

# 2022-05-24 Skatepark Meeting

Attendee(s): Jaime Kinder, Gretchen Myers, Colton McCurdy

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## Action Item(s)

### Short term (2022)

- Jaime and Gretchen
  - Introduce Colton to Jason (city grant writer) for support.
  - Introduce Colton to folks leading the Race St. project.
  - Coordinate group field trip to Race St.(?)
  - Evaluate Race St.
    - If we are serious about a skate park at Race St., maybe that's where we focus our efforts and funding. We don't want to confuse the community with partial funding to the existing park.
  - Determine if we could use the Community Block Development Grant (CBDG) for the skatepark
- Colton
  - Start conversations with Skatepark Project Foundation to identify direction (i.e., renovating existing park with new concrete structures or new park at Race St.?).
  - ["If your organization seeks funds for \*\*anything other than the construction of a NEW skatepark\*\* in the United States \(including projects such as expansion of an existing skatepark or amenities like bleachers or water fountains\), it is \*\*not eligible\*\* to apply for a grant from The Skatepark Project."](#)

### Goal(s)

#### By the end of 2022:

- Decide on Race St. or the existing MARC park.

- MARC would have to be entirely rebuilt and be done in concrete to abide by The Skatepark Project application criteria.
- Have a rough execution plan and proposed design
- Form a group of allies to meet monthly(?)

## Meeting Notes

- [The Skatepark Project Grants](#)
  - "The Skatepark Project offers grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$300,000. The average grant amount for a National Program applicant is \$10,000. Built To Play Grants range from \$50,000 to \$300,000."
  - If your organization seeks funds for **anything other than the construction of a NEW skatepark** in the United States (including projects such as expansion of an existing skatepark or amenities like bleachers or water fountains), it **is not eligible** to apply for a grant from The Skatepark Project.
  - Has to be concrete construction.
  - Can't be privately owned.
  - Need to start with "grassroots" campaign and display community and city support for better chance.
  - TYPES OF PROJECTS: Many types of public concrete skatepark projects can be eligible for a skatepark construction grant from The Skatepark Project.
    - New Skatepark Construction
    - Skateable Art Sculptures
    - Active City Space Conversion (legalizing skateboarding in shared spaces)
- Casey Miller
  - Firehouse. Miller brother's staffing. New construction company. Very willing to help with projects for the kids
- Jason (City grant writer.)
  - To help with grants for the skate park since it's owned by the city.
  - Maybe Gretchen or Jaime could introduce me and I could seek their advice while talking to the Skatepark Project Foundation and finding other available grants.
- Autumn Vogel
  - Connecting dots and knows people
- Plea on Meadville city facebook page "support the park".
  - Shows community support and city backing of the skate park (necessary for Skatepark Project Foundation grant)
- Events/Programming
  - Board swap event. Donate old boards, build new ones?
  - Learn to skate programs.
    - [Switch and Signal has some good programming](#)
  - "How does my kid keep up their board?" Teaching skills.
  - How do they keep skating up?
- "Community Block Grant" (CBDG grant). Part of it used for Huidekooper
  - Gretchen and Jaime to see if there is an opportunity here for funding

- Naysayers
  - "Out of sight out of mind"
  - Our response should be to lean on giving these kids a whole lot of "yes" instead of "no".
- Flagship cafeteria Erie (State Street)
  - Charged based on the profits.
- Race St. / Bessemer park
  - Picnic tables. Public use
  - Skate park would be perfect in there
  - Space that bridges parts of the community
  - If Tony Hawk doesn't work out at MARC, might work out at Race St.
  - Spring street redone
  - Park under a bridge?
  - Biking/walking lanes
  - Connecting French creek
  - Voodoo compound skate park event
    - 84 Lumber building

## Proposed Direction(s)/Execution Plans

### Race St. / Bessemer Park

- Colton to meet folks involved and be available to help with that space (for more than just the skatepark)

### MARC Park

- ReMARCable event (Gretchen)
  - Kid from the MARC to help with advertising
  - Bill Pendergraft (aquatics director)
  - Could we use the ReMARCable event as a "kickoff" for getting funding for the skate park renovation project?
    - Shows community support and city backing of the skate park (necessary for Skatepark Project Foundation grant)
- Could we expand the park?
  - Work with Gary Johnson
- Removing the fence and definitely the locks.
  - Could we do this soon to show the kids that this is real?
- More beginner ramps
- More "lines" (i.e., multiple people skating at once)
- Getting MARC involved. Figuring out the "weirdness". Maybe we need to get in a room together.