

No opposition to skate park proposal

■ Interested citizens listen as Jeremy Watkins outlines plans for Atchison's future skateboard park/Credit:Brian Hagen/MSC News

(KAIR)--No opposition was heard, but enthusiasm to bring new activity to Atchison's Reisner Park was voiced, during a community forum focused on the proposed construction of a skateboard park.

The meeting was held in the park, near the current green space proposed as the location of the skate park.

Only several residents who live near Reisner Park attended the session, which was overseen in part by Atchison Public Works Director Clinton McNemee, Police Chief Mike Wilson, and the Atchison couple working to make the park a reality.

Pamela Cline, and Jeremy Watkins have been working to fulfill the goal, with the project being pursued as a memorial to Cline's late son, Joshua Kinsman.

He died in January at the age of 17, with the Skate High with Hope – Joshua Kinsman Foundation founded in his memory.

With questions of enforcement, upkeep, and related issues addressed by McNemee and Wilson on Saturday, Watkins outlined the next steps in the process. "We will hire this company and then they start designing it. We would have then a design within two to three weeks of what we're getting. We'll have the 3D model and all that stuff."

The proposed park carries a price tag of \$230,000. Grant monies and donations will be sought to help cover the cost, with the City of Atchison having pledged to match dollar-for-dollar funds raised up to \$75,000.

Construction is projected to begin in the spring of 2019.

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