

## **Physical Activity Workgroup Meeting**

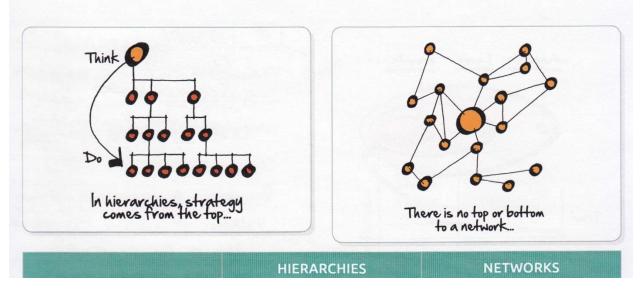
January 15, 2021 Noon-1pm "Muncie Parks Dept. 5-Year Strategic Plan"

**Attending:** Shannon Powers, Ball State University; George Foley, Muncie Parks and Recreation Dept.; Nicole Koontz, Ball State University; Larry Ottinger, Muncie Noon Optimist Club and Muncie Endurathon; Krista Flynn, Ball State University; Antonia Sawyer, Hoosier Health and Wellness Alliance; Brian Schleeper, Cardinal Greenways; Amanda Bullion, Purdue Extension; Lindsey Cox, Purdue Extension; Dr. Lynn Witty, Healthy Lifestyle Center; John Disher, IU Health East Central Region, Dawn Marie Oberly and Linda Hamilton, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church.

Announcements from John Disher:

-Still looking for \$5,000 funding for HCA Physical Activity Workgroup StoryWalk project at Minnetrista. All aspects of the project are covered except for the funding.

-Several members of the HCA have recently been trained in a process known as Strategic Doing, a way of addressing tough problems within loose networks. This process is far different than a traditional hierarchy. This core team will focus on strategic doing methodology to re-engage HCA Partners, build membership, and assist with audience influencing with online methods.



The HCA Tobacco Toolkit is now available in digital format; available for download in the last edition of the HCA Newsletter as a PDF, includes hyperlinks to the 1-800-Quit-Now website.



## Presentation: Muncie Parks and Recreation 5 Year Strategic Plan Development.

George Foley, program Director, Muncie Parks and Recreation Dr. Shannon Powers, School of Kinesiology, Ball State University

George led off the presentation by noting that Mayor Ridenour's vision is of multiple upgrades to the Muncie Parks facilities, including the current work to install a splashpad, new playground equipment and fitness equipment, ADA compliant facilities at Cooley Park, as well as upgrades at Halteman Park. The plan is to perform 3 "re-do's" per year.

A 5 year plan is needed for multiple reasons, including for outside funding applications.

Dr. Powers is assisting with the development of this plan which will be submitted to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources. Larry Strange from Mp2planning has been retained to assist with developing a public meeting process and other aspects of the application to DNR.

To date, a public survey has been developed and 1,100 members of the community have participated. The actual plan is currently in draft form, and a copy of the draft was submitted to the DNR on Jan. 14, 2021. Survey link: <u>https://bsu.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\_5nl1UTr1RxFEtvf</u>

During this process, a new vision, mission and guiding posts were developed for the park system, which encompasses 28 parks, including Prarie Creek and 1000 acres total.

Dr. Powers outline 8 goals contained within the plan:

- Develop recreation and environmental education programs, establish stronger volunteer program structure i.e. the work done at Prairie Creek by the Mid-Indiana Trails group
- Develop ADA compliance resources
- Provide diverse and attractive parks and greenways
- Expand partnerships to provide signature community events bring back Gus Macker
- An emphasis on greenspace development
- Cooperative efforts between city, state and other governmental agencies
- Expand marketing, social media to promote programs and facilities
- Activities to promote health and wellness, leisure activities, work with Purdue Extension, BSU on community instruction programs

The presentation ended with a brief Q&A session with Dr. Powers and Mr. Foley.

**Action items:** Promote survey to all HCA Partners, BSU engagement with ADA process and educational programming, Purdue Extension programming discussions, grant discussion with Shannon regarding Storywalk funding ideas, HCA connection with George to promote programming to Partners.

## Adjourned at 1pm.