



PARKS & RECREATION BOARD-CITY OF GAINESVILLE
MEETING MINUTES

The Parks & Recreation board met for a monthly meeting on March 25, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. at the Gainesville Civic Center.

Members Present: Paula Moore, Dick Haayan, Joanie Jones, Latecia Hendricks

Members Absent: Matthew Compton, Joseph Christian, Martin Phillips

Staff Present: Kevin Gann, Zenia Cruz

Guests Present: Tommy Moore, Tavia Josey, Riley

ACTION

A quorum was present.

The First item was to approve February 25, 2025 minutes. Dick Haayan made the motion to accept and Latecia Hendricks second the motion. Passed with unanimous consent.

Recognition of Citizens with Non-Agenda Items- Tavia Presents Disc Golf in Gainesville

DISCUSSION

Tavia presented a Disc Golf course idea for Kenesteso Park. Included with Project Capture. On page 4, section 5- Potential benefits to the City. Tourism is a large factor, and disc golfers are willing to travel for a good course. She is a testament to that because she travels to Denton and other locations to play. Presented are real players who travel to different nearby courses. There is an app that tracks players and courses, which is how they stay in touch. A diagram represents users, courses, and the hours played at each location.

These courses are becoming popular in odd locations because of the simplicity of the courses. Places like Parks, Military bases, and Breweries.

Disc Golf has benefited the Military for those suffering from mental health issues. It gives the players a sense of working in a group towards a goal. Which has been the idea of putting them in locations like the bases.

Throwing a Frisbee is one of the top 10-rated activities in America right now. It's easy for any age group to be able to do so; the benefit is immediate. That is some of the reasons they propose revitalization of Keneteso Park, starting with the Disc golf course.

One of the youngest players just turned 11 years old. This is a simple game for all ages and for those with disabilities. A course opened up for tournament events, and this event had age groups around 50, 65, and over 70-year-olds.

With this, we are in contact with Disc Golf designers who would be happy to help design a course that would be efficient throughout the years. The estimated cost to build a course would be \$25,000. For all the bells and whistles.

Michael Scales, one of the Disc golf players, couldn't make it tonight. He ran the Ardmore disc golf club and helped design it, and helped put it all together. He has a garage full of course maintenance equipment like chainsaws, trimmers, and other things. When they created Ardmore's course, they were able to cut down some of the cost due to some of the work they did and the bases of the baskets, they mixed the concrete and created those themselves.

There is also Sponsorship opportunities here as well, for the city, and that is on a monthly basis. Companies can sponsor the main installation, and then later, the maintenance of the holes. They mentioned Signage on each hole or double signs on the grounds before the course.

On the Course Page was discussed what will be needed to maintain and create a course. But the group spoke up and mentioned that grass watering is not a necessity due to the low impact and the fact that they would prefer areas that are overgrown, that aren't used, and that are oddly shaped or going through creeks. These obstacles make a course interesting and fun. Within reason, like we would rake and remove large limbs and things like that. Points are made by the least amount of throws. Anyone, depending on the Tournament, can participate. It is an easy sport to do as a group or solo.

It was mentioned that they have not raised any money yet due to the fact that this was not a sure possibility of being able to create a course here in Gainesville.

It was discussed where we would be able to set this course because Keneteso is used for Soccer. On the South Part we have the games and north is their practice fields, so this would take some time on where there is enough space to have permanent baskets for the course, and how players would be able to get to the course. Parking would be another thing to think about because it gets full when there is activates already there.

This is one of the reasons that we are waiting for the comprehensive plan because there is a lot of asks already not just full parks but other things as well. We would have to line all those things up first for parks and Recreation and then prioritize. That's why we have the public meetings so that people can add to that list. But we do have to wait because the plan is for the entire city not just this department but we would keep in mind this idea and add it to the list.

We will get to this project when all the planning is done and when we get to sit down and look into Parks and Recreation.

The Disc Golf group mentioned that back in the 2000s or the late 90s a group raised funds. They created an LLC. Eric Kelly is in charge for that and there is talk to signing it over to this group and starting to look for vendors. But not until we have a confirmed plan for this project.

There was further discussion about courses and members in the area. Cooke County's team has about 109 members. Also different leagues in the area. Tournament rules and about how many we could hold in this area, and how that would be scheduled using the app. It would be easy to hold and organize events such like the ones going on in the County.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, March 25, 2025

Zenia Cruz
Administrative Assistant
Parks and Recreation Department



Martin Phillips 4/22/25
Chairman Date

The 84 acres of Keneteso Park has high potential for outdoor recreation but is currently underutilized. The community proposes the preparation and expansion for land use and management of an outdoor recreation park with an assortment of activities that will bring tourism and economic growth to Gainesville. The proposed initial installation at Keneteso is an 18-hole professional disc golf course.

The long-term project proposed for Keneteso Park includes a multi-use recreational complex over the entirety of the property, to include: a disc golf course, soccer fields, play equipment, volleyball, pickleball, walking trails, benches, a gazebo, event pavilion, permanent restrooms, an additional dog park area, animal waste stations scattered throughout park, a second bridge to improve accessibility, sufficient public trash and recycling receptacles.

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1. Title of Initiative:

Revitalization of Keneteso Park in Gainesville Texas to include and start with a disc golf course

2. Brief Description of Initiative:

84 acres of Keneteso Park has potential for outdoor recreation but is currently underutilized. Community proposes preparation and expansion for land use and management of an outdoor recreation park with an assortment of activities to bring engagement and potential economic growth to Gainesville. The proposed initial installation at Keneteso is an 18-hole professional disc golf course.

Disc golf has relatively low capital and maintenance costs compared with other recreational installations, is environmentally sound, is played year-round in all climates and is enjoyed immediately; including beginners of all ages.

The installation of a disc golf course would be consistent with the goal of adding major attractions to increase park use. Disc golf is also in perfect keeping with a call for the development and improvement of recreational facilities that emphasize natural attributes, meet diversified recreational needs, and offer opportunities not available elsewhere in the city.

There are now more than 6700 Disc Golf courses in the United States and Canada, nearly all installed by city and county parks departments. In 2023 alone, cities across America added 1,112 new disc golf courses, 541 of which are co-located to public parks. There are few recreational activities that offer the high benefit-to-cost ratio of disc golf.

3. Category (dept) the idea falls into: PUBLIC RECREATION:

Disc Golf is played much like traditional golf. Instead of hitting a ball into a hole, you throw a more streamlined looking Frisbee® disc into a supported metal basket. The goal is the same as traditional golf: to complete the course in the fewest number of shots. A disc is thrown from a tee area to each basket, which is the "hole." As players progress down the fairway, they must make each consecutive shot from the spot where the previous throw has landed. The tree, shrub, and terrain changes in and around the fairways provide challenging obstacles for the golfer. Finally, the "putt" lands in the basket and the hole is completed. On average a player walks 5,613 steps or about three miles during an 18-hole round.

4. Vision for how Residents of City/County benefit from the project

Citizens of all ages could benefit from a disc golf course. In studies measuring participation in recreational activities, "throwing a Frisbee" has consistently been a top ten activity. A disc golf course serves a broader portion of the community than many specialized interest activities of higher cost, skill or fitness levels required at entry level. No age or economic groups are excluded. Men and women, young and old, families with small children -- they can all play and enjoy disc golf together.

A disc golf course will provide an inexpensive form of recreation for people of all ages and is a welcome addition to the recreational facilities at Keneteso Park. Given the proximity of middle and high schools in the immediate vicinity of Keneteso, the installation of a disc golf course will provide an important recreational resource for the schools, as well as for the wider community. A disc golf course will give youth in the neighborhood a healthy and challenging outlet for their physical energy and allow members of the Gainesville disc golf community to organize clinics and youth leagues for open participation. For the growing number of disc golfers in Gainesville, the presence of a disc golf course within city limits eliminates the need to travel to play and also provides a home base to further promote and expand the sport.

Disc golf is enjoyed by many people for a myriad of reasons. For some, it's a fun hobby they enjoy with friends and family, or a little bit of extra entertainment that makes outdoor exercise more appealing. For others, it's a serious competitive sport they spend hours practicing and playing each week.

As a Medal of Honor host city, it is notable to Gainesville that this sport has found its niche in the lives and community of veterans and active-duty military personnel. Disc golf activity and community assists in the transition from service to civilian life, eases homesickness for active-duty military that improves both physical and mental health while engaging in active and healthy activities with others, fostering connections.

5. Potential benefits to City/County entities – consider increased revenues, cost savings, human resources, business & population growth and development, cultural/environmental impacts, etc.

Disc golf has a significant tourism community. Dedicated players love to travel to new courses and spend time and money in the communities they visit, bringing income to local businesses, restaurants, hotels, and the community overall.

5.1. When disc golfers come to town, they spend more than just time on the course.

The Peoria, Illinois Convention and Visitors Bureau sees a positive over \$1 million in direct economic impact every summer from the LedgeStone Insurance Open through revenue, profits, and sales

Columbia, Missouri's Mid-America Open nets more than \$150,000.

Ben Smith, a course designer in Canada, found that a single course brought in more than \$11,000 in annual economic impact for its small municipality – in less than six months and with fewer than 700 rounds scored on UDisc, the app most of the community uses to score rounds.

In the United Kingdom, course designer Richard Hatton reported in 2017 that disc golfers were willing to travel up to four hours to visit a new disc golf course.

Washington, D.C. added two new disc golf courses in 2023 bringing their total to three. The city serves as a case study in how underused public spaces are being developed so that the communities can quickly flourish once they are provided places to play.

Sprinkle Valley, in Austin Texas has a challenging 18-hole course with a wooded layout, elevation changes, and natural obstacles and it hosted the Women’s 2024 Disc Golf Championships. The champion prize of that tournament in March 2024 was \$12,000.

5.2. Disc golf tourism is a growing industry that allows host cities to promote the community as an active recreation and leisure destination.

Economic benefits are realized by several avenues, for Example:

Host qualified PDGA Disc Golf Tournaments and organized League play

Create tourism packages that coordinate disc golf events with other attractions, activities and sight-seeing opportunities.

Partner with sponsored team building activity programs that increase general foot traffic to Gainesville i.e. Corporate, Youth Programs and School field-events

Provide collateral business development opportunities for local merchants and enthusiasts, such as Hometown Pharmacy, who stocks and sells a full line of disc golf equipment.

Course Name	Play Count	Unique Users	Recreation Hours
Moffet DGC	392	119	137.38
JM Lindsey	2332	262	2346.37
Muenster Disc Golf	1240	203	1609.78
Pecan Grove West (Sherman)	14,685	2287	29,901.18
North Lakes Park-Creekside (Denton)	23,809	2900	45,119.95

5.3. Park conservation cannot be overlooked as an environmental impact of the course. Disc golf is an environmentally friendly sport. Unlike traditional golf, a disc golf course may not require trees to be removed, extensive groundskeeping, daily watering, uprooting plants & wildlife, or non-native species to be planted or maintained.

Courses are designed to fit into the existing flora of the park. The disc golf course has minimal impact on the existing and surrounding landscape is minimal. Each hole can have multiple pin placements, ensuring that no single area gets constant foot traffic (this has the added benefit of providing new challenges to players). In addition, disc golfers overall tend to take considerable pride in where they play, helping reduce potential litter on the course. In the long term, a disc golf course would also help in the preservation of the park by giving young people in the neighborhood a stake in its preservation and protection.

6. Project Scope - General:

The disc golf course is the **initial project in scope** of this proposal, with the following steps for Approval and Assignment:

- 6.1. Approve land use designation for disc golf course spread over ~25 acres of Keneteso
- 6.2. Clean and Clear brush on designated course area
- 6.3. Procure Course Design options for decision and commitment
- 6.4. Order, fabricate and install course implements
- 6.5. Install ancillary elements to complete course design (benches, receptacles, trail composite)

The long-term plan proposal for the 84 acres of Keneteso Park is to create a full complex for multi-use recreational space over the entirety of the property, to include: disc golf course, soccer fields, play equipment, volleyball, pickleball, walking trails, benches, gazebo, event pavilion, permanent restrooms, additional dog park area, second bridge to improve accessibility, and sufficient public trash and recycling receptacles.

7. Project Scope - Specifics: Steps to take to construct/execute, implement, maintain a course

- 7.1. The land is currently covered in brush, piles of building materials, and trash which needs to be cleaned and cleared before use. This could be accomplished with city equipment combined with volunteer efforts.

7.2. Tees: Each hole would have two tees, a short one for novice players and a longer one for advanced players. Both novice and advanced tees would be made of concrete. We estimate that a maximum of 18 tees of both sizes would be required, for a total of 36.

7.3. Baskets: Each playable hole would have a basket mounted on a pipe that slides inside an anchor pipe that gets cemented into a hole measuring approximately 8" in diameter and 18-24" deep. The basket pipe and anchor pipe each have collar tabs that line up and are securely locked with a padlock. Each hole would have 1-2 additional anchors installed so that the basket could be moved to different anchor locations periodically to reduce soil compacting and erosion, plus add some variety for players similar to moving holes around on a golf green. We estimate that approximately 50 anchors holes would be installed (this number could change depending on course design).

7.4. Signage: Tee signs are very important to help first-time users find their way through the course. Each hole would have a sign indicating the number, length, recommended flight path and par (the number of throws estimated per hole). In addition, a rules sign, and information board should be installed before the first hole. The signs can be constructed with a variety of materials although we believe it would be preferable to create custom signs that recognize potential sponsors of each hole. Commercial signs designed for disc golf are also available from several sources. Pricing estimates are listed further down in the proposal.

8. What Maintenance Is Required for a Disc Golf Course at Keneteso?
Once open for use, the maintenance needs for a disc golf course are:

8.1. Monthly mowing/weed-eating on fairway section

8.2. Trash/recycling disposal as needed

8.3. Targets/baskets are made of welded steel anchored in concrete and **need no regular maintenance.**

8.4. In the unlikely event that one of the baskets is damaged beyond repair or stolen (highly unlikely), they can be replaced for around \$350-\$450.

8.5. Walking pathways used by players may need occasional maintenance to prevent erosion and soil compacting. Volunteers with proper training and supervision can maintain the disc golf course easily.

Much of the area of the proposed course is underutilized and not highly maintained. Under the proper supervision of the Keneteso Park committee, volunteers would likely be eager to undertake an initial cleanup of these areas and then maintain them as trash-free zones.

9. Estimated Timeline for each step:

Plan & Organize – 3 to 6 months

Implement Project – 3 to 6 months

10. Investments required – in terms of money, resources, equipment, manpower, etc and from who: Minimum Investment is ~\$25,000 procured through Sponsorship & Fundraising. This number has been generated based on equipment to purchase

11. List of Stakeholders

11.1. Responsible = The Doers – person/group who will DO the thing:

Volunteers, The City of Gainesville, Red Dirt Dingers, and the Cooke County Disc Golf Association

11.2. Accountable = The Decision Makers - person/organization that has the “final say” or can “kill” the project at any time:

The City of Gainesville

11.3. Consulted = People in The Know – Subject matter experts (SMEs). persons/groups that must be involved, considered and communicated with because of their specific expertise, position or role relevant and necessary to success of the project:

There is a great community of disc golf players who are willing to donate their time and talents to this project and are excited to see the city show support.

11.4. Informed = Who Needs to Know – people and groups that are affected by the project or initiative:

The citizens of the city should be informed of the initiative once it has been approved as well as the local disc golf communities in the surrounding area.

12. *Definition of Expectations & Deliverables of each of the RACI Stakeholder Roles:*

The City of Gainesville is Accountable for decision-making and guidance of contracted Project Management resource allocation

Project managers are Responsible for setting and reaching agreed project milestones and timelines of the Project

Stakeholders, Volunteers and Sponsors are Communicated with on a defined and regular basis for their Subject Matter Expertise, labor and monetary contributions

Committees, Boards and Citizenry are Informed of Project progress and completion

13. Resource Analysis

13.1 (Proposed) Timeline to complete overall Process from initiation to successful implementation. The proposed timeline to complete the project is 8 months to 1 year.

13.2 (Proposed) Timeline of individual Project(s) Steps

To have a better idea of a timeline for each step, we need to open a discussion with the subject matter experts. We have reached out to course designers. A PDGA champion has expressed interest in this project.

13.3. Proposed Cost Analysis – per step, in table or spreadsheet form

*Per SME Jarret and Connor Pelzel (cost estimates from October 2024)

Item	Cost per	Cost for 18	Cost for 36	Bulk cost
Baskets*				\$7,650
Tee number plates	\$30	\$540	\$1080	
9x12 tee sign with design	\$75	\$1,350	\$2,700	
Disc golf rules sign 12x18				\$55
Concrete tee pads**	\$300	\$5,400	\$10,800	

* this is \$100 off per basket as a course package deal, includes basket, anchor, and collar. Extra anchors to be able to move the baskets would cost more

** Michael Scales (president of Ardmore DG Club) estimated \$300/pad for straight rectangular concrete tee pads cost. Labor was provided by volunteers.

13.4. Proposed time to complete in hours – per step, in terms of man-hours, calendar weeks, months & seasons:

TBD – To be Defined

13.5. Resources & RACI required to Implement:

TBD – To be Defined

13.6 Resources & RACI required to Maintain

TBD – To be Defined

14. Accounting Disclosures: Sponsorship & Donor Prospects
– include transparency and accountability = integrity

Grants
Donations
Sponsor agreements
Gifts in kind
Acknowledgements
Honoraria

15. Project Management Expectations / Boundaries & Agreements (Trust Manifesto)

1. Integrity in all actions, designs, systems and structures.
2. Radical Honesty.
3. Kindness as a primary impulse.
4. Treat others as you would yourself.
5. Be generous first.
6. Dare to Care enough to speak the truth in service to others.
7. All life is sacred.
8. Clean Communication as an always practice.
9. Seek first to understand.
10. Clear boundaries are critical.
11. When misunderstanding or upset occurs, treat it as a priority and seek to understand all sides.

12. Continuous education – about the world, our underlying systems and structures, history and our emotional, spiritual, physical and cognitive development.

13. Sensemaking skills as a priority against the backdrop of algorithms designed to scramble all sense.

14. Maintain an open mind and heart. That belief/idea you cling to or defend is likely to be partially true.

15. Understand and name the incentive, purpose and desire behind your actions and others. Call it true.

16. Name Little Atrocities in yourself and others as they first arise.

17. Love trumps violence – violent thoughts, deeds and words.

18. Ecologies of synergy, where people can be both agentic and whole while also working together collaboratively, are the greatest exponential technology available.

19. Integrity is the essence of everything.

16.



POWERED BY UDisc

Courses

- 16,267 disc golf courses worldwide
- Twice as many 9-hole courses built vs. 18-holes
- 3.2 courses installed per day in 2024
- 89% of disc golf courses are free to play

Participation + Activity

- 1.26 million players used the UDisc app
- 20.1 million rounds played with UDisc
- 33 million hours spent on the course
- 81 billion steps taken while playing
- 86% of players introduced someone to disc golf
- 75,000+ league events run on UDisc

International Growth

91 countries with courses

Top countries

- United States: 10,644
- Finland: 1,095
- Canada: 871
- Sweden: 758
- Norway: 733

Trending

- Colombia
- Poland
- Uganda
- Latvia

Disc Golf Tourism & Spending

- 87% of players traveled 20 mi (32 km) for a round of disc golf
- 53% plan to take a disc golf trip in 2025
- >70% spent as much or more on equipment as in 2023

For specific data inquiries, please drop us a line:
hello@udisc.com

index	course_name	play_count	unique_users	recreation_hour/step	step_count
0	Moffet DGC	392	119	137.3811494	391419.1059
1	Haslet Community	10946	2075	18702.06926	47920577.75
2	McCord Park	42763	4169	72926.28986	171878687.2
3	Munson Park	26231	3201	51471.63788	122559883.5
4	The Bulldog Course	784	130	1145.985325	2807949.178
5	The Junkyard	29	20	33.30579	76758
6	Camp All Saints Junior Course	9	8	7.882401667	17099
7	Tom McCutcheon DGC	68541	8309	136925.3262	317058223.1
8	Stix Icehouse	2283	876	2775.629414	6324827.213
9	Dash's Track	35761	3909	50248.04332	103030301.8
10	Melba Doyle DGC	4767	549	7642.786741	14913171.9
11	Eagle Summit High School DGC	473	215	822.0698403	2154507.463
12	Alex Clark Memorial DGC	142583	9202	231270.8969	527093452.8
13	Wellington	5050	429	3859.220927	10021747.61
14	Lake Kiowa Disc Golf Course	286	60	272.7933167	602528.5139
15	Prosper Center Park Disc Golf Course	275	136	309.7640153	764187.0448
16	Jimmy Porter Park DGC	45687	7082	86885.92046	201765001.8
17	Heritage Park	60224	9301	121927.2819	294084022.7
18	Lake Providence	401	177	265.3033042	662598.7577
19	Shawnee Park	47174	6169	83784.88627	206820575.4
20	Vista Del Lago	1610	344	2337.068245	5931876.886
21	Twin Coves Disc Golf	108	58	43.8386375	150421.28
22	Trophy Club	44135	5324	89350.91143	207246465.4
23	Castle Hills	1526	632	2759.340035	6768821.278
24	Camp Victory - Lake Texoma	57	16	67.19497472	136359
25	Boyd High School	12	11	12.88454889	26688
26	Trenton Memorial Park DGC	172	39	149.3740942	386509
27	Cross Point Camp	116	53	96.07376444	248769.0732
28	Shady Grove Park	98	48	21.70750667	47665.24
29	Towne Lake	66990	7271	136932.4354	310773689.8
30	Broadlawn Park	7325	611	11648.55868	25284967.87
31	North Lakes Park- Creekside	23809	2900	45119.94872	92218642.3

32	The Woods at Trinity DGC	27250	4200	63471.92983	158390993
33	Griffin MS Course	1092	292	694.6706464	1506662.289
34	Lenard L. Woods Park	62267	5826	103743.707	261165575.4
35	Greenbelt DGC	46580	7161	89967.29433	233579913.7
36	Jack Culverhouse DGC	11150	2116	22942.41225	54264689.01
37	Bethany Lakes	3980	1048	4451.738719	12726627.08
38	1st Choice Disc Golf Course	963	244	1712.031236	3740846.114
39	Camp Compass	114	55	142.6383189	325087.625
40	Regional DGC	4754	835	10442.49851	25421764.83
41	Muenster Disc Golf Course	1240	203	1609.778441	3767639.973
42	Cottonwood Creek Elem School	97	57	66.60397917	134292.6957
43	Old Union Elementary School	35	27	5.538758056	15280
44	Bill Allen Memorial Park	78081	8543	150918.3318	359526406.7
45	Jones Park	4511	1124	9080.508761	18868540.05
46	Pecan Grove West-Sherman TX	14685	2287	29901.17815	68550709.31
47	JM Lindsay Park	2332	262	2346.373233	6154949.069
48	Harwood Park	822	146	754.8887078	2103697.661
49	Slyfer Creek	5938	1108	11132.52109	31658836.21
50	North Lakes Park-Lakeside	10430	2273	21918.29687	51219218.35
51	The Hollow at Wildridge	504	145	357.2118286	910557.8801
52	Andrew Brown Park	1019	586	1786.207344	4345514.502
53	M22	137	89	385.6379508	323481.9091