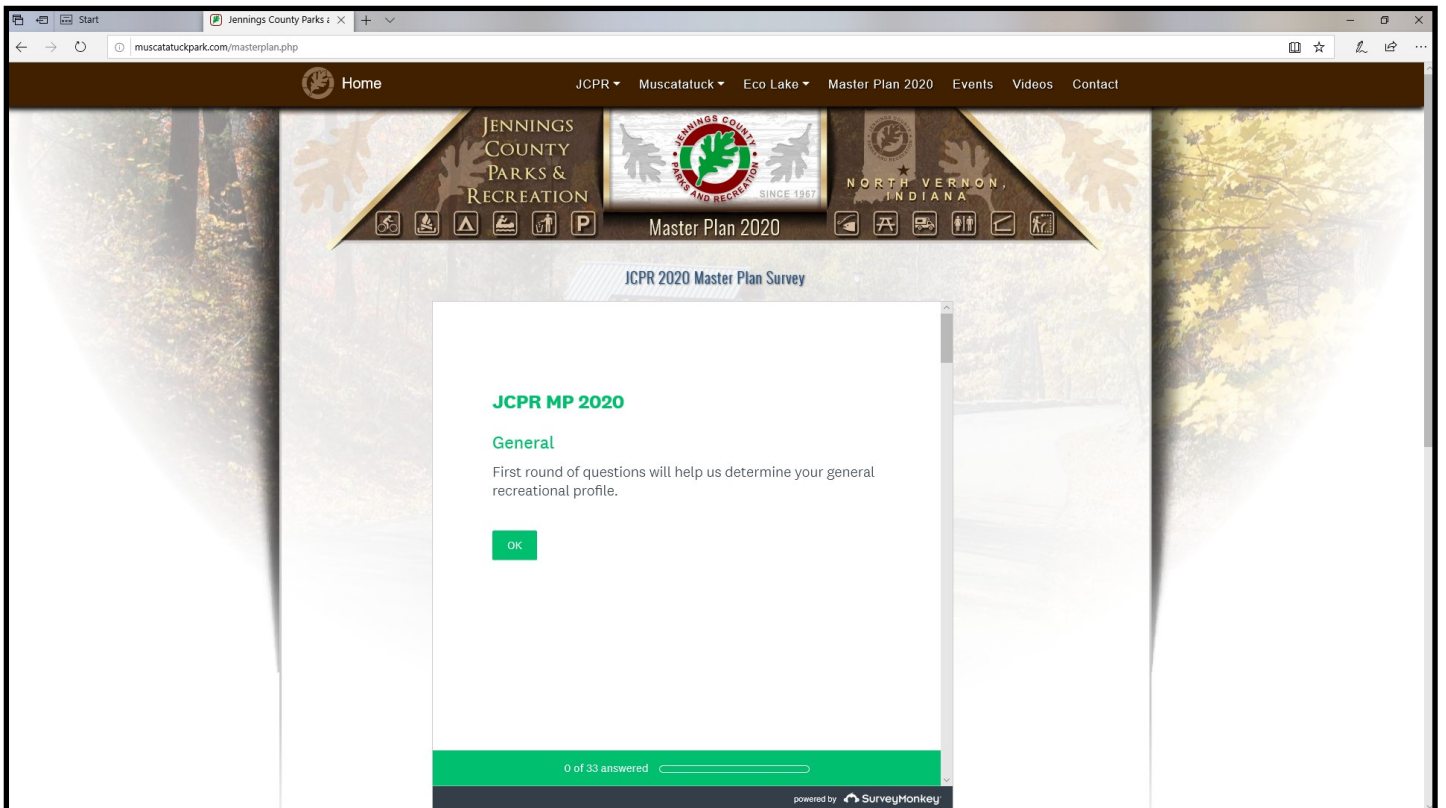
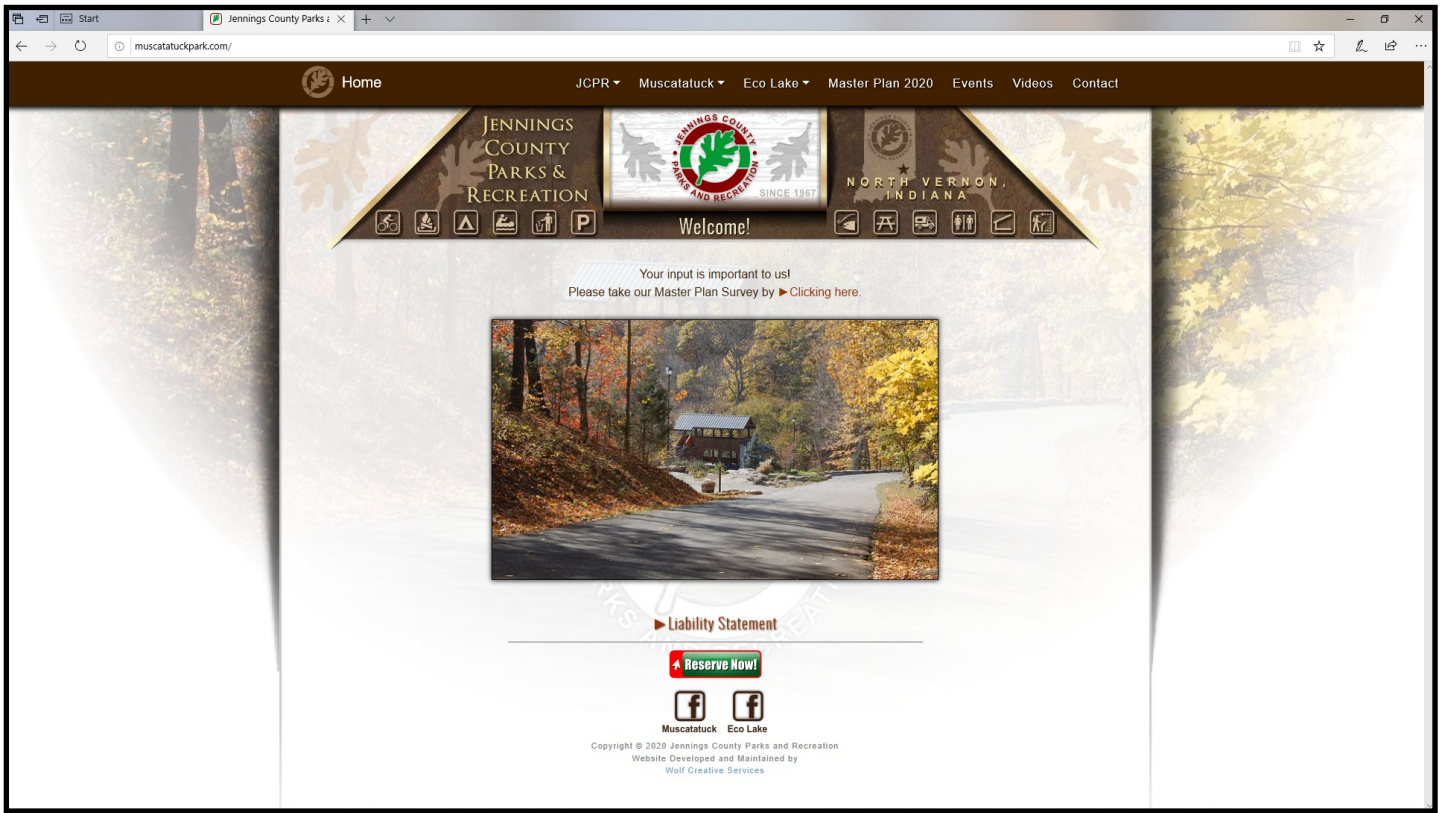
Are you or your family a member of a recreational user group, club, or league sports program? If yes, please list program.

How would you rate your recreational experiences through this activity?
 Excellent Average DNA
 Good Poor

Do we need additional programs in our community?
 Yes No

If so, What organization should provide these activities?

What activities are most needed?



Start Eco Lake Park Muscatatuck Park - Post ActiveNet - Jennings Count

https://www.facebook.com/pg/muscatatuck/posts/?ref=page_internal


Muscatatuck Park

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Muscatatuck Park
@muscatatuck

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Muscatatuck Park
July 22, 2019 ·
J CPR 2020 Master Plan Survey
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/R6SHMML



Can you spare a few moments to take my survey? Can you spare a few moments to take my survey?

951 People Reached 37 Engagements Boost Unavailable

2 Comments 4 Shares

Like Comment Share

Most Relevant

Comment as Muscatatuck Park

Author
Muscatatuck Park Please take a few minutes (5 to 15 to complete survey) to help us assess our 2020 masterplan needs. Thanks!
Like Reply 24w

Visitor Posts

Brian Holzhausen
May 1, 2017 at 3:35 PM
https://youtu.be/gFIS01PkT8
1 Like
Like Comment Message

Coleen Sweany Fleming
October 16, 2016 at 3:15 PM
Beautiful fall day hike
3 Likes
Unlike Comment Message

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Chat (55)

Start Muscatatuck Park - Hor

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Muscatatuck Park

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Muscatatuck Park
@muscatatuck

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Muscatatuck Park
1 min ·
Help them continue to improve!



SURVEYMONKEY.COM
North Vernon Parks & Recreation Master Plan
Take this survey powered by surveymonkey.com. Create your own...

Boost Post

Like Comment Share

Muscatatuck Park updated their cover photo.
17 hrs ·

325 N State Highway 3
North Vernon, Indiana 47205
Get Directions
(812) 348-2053
Send Message
http://muscatatuckpa... Promote Website

Park - Public & Government Service
Community Organization
Price Range \$
Hours 6:00 AM - 8:00 PM
Open Now
Popular hours

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
6AM	6AM	12PM	3PM	6PM	8PM	12AM
3AM						

Suggest Edits

Page Transparency
See More
Facebook is showing information to help you better understand the purpose of a Page. See actions taken by the people who manage and post content.
Page created - May 12, 2010

Pages Liked by This Page

Tame the Terrain
Jennings County Youth Foundat...
Jennings County Community Fo...

Chat (56)

Making Jennings Healthier

New health-focused group presents their top projects to get everyone in better shape

by Barbara King

Eleven local residents are bound and determined to see Jennings County residents get healthier.



Walker

The eleven answered Jeff Walker's call last summer to form a committee to help him accomplish that goal as the new Jennings County Wellness Coordinator.

Walker is one of 45 such coordinators in the State of Indiana employed by Purdue to address the state's dismal health statistics. For example, in 2018, Jennings placed 89th among the state's 92 counties for longevity; 67th in quality of life; and 79th in social/economic factors.

In an article in this newspaper last summer, Walker asked anyone interested in improving the health of local residents to help him form a "wellness committee." The group has been meeting since August and announced their goals, as well as a new name, to the City Council at their meeting Monday, March, 25.

Joining Walker to discuss their goals were Greg Martin, county park director, and Dr. Steve Sollman, local vet.

Walker explained that the group "finished a vote today" to rename their action team "Joining



Ask Michelle Howard and her daughter Phoenix if the city needs more sidewalks and she will answer with a resounding "Yes." The situation of walkways is "horrible" in town, she says as she traverses the Hwy. 50 shoulder to get to a convenience store. —Staff Photo by Barbara King

Jennings for Healthy Living."

That said, he proceeded to inform the governors about five projects the group is undertaking:

1. The group plans "web based information services" to help the public learn more about the many assets here in Jennings that will encourage health. These include the county park, the Muscatatuck Trail, the city park, etc. as well as nutrition education resources.

2. The group plans to initiate the planting of more trees so "people are more comfortable outside," said Walker.

3. More adult exercise structures will be placed near children play areas to encourage outdoor activity for grown-ups.

4. A program for vegetable and fruit "prescriptions" or vouchers is being discussed with the

Jennings County Farmers Market to make the purchase of these healthy foods more affordable. Local care providers would prescribe these nutritional foods per a patient's medical condition.

5. The last goal was introduced by Dr. Sollman, who noted he has an employee who walks to his Hwy. 3 North office daily and shares his "experiences" along the way, specifically the challenges he deals with due to the lack of sidewalks. "I think the city needs to step up," he said, and build more walkways, especially in the newly annexed areas.

County park director Martin noted an "amazing opportunity" to carve a new two mile walking/bike trail out of the old railroad bed from the junction of Hwy. 3 N and Madison Ave. north.

An "unofficial trails committee" has been meeting and discussing this possibility and plans to update the master trails plan to include this project.

The Joining Jennings for Healthy Living group meets the second Monday of the month at 9:30 a.m. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, give Walker a call at the county extension office, 812-352-3033.

In addition to those mentioned above, members of the committee are Chris Branham, community member; Gloria Cabrales, of St. Vincent Jennings; Lee-Lee Ernsts, of the NV mayor's office; Charlinda Evans, JCHS; Tracy Heaton de Martinez and Shelby Eggers, Thrive Alliance; Chelsea Morrison, Hilex Poly; and Claire Winship, Children's Bureau.

County hires advisory firm

Indianapolis group to produce 5-year comprehensive plan for JC Council

by Bryce Mayer

By a 4-1-2 vote, the Jennings County Council hired a new financial advisory firm, Baker Tilly Municipal Advisors of Indianapolis, earlier this month.

"Baker Tilly has a lot of expertise," said council president Howard Malcomb (R-at-large), who was joined by Paul Belding (R-at-large), Bob Ellis (R-District 3) and Charlie Weber (R-District 4) in the majority. "They serve 75 percent of the counties in the

state, so that's significant."

Mandy Creech (R-District 2) dissented while Mike Gerth (R-District 1) and Dave Woodall (R-at-large) abstained.

According to terms of the contract, Baker Tilly will produce a five-year comprehensive financial plan at a fee of \$25,000 to \$30,000. The exact amount will depend on the amount of time and expense it takes to complete the plan.

Other services will be provided by Baker Tilly at fees based on time and expense at

hourly rates ranging from \$550 to \$90.

Creech said she voted no because she wanted to hire Andrew Lanam of George K. Baum & Co.

"Since I've been on the Council, I've spent some time working with Andrew and felt he was well qualified and more hands-on than Baker Tilly," she noted. "His office (in Columbus) is closer than Indianapolis, plus his fees are more reasonable."

Woodall agreed, though he

abstained with his vote.

"I felt like I couldn't vote against Andrew because he's done good work with us and some of it for free," Woodall said. "I felt loyalty to him and am confident he could easily do this job and for less money."

Weber, who was on the county's Redevelopment Commission, also known as the TIF board, before he took office in January, said Baker Tilly has impressed him.

"I liked what I saw from Baker Tilly during my time on

the county TIF board," he said. "They are a large outfit with a lot of resources. They are highly professional and will help us make great decisions."

Baker Tilly will provide a five-year comprehensive financial plan, annual budget assistance and other accounting support services for the county.

With the five-year plan, Baker Tilly will prepare a cash flow model for the county government's major funds, prepare

(continued on page 12A)

Advisory firm ...

(continued from page 1A)

schedules of cash receipts, cash disbursements and fund balances for all major funds; provide a projection of cash receipts, cash disbursements and fund balances for all major funds through 2021; recommend a level of minimum fund balances to be maintained; identify fund balances within non-major funds that may be available to fund General Fund or other operating

expenditures and provide a description of the authorized uses of fund balances; identify potential shortfalls in revenues and provide suggestions as available to bridge funding gaps; and provide a preliminary report of findings and recommendations, along with a report summary, to the council.

"The auditor (Tessia Salsman) recommended Baker Tilly and so did Charlie," Ellis said. "I went to the interview with Andrew (Lanam), and he seemed knowledgeable. At the end of the day, I voted for what I thought would be the best thing for taxpayers."

"They (Baker Tilly) will help us get our budget done right," Malcomb added. "We don't want to make any mistakes because that would cost us a lot of money."

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North Vernon Plain Dealer

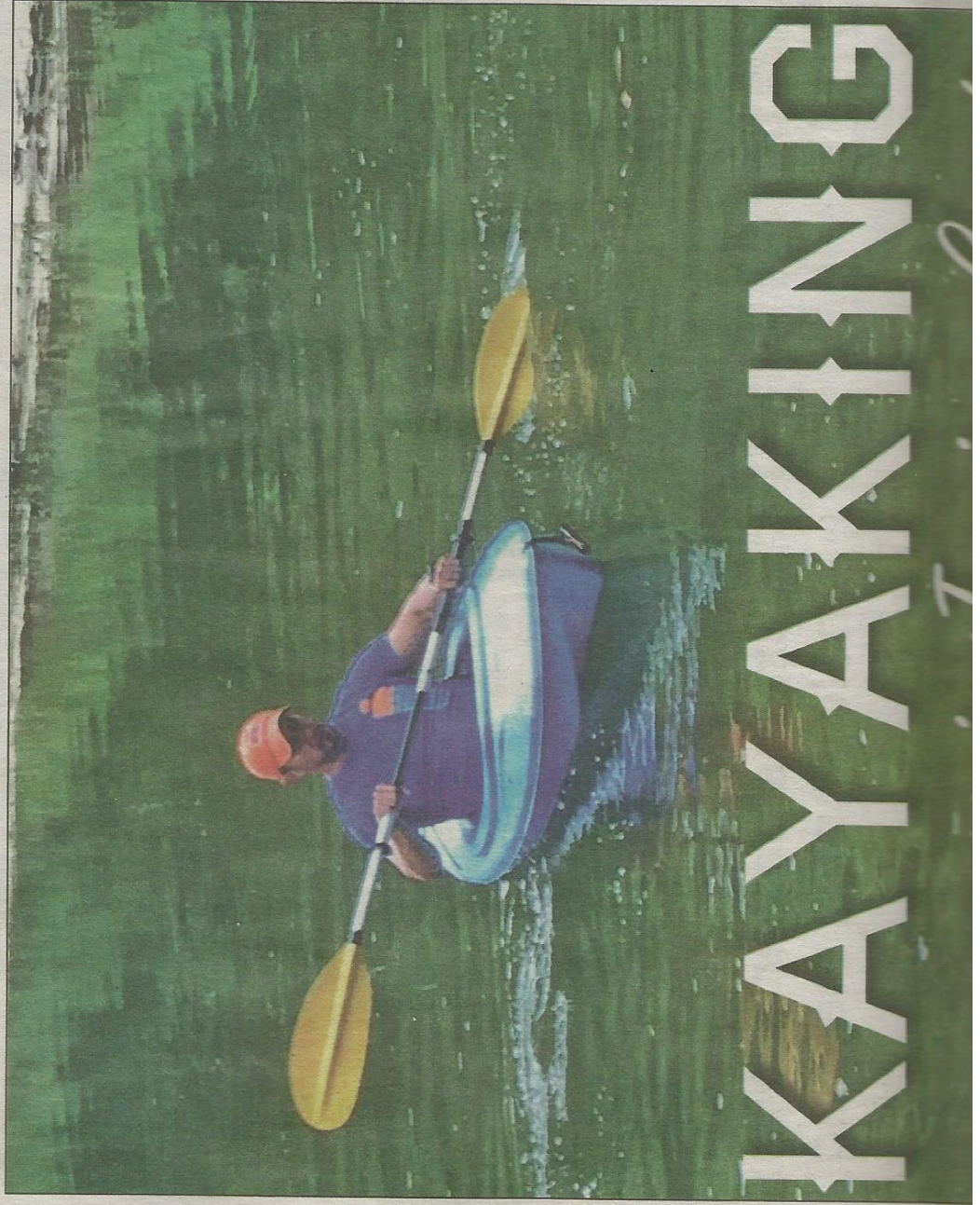
SECTION TWO

NORTH VERNON, INDIANA

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THURSDAY – AUGUST 15, 2019



hardcore kayakers I see all the time in Jennings County," he chuckled.

Speaking of hardcore kayakers, Marshall Wayne Zamora of North Vernon has been kayaking for over 25 years. Zamora says he enjoys the hobby because it's relaxing and it provides him an escape from his day-to-day routine.

Not only that, but Zamora points out that he likes kayaking so much because it provides him a chance to explore sides of Jennings County that he has never seen before.

"People say there's nothing to do here," said Zamora, "but Jennings County is great for kayaking and nature."

"Muscatatuck" is a native American word that translates to "Land of the Winding Waters."

The Muscatatuck River winds and twists throughout the county — from Zenas in the northeast to Weston in the southeast. Zamora explained that this makes transporting

When he's not kayaking, Zamora is a pretty busy man.

Not only is he an optometrist in Edinburgh, he is also a Jennings County High School soccer coach and he owns a farm in Commiskey.

"Yeah, coffee is my first love and kayaking is my second," Zamora chuckled.

Zamora recently suggested that a kayak rack be placed at the Muscatatuck River in the Vernon Commons during a Vernon Town Council meeting. It is not known if one will really be put up there, but Zamora claims he received a positive response from the council and audience when he brought it up.

Relaxing on the river

Another kayaker in the community who is a little less hardcore than Zamora is Tom Moore of North Vernon.

Moore began kayaking a little over a year ago. He explained that he got into the sport as a way to get out on the river and to exercise his upper

types of kayaking.

Some kayaks are made for their straightness, their speed or even for going out on the ocean.

Moore said his favorite part about kayaking is simply being out on the river.

"You leave a small footprint," he said. "Sometimes I don't even scare the fish I see in the water. It's just nice to be a part of the river's ecosystem."

Moore is a retired teacher, and when he is not kayaking, he can be found doing something for the community with the North Vernon Kiwanis Club, the Friends of the Muscatatuck River Society and the Avenue of Flags program.

Moore compares kayaking to another sport that he loves, soccer. He used to be a JCHS and youth league soccer coach.

"With soccer, it's just you, the ref and the other players as soon as you step past that white line," he said. "With kayaking, it's just you and everything else. You become a

because there's such a short season for it."

In Jennings County, the kayaking season usually lasts from late winter to early summer, but this year perfect kayaking conditions have been extended due to the rainy weather that has kept river levels high.

Zamora explained that since the Muscatatuck River is such a naturally low river that passes flood water quickly, more rain keeps it at a good level for kayakers. Thus, this keeps kayaking season open well past June, which is usually when the river gets low again.

"However, I don't like to go kayaking when the river gets so high. It's dangerous," said Zamora.

Moore also expressed hesitation to go out when water levels rise is too high. He explained that it is good when the river rises by about a foot, but if it rises to over two feet, that is when it becomes hazardous.

Zamora agreed.

"Kayaking can be both really fun and really dangerous," he said, "so you need to know what you are doing."

Come prepared

Both Zamora and Moore bring items such as lifejackets and their cell phones in waterproof containers on their kayaking adventures to make sure they stay safe. Wearing a life jacket is not only the law, but it is also just an essential piece of kayaking gear to have.

Kayakers should bring their phones and something to

Ever the environmental steward, Moore also likes to take a trash bag with him when he kayaks in case he comes across any floating garbage. "I wish everybody did that," said Moore.

When Zamora is kayaking with a group of friends, he said he likes to bring a cooler for drinks and snacks, and, like Moore, he takes his trash with him to dispose of properly after the trip.

Kayak racing, anyone?

There is also a race on the Muscatatuck River in Vernon that kayakers can participate in every year on the first Sunday in May called the Orlo Blomquist Memorial Canoe Race. Named for an outdoor enthusiast from Paris Crossing, this fun event is put on by the Friends of the Muscatatuck River Society.

While the title says it's a canoe race, Bill Suhre said that people can race with "anything that floats." This obviously attracts a lot of kayakers.

Suhre claimed the race has been going on for a long time — at least since the late Dan "Shady" Shade, founder of the Friends of the Muscatatuck River Society and advocate for keeping the Muscatatuck River clean, started the race. Shade passed away in 2003, but Suhre, other friends of the Society and members of the Society have kept the race going.

If you are interested in taking part in the Orlo Blomquist Memorial Canoe Race or you want to help in the next FMRS river cleanup in October, you contact Suhre at 812-346-7253.



A group of kayakers take a break on the Muscatatuck River under the Madison Railroad bridge in Vernon. —Submitted Photo

Muscatatuck River and other scenic streams make paddling more popular than ever in area

his kayak to his car easier but it also means that there are plenty of natural beautiful spots such as caves wrapped around the area to explore.

Some of Zamora's favorite areas to kayak through are Sullivan's Ford and the dam by St. Ann Catholic Church.

Paddling through a canyon
Another part Zamora enjoys about the Muscatatuck River is that the high walls and bluffs bordering many parts of this river make him feel like he is paddling through a canyon.

Kayakers also plow the waters of other streams in the county, including Sand Creek and Graham Creek, when water levels are high enough, though the Muscatatuck River is the most popular waterway — especially between the Vernon Commons and the Green Bridge in the Crosley State fish and Wildlife Area.

When he's not kayaking, Zamora is a pretty busy man. Not only is he an optometrist in Edinburgh, he is also a Jennings County High School soccer coach and he owns a farm in Commiskey.

"Yeah, coffee is my first love and kayaking is my second," Zamora chuckled.

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"People say there's nothing

by Katy Dudzik
During a Dino Mountain bicycling and competition event at the Muscatatuck Park last week, Greg Martin of the Jennings County Parks and Recreation Department was assigned to watch over those climbing the rock wall at Vinegar Mill.

This gave him full view of the over 30 kayakers he said he saw passing by the mill on the Muscatatuck River. This is nothing new to Martin and others in the Jennings County area.

Kayaking has been growing in popularity as a fun, relatively cheap activity to enjoy in Jennings County and other nearby locations. One could even say it has gained a cult following.

Martin said he enjoys kayaking occasionally himself. "But I'm nothing like the hardcore kayakers I see all the time in Jennings County," he chuckled.

Speaking of hardcore kayakers, Marshall Wayne Zamora of North Vernon has been kayaking for over 25 years. Zamora says he enjoys the hobby because it's relaxing and it provides him an escape from his day-to-day routine.

Not only that, but Zamora points out that he likes kayak-



Kayaking is a great way to have fun on the river and beat the summer heat for the family of John Goer from left, Trish Goen, Kaylee Meredith, and Jameson Meredith of North Vernon. —Staff Photo by Katy Dudzik

body. Sometimes Moore even likes to go on Facebook Live to share his relaxing river experiences with others.

Like many, Moore prefers a kayak that is lightweight and easy to carry. He explained that there are many different types of kayaks for many different types of kayaking.

Some kayaks are made for their straightness, their speed or even for going out on the ocean.

Moore said his favorite part about kayaking is simply being out on the river.

"You leave a small footprint," he said. "Sometimes I don't even scare the fish I see in the water. It's just nice to be a part of the river's ecosystem."

Moore is a retired teacher, and when he is not kayaking, he can be found doing something for the community with the North Vernon Kiwanis

part of everything around you."

Growing in popularity
Martin spoke of how kayaking has been growing as a recreational sport in Jennings County.

"We see a lot of people kayaking all the time," he said. "I think it gets really big because there's such a short season for it."

In Jennings County, the kayaking season usually lasts from late winter to early summer, but this year perfect kayaking conditions have been extended due to the rainy weather that has kept river levels high.

Zamora explained that since the Muscatatuck River is such a naturally low river that passes flood water quickly, more rain keeps it at a good level for kayakers. Thus, this keeps kayaking season open well past June, which is usual-

keep them dry to make sure they can call somebody in case of an emergency.

Clean drinking water is also good to have on the journey because while kayaker may be surrounded by water when they go out, but river water is not safe to drink.

Ever the environmental steward, Moore also likes to take a trash bag with him when he kayaks in case he comes across any floating garbage. "I wish everybody did that," said Moore.

When Zamora is kayaking with a group of friends, he said he likes to bring a cooler full of drinks and snacks, and, like Moore, he takes his trash with him to dispose of properly after the trip.

Kayaking, anyone?
There is also a race on the Muscatatuck River in Vernon that kayakers can participate

Water fun coming to park

Muscatatuck's new splash pad almost ready to open

by Katy Dudzik

There may not be a public pool to swim in this summer at the North Vernon City Park, but a new splash pad at the nearby Muscatatuck Park will soon provide some water fun for youth and even adults in the area — and hopefully in time for the hottest days of summer.

According to Greg Martin, Jennings County Parks and Recreation Department, the Muscatatuck Park is preparing to open the splash pad that is adjacent to the park's playground within the next few weeks.

"The splash pad is

extremely close to being completed, but we can't open it until it has passed (state) inspection," Martin explained. "There have been a few delays during installment due to regulations, but other than that the construction process has been smooth sailing."

Ironically, the delay is a blessing of sorts. "The delay will allow the grass to grow so the ground around the splash pad won't be so muddy when it first opens," Martin said.

The park began installation of the pad last spring. Martin noted that some kind of water-

based attraction had been in the master plan for the park for the last 20 years, but it took the Jennings County Community Foundation to bring up the idea of a splash pad in 2017 to get the ball rolling again.

"We always wanted to have something for the campers to cool off with, but never really were able to until now," Martin said.

When asked why Muscatatuck never considered a pool, Martin said that installing and maintaining a pool would simply be much too expensive for the county.

"We'd have to spend

all that money just to have it open for maybe two months out of the year," he said.

The splash pad includes a shading structure and adjacent benches for parents who want to sit and cool off while watching their kids but maybe don't want to get soaking wet while doing so.

The Community Foundation donated \$17,000 and Erler Industries \$4,000 toward the splash pad project. The project's total price tag is \$55,000, with the rest of the funding coming from

(continued on page 12A)



Travis Day of Day and Son Inc., one of the contractors, gets doused with water during recent testing of the new splash pad at the Muscatatuck Park. "The Days went above and beyond," park director Greg Martin said of the contractor. "They are the best people to work with ever." —Submitted Photo

Water fun ...

(continued from page 1A)
unrestricted funds that the Muscatatuck Park already had.

"Kids want to cool off in the summertime," said Martin. "This pad will certainly help them do it."

The splash pad is so close to completion that to the regular person it looks like it's finished and ready to use. The shiny structure is so well built

As for when that will happen, Martin was unable to provide a date. However, he estimated that it should be done within the next few weeks.

"I appreciate everyone's patience," he said.

The splash pad is officially supposed to be for children 12 years and younger, but it will be available to anyone who wants to use it. In fact his 20-year-old daughter, Summer, is already planning on testing out the

Martin said.

The pad will be totally free for public use and so long as visitors behave, according to Martin, it will be open in the summer months during the park's regular hours — from sunrise to sunset. Martin and the park staff are already planning to add upgrades to the splash pad later on, such as lights.

For more information, contact the Muscatatuck Park office at 812-346-2953.

North Vernon City Council

Council mulls responsibilities of mowing and of event/festivals

by Barbara King

The question of who and how grass at the new Tripton Park will be mowed was the issue of the night at the City Council meeting Monday night, Aug. 26.

Prompting the discussion was the budget Park Director Chad Speer had submitted to the Council for 2020. The budget was \$349,687, with about \$50,000 for mowing work.

Speer explained that since it is up in the air as to who would have the responsibility for mowing the approximate 30 acres at the new Tripton Park, he budgeted for equipment, gas, and employees to do the work.

"It would help tremendously to know who is going to mow," Speer told the Council.

Street Commissioner Rick Marksberry was in attendance at the meeting and estimated it would take four guys two-and-a-half days to mow the acreage and two more guys to complete all the trimming work. The reason it would take so long is because "I have to pull guys off. They get pulled here, they get pulled there."

As far as the trimming, it was pointed out that this fall there will be 200 trees planted at the new park, which will all need trimmed around their trunks. Also, the newly placed boulders along Greensburg Street also will need individual trimming work.

Marksberry also noted, "You can't send anyone down there to mow. You want it to look nice."

Council members

engaged in a lengthy discussion of where and how the grass would be cut, with everyone agreeing with Jack Kelley's assessment: "We don't want it to look like a golf course" and that some areas need to be "bush hogged," notably the Greensburg Street side.

Previously, the board gathered quotes on a commercial business to cut the grass. Result was \$1400/mowing with approximately 32 mows a year, which works out to a total of \$48,000. All agreed that the city itself could do the work more economically.

Clerk-Treasurer Shawn Gerkin urged the Council to decide which city department would be responsible for the mowing as he is working on the various departmental budgets. According to Gerkin, the Council opted for the street department to do the work.

Another issue which held the Council's attention was its "festival/event committee" established to oversee activities at the downtown Stellar Park and at Tripton Park.

There is "a lot of confusion as to their duties," as to what the new committee is supposed to do.

"Right now, there is money but no plan," said Park Director Chad Speer.

The Council told Speer the park department should be responsible for the fireworks at the city park and events such as 5K races. Money budgeted for fireworks, then, should stay in the park's budget.

The park department and committee were

directed that "Working together is the best option."

Members of the festival committee are each appointed by the Council. Members are: Diane Barley, Brian Hatfield's nominee; Alise Allen, Connie Rayburn's nominee; Deb Martin, Jerry Lamb's; and Kathy Dove, Trent Wisner's. Jack Kelley's nominee recently resigned.

In other news of the night:

• **W a t e r** Superintendent Will Spender noted that he has expressed to MUTC that "we need better correspondence between us and MUTC." The city was not informed by MUTC about the drop in Brush Creek Reservoir caused by the valve being left open. People blamed the city for the recent water conservation measure, he said, but it was not the city's fault at all.

• "Probationary" firemen Caleb Marling, Lance Olson, and Josh Hall salaries were discussed. They have ended their "probationary" period and are eligible for a raise in pay. The three started at \$35,000 and will now be paid \$36,400.

A fourth firemen, Thomas Nienaber, hired last August with the above three men recently resigned to work at the Columbus fire department "for better pay."

City forming new board 'fore' golf

by Barbara King

St. Annes Golf Course will soon have its own board to oversee operations at the North Vernon owned facility.

The city purchased the 18-hole course adjacent to its airport on Aug. 7, 2014 for \$510,000. Since that time, it has been run by manager Robin Hall and a three-member "advisory" group of John Bright, Billy Harmon and Jeff O'Connor, which was described as "having no teeth" at the City Council meeting Monday night.

City attorney Larry Greathouse explained that the Council would need to make a motion to create a board that would operate much like the current City Park Board functions. The Council would need to decide the composition of the board as well as the new board's powers, such as hiring, budgeting, paying claims, etc.

After some discussion, the Council agreed with Greathouse that the board would be five

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nings and Weekdays)

346-7243 or 812-767-2847

North Vernon City Council

New golf committee charged with 'taking good care' of city's valuable real estate

by Barbara King

The St. Annes Golf Course committee will hold their first meeting Thursday, Oct. 17 at the golf course clubhouse at 7 p.m. The meeting is open to the public and those interested will be able to get an understanding of exactly what this new group is charged with.

The North Vernon City Council met with the committee before their regular scheduled meeting for half an hour Tuesday night to provide direction. The Council created the group to oversee the city's municipal 18-hole course located on airport land. It was felt the current Park Board had too much on its plate with the addition of Tripton Park and the Muscatatuck Trail.

Members of the new committee are Mary Jo Bender, Jarrod Daeger, Phillip Marsh, Kathy McKalip and Tony Starkey.

City attorney Larry Greathouse wrote the ordinance creating the new committee. He explained the committee would oversee "issues" such as trees and drainage but "more than anything, the City Council wants rules and regulations."

Those rules should not be "anything like Augusta," he noted, referring to the exclusive National Golf Course in Georgia, but should reflect "Jennings County etiquette," as well as policies and procedures.

These include fees, membership costs, range hours, rain checks, and high school golf.

The committee was "started for Robin (Brown, golf director)," said Clerk-Treasurer Shawn Gerkin, so that he can concentrate on all his duties while the committee develops and "tweaks" policies.

First and foremost, though, is the committee's responsibility to "take good care" of this "very valuable" piece of real estate, said Greathouse, who estimated the course was worth \$2 to 4 million.

At their meeting Thursday, the president of the North Vernon Redevelopment Board or TIF Board, Pat York, will be asked to attend for a discussion on that board's commitment to fund certain projects at the course.

Budget Passes

Meeting after the golf discussion, the Council unanimously passed its new budget for 2020 and held its "first reading" for the 2020 salary ordinance.

Clerk-Treasurer Shawn Gerkin explained city employees with one to nine years of service will receive a three percent raise; those with 10 to 19 years, a two percent raise; and those with 20 or more years, a one percent raise.

However, Park Director Chad Speer and his assistant Sue Bright are to get raises in the

five percent area, because of their additional responsibilities with Tripton Park.

The salary ordinance will be voted on at the Council's next meeting, Oct. 28. Per state law, it has to be passed before Nov. 1.

Police, fire and utility employees have their own matrix for raises.

Council President Brian Hatfield raised the question of a salary for a new code enforcement officer position, something which all Council members seem to agree is

needed to address zoning and blight issues in the city.

Gerkin explained that if the Council creates this position in 2020, there is adequate funding to pay this new agent. Per state statute, he cannot put the funding in the salary ordinance until the Council has actually created the job.

In other business:

- Matt Hurley was named the new Democrat representative on the Utility Service Board after Soup Campbell's death.

City pool won't open this year

Weather, other delays drastically slow construction of city park's new aquatic center

by Katy Dudzik
 Countless weather delays and other unforeseen developments mean that the new swimming pool and aquatic center now under construction at the North Vernon City Park will not be finished before September.

As a result, the summer swimming season for those hoping to use the public facility has literally been washed out.

Chad Speer, North Vernon Parks and Recreation director,

disclosed the sad news after a progress meeting on the \$3.2 million project last week.

"As always, construction depends on weather," Speer said. "If the rainy weather we have been experiencing the last couple of months continues, the completion date could be pushed back into October and even further."

There is a chance that the aquatic center's splash pad could be finished and ready to open in early September, but

not until after the Labor Day weekend at the earliest. And even that is a long shot, according to Speer.

Speer painted a grim picture in discussing new details about the progress, or rather lack thereof, being made in the construction of the pool and aquatic center.

According to Speer, the first thing people need to understand is that there are two important completion dates for the project. Those are

the substantial completion date and the full completion date. Substantial completion is the time in which the pool will be complete enough for the public to start visiting, and full completion is the time in which the pool will be 100 percent finished and fully functional.

The date for substantial completion was originally estimated at July 8. Now, that date has been moved back to Sept. 6. If that happens, construction on the pool should be fully com-

pleted one month later, Speer noted.

However, Speer expressed skepticism that construction can even be finished on those dates.

"There is pretty much a zero percent chance that the pool will be ready to open in early September," he said. "We will do our best to have the splash pad area open by then, but we can't promise that."

(continued on page 12A)

Pool ...

(continued from page 1A)

The project is at least eight weeks behind schedule, according to Speer. He said about three weeks was lost due to Dave O'Mara Contractor, the firm constructing the pool and aquatic center, having to find ways to cut costs to meet the budget the city council set for the project last November.

The rest of the delay has been due to extremely rainy weather and, as previously reported, the surprise discovery of an old buried cistern at the site that had to be excavated and removed.

Speer said he and other city officials are disappointed that the new



On a rare sunny day earlier this month, crews were able to lay concrete and do other construction work at the city park's new aquatic center. Such days have been rare of late, drastically delaying progress on the \$3.2 million project. — Staff Photo by Katy Dudzik

pool and aquatic center for the weather to clear will likely not be open long enough for the O'Mara crews to finish until next year.

"All we can do is hope their work," he added.

Story on pool draws big response

Readers respond on social media to "City pool won't open this year," *Plain Dealer*, June 20.

"People can't just hold off on swimming in the convenience of their own town for a year? They can't buck up and drive the 15 to 30 minutes either way to literally go to another public pool? Why are people so ungrateful? If it's anyone's fault, it isn't the workers working hard to get the pool done for the public. They're laboring in the hot sun or unfavorable weather circumstances doing the best they can and all people have to do is whine and cry about it like little babies. Find another pool and settle down. They're doing their best." — Kailey Hodges

"When it is all said and done, there will be a new pool to use for many years. A few missed swimming months is a small price to pay for a job done safely and right. A little patience and understanding for those trying hard under these circumstances. We found Ceraland has been a nice alternative." — Tracy DeShong

"Thank you, Trent Wisner, for all your hard work! It is appreciated and it will be a great addition to the community when it is completed!" — Tammy Bragg Schrink

"Thank you. There have been multiple committees and people volunteering their time and giving a lot more than even myself to make these projects a reality." — Trent Wisner

"Curious as to where the actual pool is going to be. All I see are buildings so far. I'll wait as long as it takes, but so far the old pool is blowing this on out of the water!" — Cassandra Danielle Bowling Seville

Make the best of it until they do get the new city pool opened." — Steve Hamilton

"Thanks. We all know quality of life is a major part of keeping people here." — Trent Wisner

"I'm still not sure why the middle school pool wasn't requested to remain open to the public during hotter hours of the day this summer. My four children, my girlfriend and I made use of the middle school pool for a couple hours a night at the end of the school year. We were really hoping they would offer some kind of summer swimming/cooling off program for the community over the summer. I know there is no area made for babies and extremely young small children, being that shallower end is around three feet deep. However, it would still be something for the taxpayers of this community to have access to even at a reasonable fee to pay for the additional costs. Mr. (Mike) Wagner of the middle school athletic department told us he had personally figured someone with the authority would reach out and ask them to keep it open but they never did." — Jonathan Ashpaugh

"Why can't we all just be grateful that the local government is trying to put money back into the community? The new splash pad at the county park will soon be open. Let's be honest they are trying to better the community and infrastructure the best they can. Let's applaud that even if it's not at our personal paces." — Mike Cooley

"With all the rain, I'm sure there are plenty of puddles for people to swim in." — Scott Huelson

"Just to be clear, nobody would like to see both the pool and the Trinton Park project done

as possible and we are doing everything we can to get them completed. The old pool could not have been kept open as it was decided to close it the year before due to the cost of even being able to get it up and going. Sometimes patience is the key in order to build something for the future. I always realize no matter what we do, there will be those not happy under any circumstance." — Trent Wisner

"Some of us definitely understand the process. Politically speaking, is there anyone you could talk to or anything the city council could do about reaching out to the middle school about allowing our community access to a current asset, which could help some of those who are currently waiting impatiently on the future to get here? I mean I'll take my kids to the river or a lake, not a big deal to me. Some people would just prefer an option, and if it's doable and it would make the people of the city and county happy then I guess the question is, why not?" — Jonathan Ashpaugh

"Jonathan Ashpaugh, I will reach out to Mr. Wagner." — Trent Wisner

"Thank you! I hope it works out in the best interest of the community." — Jonathan Ashpaugh

"Trent Wisner, thanks for continuing to stay positive in the spotlight when people continue to be impossible to deal with. I'm appalled that anyone can find anything negative about this situation. The only thing that comes to mind when I pass by the park is the amazing facility our community will have. Thanks for your hard work." — Hannah Bright

"The same people who complain that this

Eder

"We couldn't afford to run the old pool. To get it up and running was more than the profit they made from customers swimming and buying concessions. The slides were as old as me, 20 years, and the concrete was falling apart. The liner was coming off and probably molding. And all we had was a shallow end, a deep end and a baby pool, with like two junky slides that look like just park slides slapped on a pool and one diving board. The new pool will have actual water slides and everything new. I mean we could always open it just for you? I'm sure you would lo-o-o-o-ove paying the \$150,000 it takes?" — Kailey Hodges

"Kailey Hodges, there is rarely profit in a pool. It's something the city gives to the people." — Tracy Purkhiser Eder

"Tracy Purkhiser Eder, I am not so sure we should give anything to the 'people' considering the ones complaining on this post. That's all I was saying. It angers me that they are ungrateful." — Kailey Hodges

"Very sad." — Zackary A. Vanosdol

"Zackary A. Vanosdol, swim at our house!" — Melinda Simmons Schmidt

"Raise of hands. Who saw this coming when they first started construction?" — Susie Blevins

"I have never seen so many crybabies on one post in my life. Seriously, it's hysterical." — Lee Euler-Ruffner

"The old pool was losing money due to low attendance. They decide to spend money to make a new pool and people are still crying about it. Sad." — Steve Beineke

"Steve Beineke, for real! I agree. It's so silly. That old pool was in bad

ndra Danielle Bowling
eville
"I want to thank
rent Wisner and the city
r even allowing us to
ave such a nice pool
ing built! People, there
e steps they have to
ke and protocols that
ust be followed. You
cannot do much construc-
ion with mud and water
l around you. There are
vers and other towns
ave pools to swim in.

both the pool and the
Tipton Park project done
more than the city officials.
These are not projects
that you just decide
one day and can stick a
shovel in the ground the
very next. There was a
lengthy process and both
projects had to be engi-
neered and quoted before
we could even finalize
them as they are under a
single bond. We started
both projects just as soon

who complain that 'this
town has nothing' are the
ones complaining that
things can't be built
instantaneously. If your
summer is really that
inconvenienced by the
pool not being open, then
get off your butt and do
some research. Find
alternative things to do
with your family. The
library has a lot of pro-
grams. Other parks and
pools are open in the
counties around ours. Put
some effort into finding
something to do instead
of waiting for the city or
the county to drop some-
thing in your lap. It's that
simple." — Kristy
Thurston

That old pool was in bad
shape 15 years ago when
I worked there." — Alyssa
Williams
"I doubt the people
running this (construc-
tion project) are doing it
on purpose. They lose
money every day they are
behind. I mean obviously
it sucks, but I can't imag-
ine all of the red tape and
planning goes into some-
thing this big. Then they
can't change the weather.
As I said, people in the
business of making
money usually try to
avoid the decisions that
lose them money." —
Jessica Young

North Vernon Plain Dealer

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"I just want to know
why the buildings are
bigger than the pool. I
thought you were build-
ing a pool." — Todd N
Dianna Curran

"No one thought it
would be done this year,
and that was *before* the
storms." — Kayla Cain

"And the reason for
tearing down the old pool
before the new one was
built is?" — Greg Alex-
ander

"Why couldn't we use
the old pool for a few
months instead of being
without the whole year?"
— Ann Wilson

"The old pool needed
over \$150,000 to repair
the cracked and crum-
pling concrete just to
install a new liner. The
concrete would continue
to deteriorate and was
only a short-term fix. It
also needed much more
than just that as all of the
equipment was all need-
ing updated as well. The
decision was made to
close the existing pool
and start the
design/bid/build process.
The existing pool was
closed before the current
pool was even designed
and under contract." —
Trent Wisner

"The price to make
the old pool useable was
exorbitant. By closing the
old pool, money was
saved to add to the new
pool." — Tracy Purkhiser

"Maybe if they had
more than three workers
only a few times a week."
— Miranda Boggs

"Miranda Boggs, I
work right across the
street (from the pool con-
struction site) and I can
guarantee you that there
are more than a 'few'
workers. They have been
kicking butt at these proj-
ects trying to better our
community." — Ashley
Blackman

"Should have left old
pool open for another
year. Now Jennings
County has nothing for
this year. What a [exple-
tive deleted] summer for
the kids." — Staci Walt-
ers

"Staci Walters, the
Brownstown pool, Sey-
mour pool and Donner
Aquatic Center pool in
Columbus are still open.
It sucks to have to drive
to go swim, but these are
all nicer than our old city
pool was." — Susie
Blevins

"The old pool was
leaking and would have
cost a substantial amount
of money to have it opera-
tional. That is why the
decision to build a new
pool was made. There
was no way to keep it
open while this one was
built as it was shut down
last year." — Trent
Wisner

"There are other
pools. We took our kids to
Versailles and had a pic-
nic and a swim. Good

things come to thos
wait." — Robby Rol

"There is the
splash pad at the
catatuck) county
that will open soon
— Mike Cooley

"Staci Walter
worked at the pool i
school 15 years ago
was time to close it
No one wants this
done more than th
ple in charge. Not t
tion, it's not like th
would be open muc
way considering
rained basically eve
gle day." — Alyssa
liams

"Have you al
thought about may
swimming?" — De
Barger

"Derek L Barge
but, but the kids!
will they do all sun
— Hannah Bright

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Tripton Park—

Work resumes as date set for memorable opening on Aug. 3

by Barbara King

With dry weather finally returning, work has resumed at North Vernon's new Tripton Park, located at the former Ford's



Ertel

Crossing/Muscatatuck Country Club golf course.

Bob Ertel, volunteer project manager, gave an update on the park construction at last week's City Council meeting.

"It's kinda risky to construct a park in the wintertime," he announced, but in the end, such bad weather "might have been a silver lining." This is because the break gave the park committee time to work out some issues that were "not well thought out."

Between snow storms and downpours of rain, work has slowed down quite a bit, continued Ertel. However, with warmer weather and sunshine on the horizon, the crews have returned to

the site and are making up for lost time.

Construction of the Welcome Center is "pretty close to schedule," reported Ertel. The center is where the electrical components, restrooms and a small area that will have information about the park will be located. Bradshaw Construction won the contract for the 18x44 foot facility with a bid of \$314,966.

Outdoors, the story is a bit different, which makes sense due to the vagaries of weather. Dave O'Mara Contractor was awarded the work with a bid of \$1,451,500.

Ertel said that the handicap accessible 11 foot wide three-quarter mile long track has been carved out, graveled and ready to be paved. Culverts have been installed, too.

Material for the amphitheater, which will seat about 300, has been delivered and is waiting to be put in place. The seating will not be stone, as it was too expensive. Instead, Redi-Rock, will be utilized.

This is an engineered product composed of a

mixture that includes natural rock. Blocks fit together "like Legos," said Ertel, and will be installed for seating across from the stage at the amphitheater.

Levels of the amphitheater will vary from five and a half to eight feet wide. The levels will be grass, with the Redi-Rocks providing seating at the rear of each level.

Ertel had words of praise for both O'Mara and Bradshaw staff. "I'm very appreciative of the crews working closely with me — even though I'm a novice," he said.

As project liaison for the city, Ertel, a volunteer, reported he is "very thankful" for Roger Hughes, who is being paid on an hourly basis for his expertise in construction and excavation.

The formal opening of the park has been set for Aug. 3 and will include a full day of activities. Park committee member Kathy Ertel is in charge of planning for this event, which will surely go down in local history as one of the highlights of 2000.

4A The North Vernon Plain Dealer • March 21, 2019



A former golf course, it's still surprising how golf balls seem to show up just about everywhere the dirt has been disturbed at Tripton Park, such as the one circled above. —Staff Photos by Barbara King



The area where the amphitheater "stage" will be located is seen as a rectangular structure at mid left. Directly across from the stage area will be ascending levels five and a half feet to eight feet wide with the stones at right providing seating at the rear of each level. —Staff Photos by Barbara King



It is official!

Tripton Park now is open for all

As of 11 a.m. Nov. 6, Tripton Park is now officially open for everyone to use.

Yes, some people have already been drawn to the new park's trails and pond, but they really weren't supposed to be using the park, as it was still under the control of contractor O'Mara Construction.

The legal document signed by Mayor Mike Ochs, Clerk-Treasurer Shawn Gerkin, and O'Mara's project manager Jeff Fuller on Wednesday morning notes that the project has now "reached the threshold of substantial completion." The city has now assumed liability for where work is completed. This area includes all the trails for bicyclers and walkers; the playground for ages 5-12; the fitness area, for those 14 and up; disc golf; and picnic areas.

The one area that is still "off limits" to the public is the boardwalk still under construction around the acre-and-a-half pond. The public is asked to avoid this section.

The signed document notes that both the city and O'Mara will contin-



Everyone is now invited to enjoy Tripton Park, as it is now officially open to the public.—Staff Photo B. King

ue to work to "ensure the safety of the public's use of the park." In future weeks, some areas will need to be roped off as work concludes, such as when signage is put up.

There is still concern about motor vehicles going on the park trails, as one was reportedly seen at the park in the last two weeks.

The public is reminded that video cameras have been installed and arrests/fines will be made and issued all in an attempt to keep the city's new Tripton Park free of vandalism and damage.

Tripto Park —

New facility comes with rules to nip vandalism in the bud

by **Barbara King**
 With the official opening of Tripton Park now on, next comes the rules issued by the city with the hope of keeping the nearly \$2 million investment in quality of life and health activities in tip top shape.

Mayor Mike Ochs and Mara Construction project manager Jeff Miller signed the Partial Lease of Tripton Park agreement Nov. 6, which officially opened the former nine-hole golf course to the public, even though the people had already been using the park.

The city has now assumed liability where construction is completed and ready to use. One area that is not open to the public, though, is the sidewalk around the park, which is still under construction.

General Information
 The City Council affirmed the park board's recommendation for a Tripton Park hours by a vote of 3-2 at their meet-

ing Tuesday night, Nov. 12. The park will open one hour before sunrise and close one hour after sunset. Councilors Jerry Lamb and Jack Kelley voted against these hours. Kelley argued for Tripton to be open the same as the city park, 6 a.m. to 11 p.m.

The Welcome Center doors open and lock on a predetermined schedule. Restrooms are located at the Center and will also open and close on this schedule.

City officials are concerned about vandalism, especially since the destruction of city park bathrooms this past September. The city has taken steps to discourage illegal behavior at Tripton Park, such as the automatic locking of bathrooms.

Anyone visiting the park should be aware that numerous surveillance cameras have been installed around the park in the hopes of keeping mischief at bay.

Other Rules
 All pets must be on a short leash
 Those walking pets must pick up pet waste



The City of North Vernon has now taken possession of its new Tripton Park as construction is now officially "substantially completed." Mayor Mike Ochs signed the official paperwork Wednesday morning, Nov. 6 after Jeff Fuller, far left, signed for O'Mara's. Also present were, from left, Clerk-Treasurer Shawn Gerkin; city park director Chad Speer; and volunteer project manager for the city Bob Ertel. —Staff Photo by Barbara King

- No weapons
- No swimming
- No ice fishing
- No drugs
- No alcohol, except by permit issued by the city
- No tobacco or e-cigarettes, etc.
- No unattended fires
- No littering
- No camping
- No soliciting
- No overnight parking (except by permit)
- No fireworks
- No glass containers
- No unattended fires
- No cave exploring
- No disorderly conduct
- No bullying
- No feeding animals
- No rummaging through trash receptacles
- No to anything hurtful, harmful, and destructive

Kelly Hatton with the Jennings County Youth Foundation came before the Commissioners with plans for a Boys & Girls Club. The JCYF has been planning for a Boys & Girls club for four years. They received a grant from the Indiana Youth Institute for Strategic Planning and Assessment. The JCYF were then told they weren't ready, so they took the next two years to prepare. A community survey was done, 86% of adults and 80% of youth agreed on the need for a centralized youth center. The JCYF developed a new mission, partner with a broad network of organizations that support the identified needs and interests of youth in the community. Currently the JCYF is on step 6 of 10, to organize an advisory council. Step 7 would be to secure a location. Step 8 would be to determine costs. Step 8 would be done in three phases, property acquisition, facilities construction, and facilities operations. The JCYF has applied for a Community Block Grant. If the grant were awarded to Jennings County, 18 months would be given to complete the project. A city or government agency is required as lead applicant. The grant proposal rough draft is due May 3 with the final draft being due on June 28. Jerry Lamb has offered his help with the property research. There are a few potential properties, but more research is needed before making a decision. Bob Willhite made a motion for the county to join the advisory council. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote. Matt Sporleder volunteered to serve as a member.

Jim Reeves presented the facility lease between the Jennings County Board of Commissioners and the United States of America. The lease was made and entered April 12, 2019 for rent of the Jennings County Fairgrounds. The period of the lease will begin on April 15, 2019 and go through June 5, 2019 for the amount of \$35,000. Bob Willhite made a motion to sign the contract. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Jim Reeves also asked for permission from the Commissioners to take bids for ADA work on the Government Annex Building. Bob Willhite made a motion to give permission to take bids. Dave Lane seconded. Motion was passed with a unanimous vote.

Next, Jim spoke on radios from the highway department. The highway department purchased new radios and Jim asked the Commissioners what to do with the old ones. The frequency of the radios would need to be changed before they could be sold. Matt Sporleder suggested Jim gather some more information before making a decision.

Public Facilities Program

[OCRA \(/ocra/index.htm\)](#) < [Community Development Block Grants \(/ocra/cdbg.htm\)](#) < Pub

Community facilities enhance the lives of residents in numerous ways. Libraries, museums, community centers, and performance spaces open doors to knowledge and ideas, culture, and enjoyment. In addition to community facilities, historic preservation projects are eligible for PFP.

The goals of our Public Facilities Program are to:

- Improve quality of place
- Generate jobs and spur economic revitalization

A maximum grant award of \$500,000 is in effect for all Public Facility projects. The maximum award is not intended to serve as a target figure for requests for grant assistance. OCRA will review the level of grant assistance requested and will consider the appropriateness of the project's scope, the level of demonstrated need and the financial resources of the applicant. If OCRA determines that a lesser amount is appropriate, it may be necessary to revise the project before it is submitted in final form. A local match of 10% of the total project cost will be required for consideration of funding.

The amount of CDBG funds granted will be based on a \$5,000 cost per project beneficiary. General types of activities that are eligible for PFP funding include:

- Removal of architectural barriers for ADA accessibility
- Community centers
- Daycare centers
- Facilities for special needs groups
- Fire/EMS stations
- Healthcare centers
- Historic preservation
- Learning centers
- Libraries
- Senior centers
- Youth center

Find the 2018 Round 1 application and other resources here: www.in.gov/ocra/cdbg.htm (<http://www.in.gov/ocra/cdbg.htm>)



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County officials give support to Boys, Girls Club

JC Commissioner Sporleder to help lead advisory committee
Barbara King

The fledgling Boys & Girls Club project received support from the Jennings County Commissioners at their meeting Thursday night.

In fact, Matt Sporleder, president of the commissioners, was so impressed with the idea of this national organization locating in Jennings that he didn't even ask fellow commissioners if they wanted to serve on the Advisory Council being formed.

He volunteered himself.

"I think it's something we definitely need to look at," he said in response to Kelly Hatton's request.

Hatton is the president of the Jennings County **Youth Foundation (JCYF)**, the group leading the charge to build a Boys & Girls Club for local youth.

As reported in last week's Plain Dealer, Hatton introduced the group's goal of building a Boys & Girls Club at the North Vernon City Council last week. The JCYF is in the process of obtaining pledges of support from local government entities in order to apply for a \$500,000 Community Block Grant-Public Facilities Program that would help fund the project. A private non-profit cannot apply for the government money without a city or government agency lead applicant.

Hatton stressed she was not asking for any financial support from either the county or city at this time. **If the grant is awarded, the JCYF will raise the ten percent match themselves.**

Hatton will lead that effort herself, saying "I do fundraising. This is what I do at Hanover College."

However, this "saint," as she was called by North Vernon City Council President Brian Hatfield, does not do construction. "I am out of my element here," she said.

Instead, she plans to rely on an Advisory Council which is forming now and which Sporleder will help lead. The City Council has also pledged to have two of its members serve. If you are interested volunteering, the group is seeking those with knowledge and skills to guide the organization to its goal of constructing a Club.

The City Council will assist in selecting a site for the new facility and determine costs of construction and operations. Sporleder suggested the group think about locating the Club at Eco Park, the county's new 127-acre park north of Scipio off State Road 7. The park has a 14-acre lake, a playground and camping, he said.

Hatton said the group has "gravitated" towards land close to schools, but that "we are open" to all suggestions.

If you would like to get involved or would like more information on the JCYF, go to jcyf.in or call 812-718-2055. The organization's office is at 110 S Webster St., North Vernon.

In addition to Hatton, Angi Grider is vice president; Barbara Galliher, secretary; Cindy Summerfield, treasurer; and board members are Tina Kuzdal, Casey Ernstes and Vicky Lacey.



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Article Comment Submission Form

Boys & Girls Club sites suggested

Readers respond on social media to "Boys & Girls Club: Organizers advised to pick site ASAP," Plain Dealer, May 2.

"The full article discusses the utilization of existing buildings. Andre (Arrington) went into detail at an earlier meeting on what the Boys and Girls Club of America would deem an acceptable location. I did bring up the Jay C building, but they need to have land with the building for outdoor activities and future growth. They also need to be set up a certain way that would allow for rooms for programming. I would love to see our abandoned buildings utilized, but after talking with Andre I am not sure that is the best move for this project." — Trent Wisner

"What about the 'green space' that was supposed to be created directly behind the old Ruby Jane Building downtown. The building is probably for sale. And that old brick factory behind it was supposed to be torn down and converted to green space. Not sure if there would be enough room for a ball diamond or other outdoor activities." — Stan Cuhl

"That was to be part of Stellar, but the owner and the city couldn't come to an agreement on price. There was grant money awarded for demolition and cleanup of the site, but when the land could not be purchased the money associated with that grant went away." — Trent Wisner

"Thanks for the quick response. Sounds like you're 'on it.' If they create an official county-sanctioned fund raiser or a donation path through the Jennings County Community Foundation, see that it gets in the paper!" — Stan Cuhl

"I know the Jennings County Youth Foundation has a passthrough account set up through the Community Foundation. Kelly Hatton and the JCYF have some fundraisers planned and I will talk with her to see that she has what she needs to advertise. Kelly and her team have been working on this for quite a while. They have done great to get to this point." — Trent Wisner

"Thank you! Yes, we are working on our publicity with the newspaper. In the meantime those that are interested in supporting our fundraising efforts for the Jennings County Boys &

Girls Club can go to our website at www.jcyf.in to learn more and donate!" — Kelly Schiller Hatton

"That would be wonderful! I moved to Jennings County in 1985. The drive-in theater closed shortly after. The first question I had was, 'What do the youth of this county do for healthy, wholesome fun?' Plenty of liquor stores. But no YMCA or Boys/Girls club? I would much rather support this endeavor, and our youngsters with my taxes than throw good money after bad for the new jail tax! But that's a topic for another time. Our community is fast becoming a great place to raise a family." — Stan Cuhl

"I think the field next to Sand Creek Elementary School and across from the Community Building would be a good place. Room to spread out for outdoor activities too. Yay! So happy for the kids in Jennings!! They really need this." — Barbara Mitchell Riddle

"The director of organizational development at Boys & Girls Clubs of America toured North Vernon for the day and did mention to them not to choose a restrictive space. A lot of the empty buildings need repairs

and are located in areas that if in the future needed to be added onto wouldn't be possible without moving/purchasing a larger tract in the future and costing more in the long run. From what I can tell, this gentleman is only here to offer advice to to make sure we do it right the first time." — Amber Beach

"Damn, 30 years ago I thought we were getting one. Glad it might happen this time." — Jed Barton

"I hope we utilize an empty building that is just sitting!" — Tammy Warren Boggs

"Totally agree. Like the old Jay C store." — Zach Sharp

"Old IGA!" — Shanon Kaiser Stalnaker

"That is owned by Trent Wisner." — Krista Huff

"That building is already in use by ETC Systems." — Amber Beach

"We looked at the IGA building a few years ago. It wasn't a good fit for the price and there is no green space." — Kelly Schiller Hatton

"What about the land that was going to be the YMCA?" — Requa Fields Lewis

Boys & Girls Club

Organizers advised to pick site ASAP

by Barbara King

A Boys & Girls Club representative says his organization is "ecstatic" to bring the Boys & Girls Club to Jennings and that the area is definitely moving closer to opening the 34th such facility in Indiana.

Thus spoke Andre Arrington, Director of Organizational Development at Boys & Girls Clubs of America. Arrington spent half a day touring the county and meeting with Jennings County Youth Foundation's Kelly Hatton, Barbara Galliher, Casey Ernstes, Vicky Lacey and Tina Kuzdal along with Trent Wisner, North Vernon City Councilor.

He also brought the City Council up to date at their meeting April 22 where he told the officials, "Today, I could really see we are getting to the point of serving kids. We are ecstatic to bring the Boys & Girls Club to this area."

Arrington has been talking with the JCYF and specifically Kelly Hatton for "several years" and traveled here from Arlington Heights, Illinois to personally discuss the prospect of building a Boys & Girls Club here. First up was touring potential sites for the facility and determining how his organization could "help augment what is already going on."

One of the sites was the Armory on North Madison Avenue. However, while this might be a "great location," Arrington noted that the "tract it resides on seemed limited." He also pointed out that using an already existing building usually turns out to be a mistake. It is more expensive in the long run as the cost to retrofit an existing structure



Andre Arrington spoke and answered questions about the Boys & Girls Club at the recent North Vernon City Council meeting. JCYF President Kelly Hatton listened as she sat in the audience, right. Arrington is the Director of Organizational Development for the organization and is based in Illinois.—Staff Photo by Barbara King

Girls Club is about \$400,000/year, with the Club serving about 130 kids each day.

That said, he estimated a Club for Jennings would probably take a budget of around \$300,000. Some of this could come in the form of mini-grants from the Boys and Girls Clubs, but most would need to be raised from contributions. He thought city and county government should expect to fund about \$150,000 per year and the rest from large local and area employers as well as private donations.

The organization can provide "several templates" for an efficient facility, said Arrington. He noted that Harrison/Crawford County recently built and opened a Club and that the Huntington Club would be one well worth checking out.

He advised the

A 'dream come true'

by Barbara King

Since the Jennings County Youth Foundation (JCYF) announced plans to build and open a Boys & Girls Club here, it's been "a whirlwind," says JCYF President Kelly Hatton.

Andre Arrington's visit here was like a "dream come true when he met with us finally after all these years," said Hatton, and it "validated" the work the foundation has undertaken. Kelly, Barbara Galliher and Vicky Lacey will be attending the 2019 Indiana Board Leadership Area Council & Youth of the Year Event in Indianapolis on May 9 and 10, thanks to their being given complimentary tickets by Arrington.

Members will also be visiting the Seymour and Harrison/Crawford

estate agent; Teresa Brown, school superintendent; Barb Shaw, JCCF Executive Director; and Tom Taylor, JCYF Strategic Planning.

A Youth Advisory Committee consisting of local student leaders is also in the process of being formed.

Currently, the JCYF is working to finalize a location for the facility, as well as nail down costs. The group will also be developing fundraising plans to build the Club.

The JCYF is also asking everyone to fill out a survey on their web site, <https://jcyf.in/news> to help determine what is needed and wanted in the facility so costs can be accurately determined

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One of the sites was the Armory on North Madison Avenue. However, while this might be a "great location," Arrington noted that the "tract it resides on seemed limited." He also pointed out that using an already existing building usually turns out to be a mistake. It is more expensive in the long run as the cost to retrofit an existing structure for today's use can be exorbitant.

Instead, this professional advised the JCYF and Council to look at collaboration opportunities, such as locating the Club near to a school where some facilities at each site could be shared.

The annual budget for the Seymour Boys and



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The organization can provide "several templates" for an efficient facility, said Arrington. He noted that Harrison/Crawford County recently built and opened a Club and that the Huntington Club would be one well worth checking out.

He advised the Council that a location for the Club needs to be pinned down as soon as possible and that the community and its leaders need to make a "monetary commitment and do it right.

Think holistically," he said, of both physical and emotional needs of the children.

A 'dream come true'

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Members will also be visiting the Seymour and Harrison/Crawford County Clubs to check them out and learn more about their day to day operations.

The Advisory Committee to oversee the project has now been formed. Members are: Jerry Lamb and Trent Wisner, City Councilors; Matt Sporedler, county commissioner; Tyler Stock, real

estate agent; Teresa Brown, school superintendent; Barb Shaw, JCCF Executive Director; and Tom Taylor, JCYF Strategic Planning.

A Youth Advisory Committee consisting of local student leaders is also in the process of being formed.

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Boys, Girls Club plan draws raves

Readers respond on social media to "JCYF takes first step to fulfilling dream; City Council first entity to sign onto proposal to build a Boys, Girls Club," *Plain Dealer*, April 11.

"Hallelujah! This is great news for our community!" — Caleb Reynolds

"I'm excited about this. And looking forward to it being built. All of the kids in North Vernon deserve this. The one in Madison is awesome and it is doing great. At their facility, you can have birthday parties for kids or adults in the gym. They have a 'movie' room. They have a lot of sports there for the kids and much more." — Angela Stone Tingle

"This is fantastic! Well done, Kelly!" —

"Dawn Shepherd This would be great for the youth of our community!" — Melissa Kendall Gray

"My kids may never

benefit from this facility, but I do hope that it can be a reality for those who have small children. This is a positive step for our community. I hope people will help when possible. The past is just that, let's work for a better future." — Diana Daeger

"Amen, girl! Finally kids would have something to do in this town other than drugs and sex!" — Kelby J. Donnell

"B&G is the best! Great news for kids and families." — Christy Thrasher

"The old JayC building is still sitting vacant. Maybe if you renovate an existing building it might be cheaper and more money could go towards the youth program itself." — Susie Blevins

"Instead of building more facilities, wouldn't we be able to find a way to utilize the existing public schools that already exist? If a B&G club is simply gym space, rooms and cafeterias, why build? Install a

closeable pull-down fence to keep people out of certain areas, lock doors of off limits areas, etc." — Nicholas Zeser

"We have been doing research on the possibility of using an existing building. We have to make sure that it is suitable to renovate and we would like land for outdoor fields. We are weighing all the possible options." — Casey Ernestes

"Great news! This should have been done years ago." — Michael Aubuchon

"So excited!" — LaDonna Simpson

"This is fantastic news." — Darragh Wilson

"Gonna end up just like our nice YMCA by the middle school!" — Brian Shamalama Schroeder

"I wish we had a YMCA here." — Angela Stone Tingle

"There was land there for a YMCA and after years of trying to raise enough money it failed. The land was sold to the

school corporation." — Glorianna Pieratt Robbins

"Can we just get a YMCA?" — Zackary A Vanosdol

"Much needed." — Don Roberson

"It's about time." — Karen Poling

"This would be so great!" — Cassandra Danielle Bowling Seville

"Yayyy!" — Sandy Bishop

"That's great news!" — Ryan Calhoun

Readers respond on social media to "County officials give support to Boys, Girls Club," *The Sun*, April 16.

"Boys and Girls Club and/or a legitimate YMCA facility is badly needed and something Jennings County greatly lacks that most of the other 92 counties have figured out." — Greg Alexander

JCPR Master Plan 2020 Overview

- January 2019 Proposal
- February 2019 Proposal approved Park Board
- March 2019 Proposal approved Council
- April 2019 Time line and General Brainstorming
- May 2019 Review older plans and general brainstorming
- June 2019 Brainstorm on Survey
- July 2019 Publish Survey letter to editor to promote Survey
- August 2019 August look at Survey (general)
 - Study other (CNA, Facebook, Google, C. Leadership retreat, NLT Opportunity)
 - Park Board presentation from Town of Vernon and NLT Trails committee.
 - Survey analysis delivered as packet to study outside meeting
- September 2019 Present Next Level Trails to Council/Public
 - Study survey results
- October 2019 Request funding County Council (approved for 100,000)
 - Park Board Approval (150,000)
- November 2019 Study Action Plan proposal with Major Emphasis on NLT commitment
- December 2019 Holiday Break
- January 2020 Rough Draft study
- February 2020 Plan discussion modifications
- March 2020 Complete Plan, Present to public
- April 2020 Submit final draft

Synopsys:

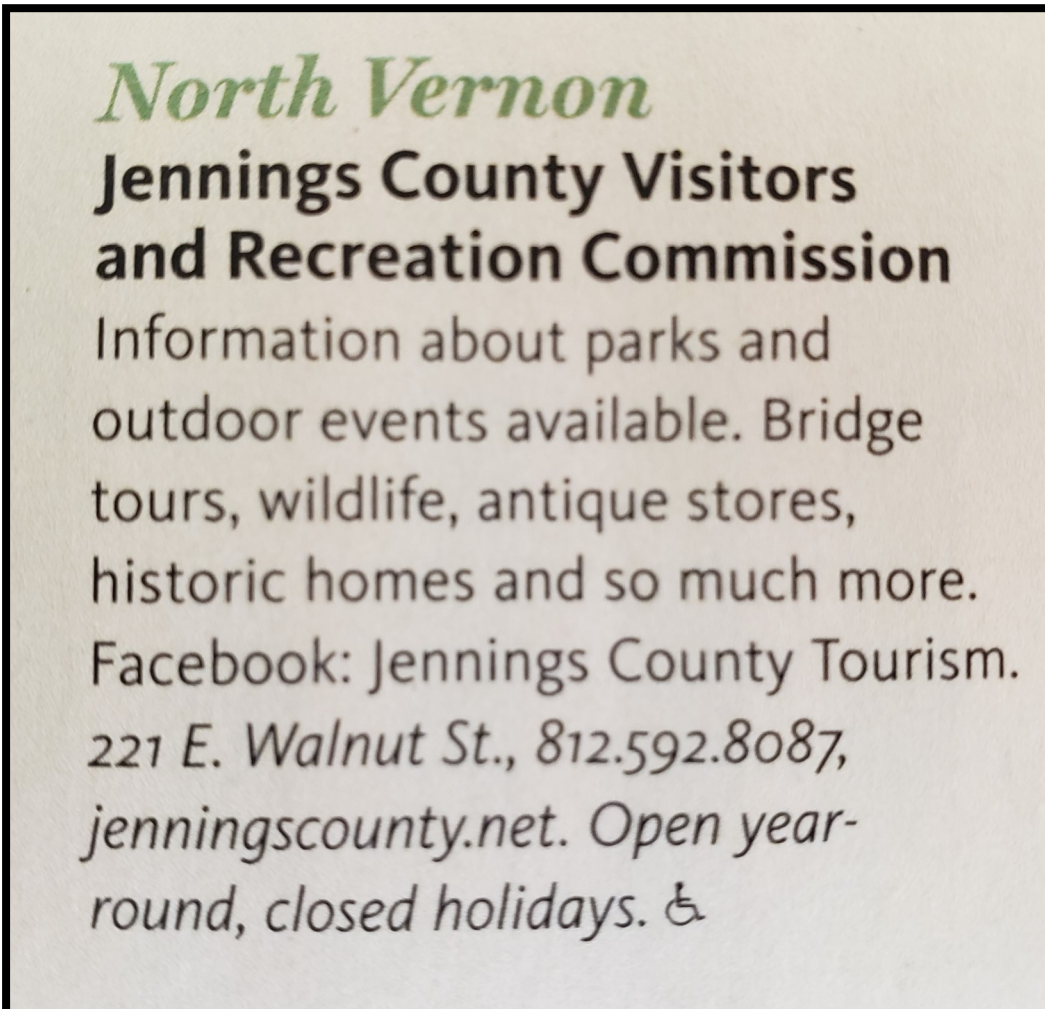
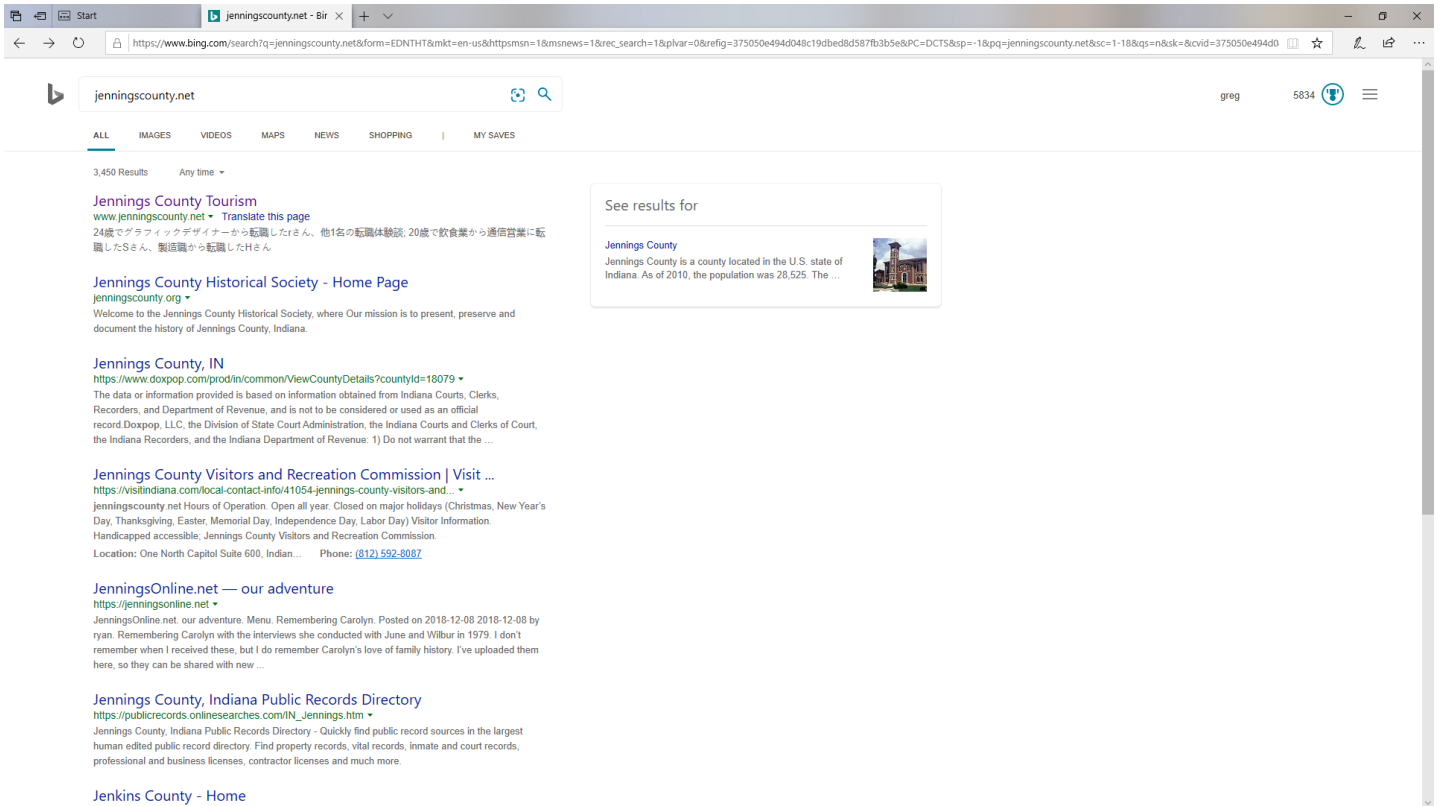
JCPR meetings have historically small public representation. All meetings for the last 10 years have been the same general time (5:30), fourth Tuesday of each month (often no meeting in September=Directors vacation, and Christmas) within the historic William Read Home.

With the exception of the Town of Vernon and the Next Level Trails presentation, JCPR meetings did not have outside participation in the Master Planning cycle.

JCPR, The Town of Vernon, and the NLT Committee did present to the County Council in September (detailed Power Point with hard copy posters, etc.) This was an average council meeting crowd of approximately 50 individuals. Roughly the same number of attendees in the funding proposal in October. JCPR Director did not attend public presentation in September (vacation). Format was essentially same as Council presentation with Mayor and engineers available to discuss project elements in greater detail. Town of Vernon residence were in general support and very thankful for the County and County Parks stepping up to assist.

As the NLT trails commitment is significant, this defined the JCPR five-year plan to a large degree. The Council hopes Eco Lake could be next larger initiative, yet they have not committed funding. The NLT commitment along with the last cycles focus on playgrounds, will likely lead to the department falling somewhat behind on general maintenance issues. Perhaps our next focus is insight.

Supplying all agenda's, minutes, and reports would add about five pages per month, along with redundant elements like survey analysis, and action plan print outs. Council Minutes are provided, next.



Jennings County Visitor x +

State of Indiana [US] | https://visitindiana.com/local-contact-info/46773-jennings-county-visitors-and-recreation-commission

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Jennings County Visitors and Recreation Commission


Plan Your Trip

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Jennings County Visitors and Recreation Commission
221 E Walnut Street
North Vernon, IN 47265
See On Map
812-592-8087
jenningscounty.net

Hours of Operation
Open all year
Closed on major holidays (Christmas, New Year's Day, Thanksgiving, Easter, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day)

Visitor Information
- Handicapped accessible



1/1

Information about parks and outdoor events available. Bridge tours, wildlife, antique stores, historic homes and so much more. Like us on facebook-jennings county tourism.

みんなの転職体験談【仕事】 x +

www.jenningscounty.net/?utm_source=Visit+Indiana&utm_medium=referral&utm_campaign=VisitIndiana.com+Premium+Online+Listing&utm_content=46773

みんなの転職体験談

みんなの転職体験談【仕事辞めたいと思った時】

20歳で飲食業から通信営業に転職したSさん、製造職から転職したHさん

Sさん(男性)

飲食業だったのですが、月のお休みが4日〜6ほど。
昼間のランチがあるため午前中から出社で終わりは終電ギリギリか、終電を逃してそのまま職場に素泊まりの繰り返しでした。

プライベートも疲れ切って動けず自分にとってあまりやりがいを見いだせなかったと思います。

なので、求人情報サイトで今の職場を見つめました。

求人サイトの良かったところは一度に大量の情報が見れることです。
ハローワークと違い写真や動画が乗っていたので雰囲気がかみやすいのが良かったですね。

今の職場で満足しているところは、福利厚生、お休み、給与、全ての面で2〜3倍環境が良くなったことです。

前職場は、退社時にいただく書類などをうまくそろえてもらえませんでした。
また、給与明細上毎月雇用保険の項目で引かれていたのにハローワーク確認した際雇用保険は支払われていないと発覚したのもビックリでした。

そのおかげで失業保険を受けられない状態になりました。

1. Increase Connectivity to the Parks

- ❖ Complete a Joint Trails Master Plan with the City of North Vernon, City of Vernon and Jennings County
- ❖ Provide trail connections throughout the region (Muscatatuck, Cali Nature Park, Selmier Forest, Crosley Fish and Wildlife, other county parks and trails) and to City parks
- ❖ Add bike lanes on Vernon Street and College Street between State Street and Madison Avenue
- ❖ Provide trail connection from County Squire Lakes by utilizing Madison Rail Line
- ❖ Complete a Sidewalk Study to identify gaps and coverage and poor conditions
- ❖ Provide better sidewalks and crossings between Tripton Park and City Park
- ❖ Provide a sidewalk Muscatatuck front entrance from State Street
- ❖ Add pea gravel/crushed limestone, signage, and drainage to Midwest Natural Gas trails

2. Increase Program Offerings for Youth and Adults

- ❖ Promote parks, clubs, programming and events
 - Promote clubs on website or newsletter
 - Promote programming for adults and youth by collecting and posting information on website, social media, newsletter, etc.
 - Provide cross promotional marketing between existing events/programs
 - Create an event calendar on website
- ❖ Focus on the development of programming in the following ways:
 - Provide more community events
 - Program the amphitheater at Tripton Park
 - Provide adult sports leagues and tournaments
 - Provide youth basketball and volleyball leagues and non-athletic youth programs
- ❖ Explore addition of full-time park staff dedicated to programming and marketing
- ❖ Establish programming partnerships with:
 - Jennings County Youth Foundation
 - City Festival Committee
 - Purdue Extension
 - EDC
- ❖ Perform feasibility study for indoor facility that can provide classrooms and multipurpose recreational space such as indoor courts for volleyball and basketball, indoor track and indoor batting cages.

3. Maximize and Better Utilize Park Resources and Assets

- ❖ Create a Master Plan for City Park
- ❖ Update/replace restroom facilities at City Park
- ❖ Update/replace playgrounds at City Park
- ❖ Increase perceived safety at City Park
 - Add lighting
 - Increased surveillance and patrol

- Increased maintenance
- ❖ Explore addition of part-time aquatics manager
- ❖ Add 3 to 5 soccer fields
- ❖ Gate baseball/softball fields for tournaments at City Park
- ❖ Provide better parking for Tripton Park
- ❖ Develop a Maintenance Plan
- ❖ Develop sponsorships and volunteer opportunities
- ❖ Add part-time maintenance staff

Other Recommendations

- ❖ Add pickle ball courts
- ❖ Add practice fields for baseball/softball
- ❖ Add batting cages
- ❖ Add lighting along City Park trails
- ❖ Add lighting and emergency call boxes on the back trails at Tripton Park
- ❖ Add lighting on Muscatatuck trail
- ❖ Add lighting along Gum Street
- ❖ Add trash receptacles and dog waste stations with educational signage at key trail locations
- ❖ Add signage, trail markers and drink fountains along trails
- ❖ Add bike racks at key trail locations
- ❖ Add parks signage
- ❖ Expand Farmer's Market
- ❖ Explore dog park at burnt down building space downtown
- ❖ Add basketball court to City Park
- ❖ Provide a connected walking trail at City Park
- ❖ Widen the walking trail at City Park to accommodate wheelchairs

4. Diversify Funding Streams

- ❖ Plan for revenue generation
 - Increase program fees
 - Increase shelter reservation fees
 - Explore city park user tax
- ❖ Leverage sports tournaments
- ❖ Develop a long-term strategic plan for funding
- ❖ Establish a Parks Foundation
 - Create a group of volunteers or friends
 - Host a general interest meeting with stakeholders

Jennings County Council Meeting
Government Annex Building, Commissioners Meeting Room
March 10, 2020 6PM

All members were present except for Dave Woodall.

Howard Malcomb opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mike Gerth made the motion to approve the minutes from the February meeting. Charlie seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Greg Martin from the Jennings County Parks and Recreation reported on a quote for 14 regular tables and 3 serving table for the Dining Hall at \$8,015.75. He said the previous tables lasted about 23 years.

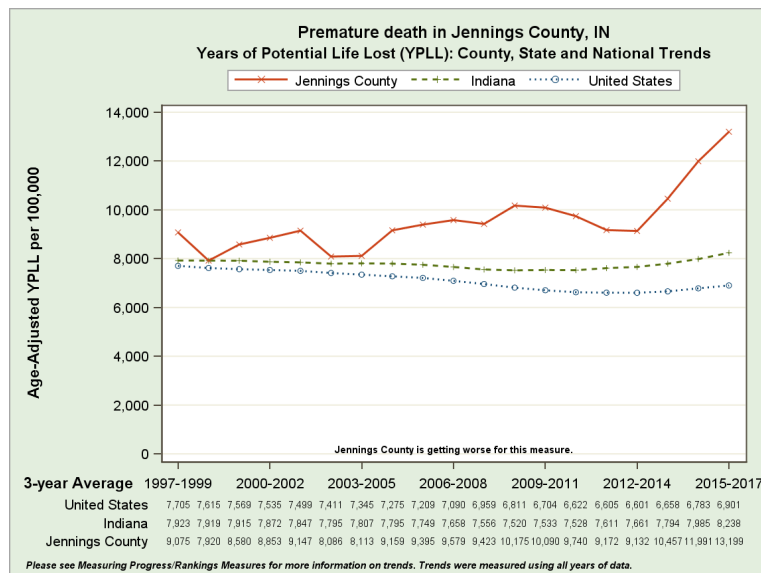
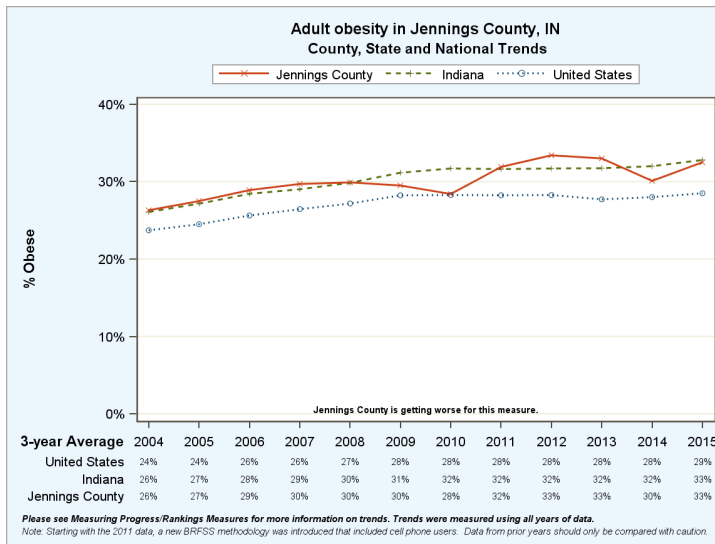
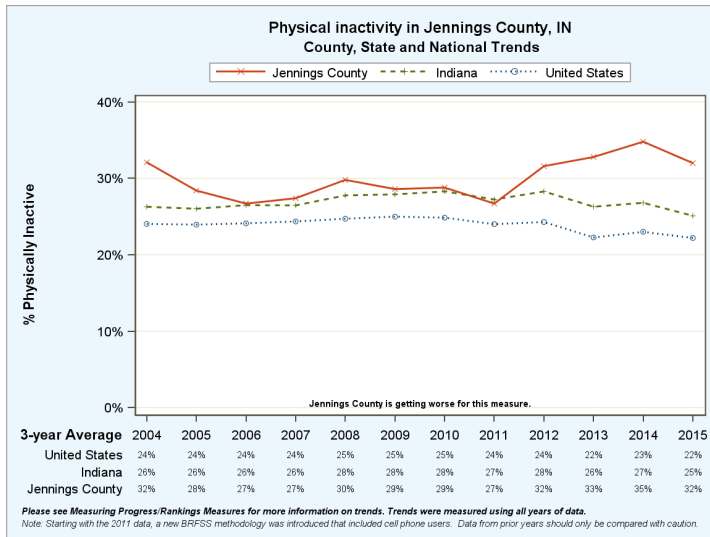
Greg also invited the Council members to the Park Board Meeting on Tuesday March 24 at 5:30.

Greg then presented the 2020 Master Plan presentation. The plan is in cyberspace on the Parks website. It is still in draft form. He plans on working on it some more as he has been busy working outside. He plans to publish it tomorrow. This helps when they apply for grants and other things. He also gave statistics on the rural population decline of Jennings County that the DNR gave to him. He spoke on the aging deterioration of Muscatatuck Park. He reported on improvements that have been made recently.

Charlie made the motion to take the \$8,015.75 for parks out of 1178 for the tables, Mike Gerth seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Tessia reported that the Tourism Commission is asking for \$35,000.00 additional appropriation. They have spoke with everyone on the County Council about this. There was only \$10,000.00 approved at the budget hearing. This will not cover their commitments that they have already made. Advertisement for the Tourism was discussed. Mandy said since there is only 1 hotel they only get Innkeepers from them. Tessia and Kitty Shepherd reported that there are actually 5 that pay Innkeepers Tax. We collect roughly \$41,000.00. Mike Gerth said he would like for them to come to a meeting and give an update. Kitty said that in trainings they have said we collect the tax and it has to go in a particular fund and anytime that the Board decides they need the money all they have to do is write a letter requesting it from the Auditor. She read the statute and that is how it reads also. Mary Kilgore is the President of the Tourism Board. Tessia said Charlie was appointed to that Board. He was unaware of that. Charlie made the motion to approve the \$35,000.00 and ask that the Auditor determine whether or not this should come before the board for future purposes. Tessia said she does believe that it needs to come before the board because it is an appropriation even if all they have to do is write a letter. Paul Belding seconded. All was in favor with the exception of Mandy Creech who voted no.

Sample graphs from Master Plan Meeting



Jennings County Parks and Recreation

Thanks you!

Please Visit!

