

GREEN SPACE TASK FORCE

PROPOSAL

OCTOBER 5, 2015

Submitted by

Task Force Members:

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General Discussion of the Process

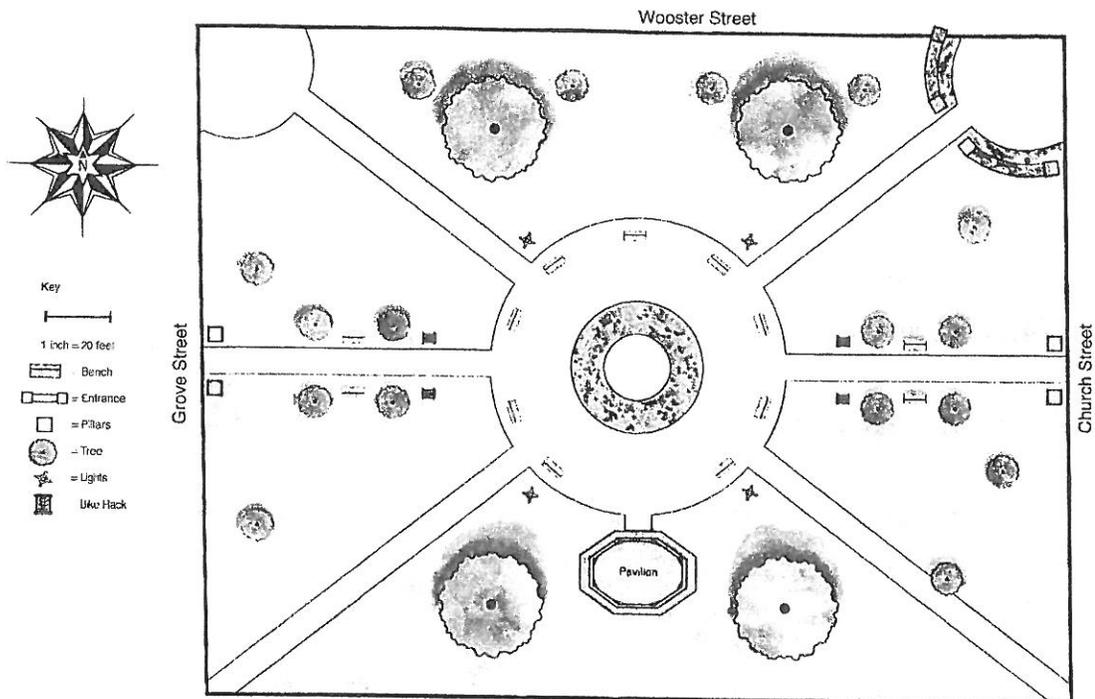
On May 6, 2015, Mayor Dick Edwards announced the membership of the Green Space Task Force. The task force was charged to accomplish the following:

- 1) To develop and recommend a conceptual plan and a timeline for implementation to the City Council's Public Lands and Building Committee Chaired by Theresa ChartersGavarone. Also serving on Committee are Council Members Bruce Jeffers and John Zanfardino.
- 2) To review the history of the site at the corner of W. Wooster and S. Church and to review the "pros and cons" of the site in terms of potential uses.
- 3) To ensure that any plan put forward for consideration by City Council includes design elements that requires minimal operating and maintenance costs by the City, includes representation of BG's history, and that takes into consideration First Presbyterian Church and the surrounding neighborhood.
- 4) To recommend a plan that is dependent upon a community-wide fund-raising campaign in keeping with previously successful private dollar appeals, for example, the Simpson Garden Park, Save the Woods and Ridge Park fund-raising efforts.

The Task Force met as a whole on May 27, June 4, June 15, July 27, and September 8. Three subcommittees meet individually multiple times during the course of the summer. The Design Committee presented a conceptual design to the entire Task Force and it passed with 14 positive votes and one abstention. The Cost committee then developed a projected estimated cost for the project and the Fund Raising Committee preceded to develop a fund raising strategy for development of the Green Space at West Wooster and South Church Street.

In developing the final report, the Task Force continually reviewed the four parts of our charge. The members of the Task Force worked diligently to complete this project in a timely fashion and stand ready to assist with the completion of our proposal should the City Council give approval to move forward.

Tonight's presentation will include brief opening remarks followed by reports by the Design Committee, Cost Committee, and the Fund Raising Committee.



Task Force, Design Points

- Multi-purpose commons space
 - Wide walkways leading to a large gathering space
 - Street lighting (match Heritage 2000)
 - Benches
 - Shade options: Sails/umbrellas
 - Defined brick entrance on NE and NW
 - Bicycle racks
 - Trees

- Gazebo
 - Size to accommodate medium-sized groups
 - Raised platform, with steps and railings open to the front

- Future sculpture to define space
 - Sculpture reflects Bowling Green culture and heritage
 - Call for proposals to locate an artist and appropriate design
 - Circular flower bed to hold space for sculpture
 - last phase of the design

Estimated Costs for Green Space

"BG Commons" Preliminary Project Estimates -

1. Gazebo 40' diameter & 1260 sf concrete	\$65,000
2. Landscaping, trees, irrigation	\$20,000
3. Benches, Bike Racks, etc	\$12,000
4. Brick Pillars	\$25,000
5. Lighting Fixtures and all Electrical	\$25,000
6. Victorian fountain, statue, or Artistic element in center available funds)	\$35,000 (estimated
7. Concrete: 90' center, 5' walks, & E/W gravel	\$45,000
	Total: \$227,000
8. Contingency (10%)	\$22,700
	Grand Total: \$249,700

Alternate (not included in above total):

Four 15'x15' shade umbrellas (10' tall)* \$17,200*

*Does not include: unloading, concrete embedment, etc.

*Cost is \$4,300 each for four. Cost for one is \$6,300.

Costs to Date, Paid by the City of BG:

ITEM	Cost
Purchase of the Old Junior High from BG City Schools	\$1
Demolition of the Building	\$485,000
Trees	\$4,500
Watering and Care of trees first 2 years to get them established	\$900
Benches	\$2,000
Flower Pots (installed)	\$2,000
Concrete patio area and plaque	\$3,000
TOTAL	\$497,401

Ongoing expenses at this point are estimated at about \$1,500 per month and include staff and materials for weekly mowing, watering, fertilizing, over-seeding, backflow testing, and snow removal.

GREEN SPACE TASK FORCE

Fund Raising Committee

5 October 2015

Outline of Fund Raising Strategy for Development of Green Space

Introduction: In support of bringing the Green Space located at Church and W. Wooster to its current state, the City of Bowling Green has expended a total of \$497,401-. This includes the cost of the site, demolition of the former Junior High School building, and currently existing upgrades. A further average of \$1,500- per month is the cost to the city for maintaining the property. It is anticipated that this level of cost will continue and be paid by the city if/when the space is developed following approval by BG's City Council of the design as presented by the Task Force.

Fund Raising Goal: \$250,000- to be Raised Over Period of 12-24 Months.

Outline of Fund Raising Strategy:

- Identify and Name Honorary Chair/Co-chair of Fund Raising Campaign.
- Expand Fund Raising Committee from Current Six Members (of Task Force) to Twelve so as to Include Additional Representation from BG Community.
- Hold Campaign Kick-off Special Event.
- Hold Series of Smaller, Perhaps Home-based, Special Events.
- Seek Small Grants.
- Create an Internet-based "Crowd Sourcing" Giving Opportunity.
- Identify Best Practices from Similar Past Fund Raising Campaigns in BG, and Adapt as Relevant to Current Campaign.
- Target Specific Donors and Donor Groups.
- Separate Potential Designated from Non-designated Project Giving Opportunities; Make Possible Recognition ("naming") Where Appropriate.
- Task Force Member Pledges -- \$14,500.

Proposed project work has been divided into three phases, with each to be carried out as funds become available.

All donations are to be made through Downtown BG (a 501.c.3 organization) so that receipts for charitable giving can be provided.