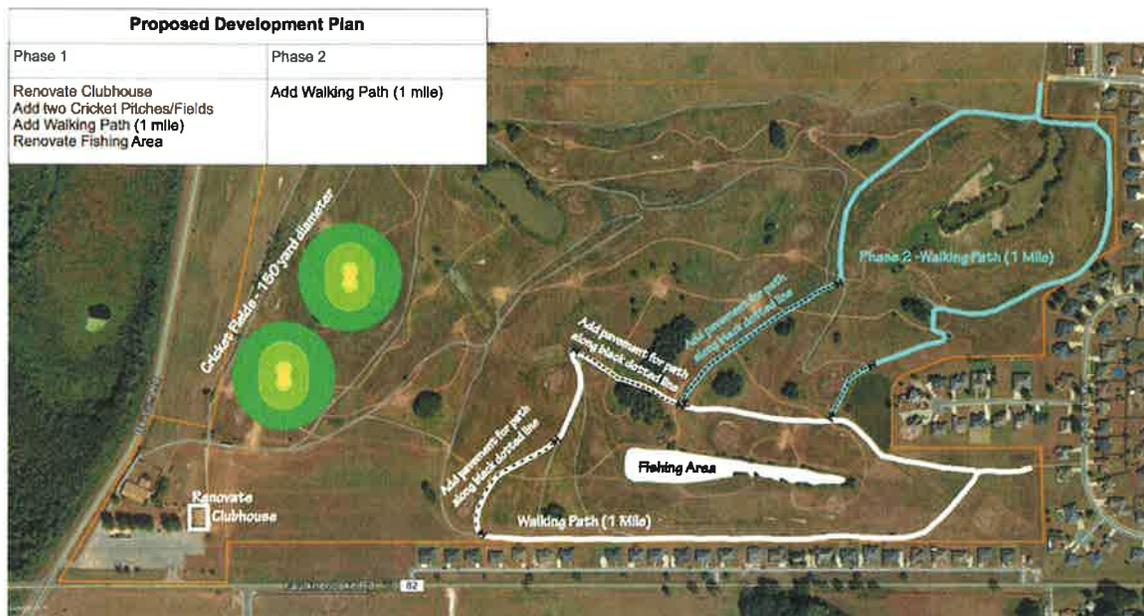


#3

Proposal to City Council for Stone Links Park March 28, 2016

Stone Links Park



(Larger version of picture is attached to proposal)

Submitted by:

Joe A. Smith, Mayor
 Terry Hartwick, Director Parks and Recreation
 Willie Thomas, President, Stone Links Neighborhood Assoc.

FILED 11:30 A.M. _____ P.M.
 BY Mayors office
 DATE 3-28-16
 Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector
 North Little Rock, Arkansas
 RECEIVED by W. Thomas

Overview

A 664-acre property on Faulkner Lake Road, which includes an 18-hole golf course, more than 100 acres of Faulkner Lake, a house, a pro shop and 300 acres of farmland, was sold at auction in December 2014. Following some resident concerns about turning the golf course into farmland, given the close proximity to their residences, the subsequent owners of the property generously donated a large portion of the property to the city in July 2015. The property now owned by the City of North Little Rock includes the former golf course and clubhouse.

It is our request that the North Little Rock City Council begin the process to dedicate this area as a new city park under the management of the North Little Rock Parks and Recreation Commission.

Proposal

The current vision for the new park would include dedicated walking paths, a new hospitality house, a stocked fishing lake, reserve land for continued use by obstacle races, and the possibility of a partnership with the Central Arkansas Indian Cricket Association (CAICA), to construct two new cricket pitches.

- The dedicated walking paths would incorporate many of the former golf cart paths and would require minimal new path construction. The two areas to be maintained would total two miles of new paths.
- The former golf course clubhouse would be renovated for use as a new “Hospitality House”, similar to the one at Burns Park. The facility would provide a central meeting location for the neighborhood association and additional revenue from its rental availability.
- The Arkansas Game and Fish Commission would stock the new fishing lake, and the Parks and Recreation Department would renovate the area to make it more conducive to fishing.
- Much of the area could be set aside as a location for “extreme” races. These include Conquer the Gauntlet, Glo-Run, Color Run, and inflatable obstacle courses.
- Talks have begun with CAICA about using a portion of the land for two cricket pitches. This partnership would allow the land to be used by CAICA, but much of the “construction” costs would be borne by the Association. It is expected that NLRPR would assist with some tree and brush removal.

Community Support

After many discussions with the resident association and Aldermen Linda Robinson and Maurice Taylor, all involved are enthusiastically supportive of this proposal.